

The Lamp Newsletter International

What if this Christmas...




The Rapture







A wooden boardwalk leads from the foreground into a dark lake at night. A bright full moon hangs in the dark blue sky, casting a glow over the scene. The water reflects the moon and the surrounding trees. The boardwalk is made of wooden planks and has a railing on both sides. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

*So you also must be
ready, because the
Son of Man will
come at an hour
when you do not
expect him*

MATTHEW 24:44

BIBLIGICAL.TUMBLR.COM



**Wanda J. Burnside,
Founder and Publisher**

Dear Readers,

In my childhood and into my late teens, it felt like Christmas would never come! It was hard to wait for it. My mama and daddy was always whispering and making those funny looking eye contacts. When we were children, they even spelled a lot of words so that I and my siblings, Rodger and baby sister Regina, couldn't figure out what they were talking about.

But, we knew they were planning and plotting good things for us that Christmas. They loved shopping for Christmas gifts for us, relatives, friends, and each other. So, in order for them to chat about what they were doing and shopping for, mama and daddy started around September communicating this way to keep all the wonderful secrets in order to have a festive, glorious and amazing Christmas for the family.

My parents loved to surprise us on Christmas morning. When we were young children, there always was a bicycle, wagon, scooter, tricycle and/or doll buggy around the tree. We found all sizes of boxes gift wrapped in colorful paper or shiny foil presents under our Christmas tree. We had a real tall pine tree, from the floor to ceiling, heavily decorated and set with a silver or gold tin big star on top of it.

Rodger, Regina and me couldn't wait for Christmas Eve! That meant the next day was Christmas! And, this also meant that our parents were going to be up all night into the early Christmas morning changing and transforming our house, from the front hallway with the long stairway, the living and dining room into a Christmassy wonderland!

Our parents were young and energetic, so they did everything to make sure that every Christmas was special for us. They prepared our house with beautiful decorations, big crystal bowls of red apples, large and juicy navel oranges, plump grapes, and bright orange tangerines. There were wooden bowls filled with walnuts,

almonds, pecans and other nuts. The fruitcake, trays of sugar cookies, oatmeal and raisin cookies and Christmas shaped cookie like stars, stockings, teddy bears and more sat on the tables in the dining room. Candies and candy canes were in fancy dishes or decorative tin cans on the coffee or cocktail table in the living room. The house smelled like cinnamon, allspice, clove and nutmeg. Mmm... Now, they are all loving memories.



But, the one thing truly special was us, Rodger, Regina and me...listening out to what our parents was doing downstairs! We were supposed to be asleep while they sneaked around whispering and wrapping Christmas gifts. We were so drowsy and couldn't sleep! We tried to listen to them preparing all of those surprises! It was so hard to do...But, we made it...until they were finished.

Rodger was a great look out man! He laid on the floor in the hallway upstairs where we all slept in our bedrooms. He listened to what was going on downstairs. Regina and I joined him, creeping around and tipping on our toes as softly as possible.

When suddenly, everything downstairs got silent that was it! Mama and Daddy turned off the lights and whispered, "*Merry Christmas Sweetheart!*" Then they came up the stairs! We ran back to our bedrooms and pretended to be asleep. As soon as they took a quick wash-up, and went into their bedroom...shut the door...we waited...and then, we ran downstairs to...the beautiful and sparkly Christmas wonderland! Oh, my! We couldn't believe what we saw prepared for us and Christmas day!

What excitement and joy we had! We jumped around, danced, skipped and hugged each other. Then, we carefully dived under the tree for gifts with our name on them. We crawled around looking for more gifts to tear off the wrapping papers and get into our gifts. Rodger and Regina laughed and giggled just like me! The bicycle...or tricycle, the wagon and dolls were claimed by whomever's name was on it! CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS! There was more than we could behold! What a Christmas!

And, dear readers...there is yet coming a more awesome and glorious day then we have ever experienced! There is NO day like the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! None of our excitement, holidays and celebrations will be like that great day! A glorious place is being prepared for God's people! He is soon to return! Jesus is coming again! He will return!

The Bible states in John 14 King James Version:

14 *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.*

² *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

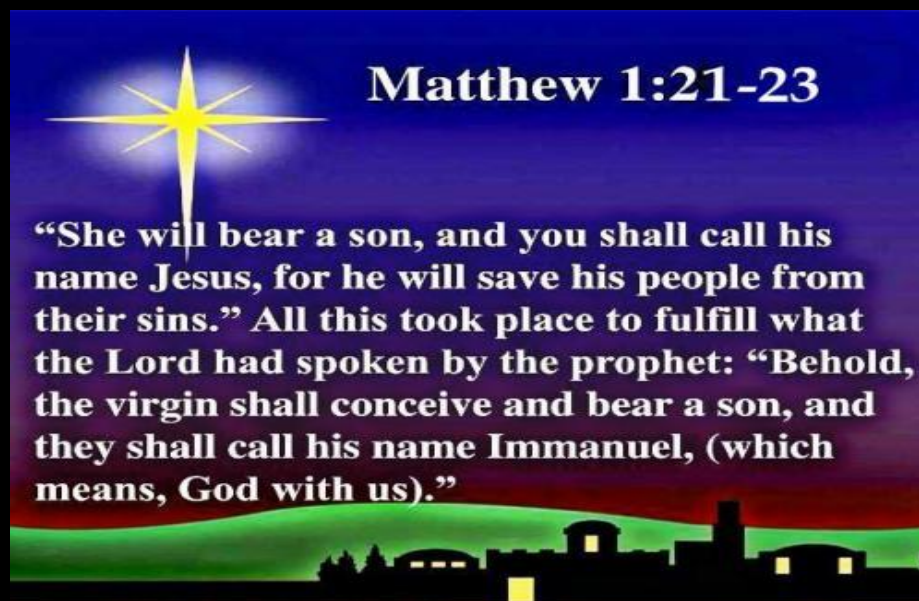
³ *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

Just like we prepare for Christmas...prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! He is our Redeemer! He is the King of kings! He is the Lord of lords!

Jesus will suddenly come! He will come for those who are living and following His Word! Accept the Gospel! Open your heart. Let Him come in and live in your heart. He is coming!

We shop and prepare for Christmas! Whatever money we have and time we can give to prepare for Christmas...PREPARE FOR JESUS CHRIST!

THERE IS UNSPEAKABLE JOY WAITING FOR YOU and ME! Stay READY!



Dear Father God,

We come to You in the Name of Jesus!

We thank You for Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. He came, suffered, died and lived again to give us everlasting life. Touch the hearts of these precious Readers in the Name of Jesus! May they repent of their wrongdoings, SIN. Holy Spirit come and do Your needed work in them.

Let them be washed in the Precious and Powerful Blood of Jesus! HOLY SPIRIT, be in their lives...fill them with Your Spirit. Thank You, Lord. Now, may these Readers and their loved ones, surrender to You and live according to Your Holy Word. We wait for Your Return! We REJOICE! HALLELUJAH! AMEN.



Mother Louise Patterson
Wife of the Late Presiding Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson of the Church of God in Christ, Inc.
January 27, 1938 – November 20, 2022

Evangelist Louise Dowdy Patterson
(Wife of the late Bishop G.E. Patterson)

◆ An anointed woman of God with class, elegance, sophistication, beauty, virtue and graciousness. Sister Louise D. Patterson who was born January 27, 1938. She was the President of Bountiful Blessings Ministries, Inc. Memphis, Tennessee. She was the Founding Wife of Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ Memphis. Mother Evangelist Louise Patterson was the wife of the late Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson, former Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ. She is a dedicated member and a licensed Evangelist within the COGIC denomination.

Her commitment to God’s work on earth and expanding her husband’s ministry gained her national recognition among various ecumenical and public organizations and ministries.

Mother Patterson believed that all things should be done to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31) and her life was a vivid example of this belief.

Mother Patterson founded The Total Woman Women’s Conference to highlight national crisis in the African American Community. The TWWC draws women from across the country inspiring them to take action against the social, physical and spiritual ills affecting our community.

For years, she was seen every Sunday on, The Word Network and several other television stations across the country introducing her husband’s ministry to thousands of viewers of the Bountiful Blessings telecast.

You can learn much more about her life on THE CHURCH HISTORY PAGE on Facebook and other listings.



Always in Our Hearts...

Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson and Mother Louise Patterson



In the 1990's, my husband Simmie Lee and I, never ever imaged how God planned to uniquely bless us. We will never forget what happened. It was unbelievable.

We went to our National Holy Convocation of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. in Memphis, TN. The services and events were glorious. The convention draws Saints and people from America and around the world. We enjoyed attending the convention.

We had a wonderful time, but we also wanted to be sure to visit the historic church, Bountiful Blessings Church of God in Christ pastored by Bishop Patterson in Memphis. This church was the landmark for television broadcasting, media productions and massive ministry operations. This drew us to go there one afternoon.

Simmie drove to their church and we were so amazed when we arrived. He had to park our rented car, but he decided to let me out on the sidewalk in front of the grand church. Then he drove to a parking space in the crowded parking lot. I waited until he walked back to the church where I stood looking for him.

He took my hand and we walked to the grandeur entrance door of the church. Simmie opened the door for me and I walked in. He took off his black hat and handed it to me. I carried it in my hand with my purse as we softly stepped in the entrance of the hallow hallway to the main doors of the sanctuary. He opened that door for me and I stepped in.

I felt warm, so I wanted to remove the scarf from around my neck and unbutton my coat. Simmie took his hat and held my purse so I could do what I had to do to get comfortable. He whispered to me and pointed to the gentleman waiting to greet the visitors and us to the church. I signed the guest book and Simmie received a ticket with a number on it. Then we were greeted again by ushers or guides and we walked in the main sanctuary. There were many people standing, listening and looking at the director talking about the history of the church.

People were greeting others, talking as the director continued to speak to the crowd of visitors. Simmie held my hand and we couldn't whisper a word. We were caught up in the majesty and

splendor of the stained glass windows, the beauty of the choir stands, the rows and rows of cushioned pews, and...

Then someone announced...*"Ladies and Gentlemen, Saints of the Most High God...I present to you...Bishop and Mother Patterson."* They stood side by side...they looked so regal. They smiled and waved.

"Hello precious Saints and friends," said Bishop Patterson with a big warm smile on his face. He continued to give greetings and then...he reached out to take the arm of his beautiful and graceful...elegant wife, Mother Louise Patterson. She waved and blew kisses to the crowd of visitors. People responded with cheers, blew kisses and applauded.

Next we heard the director say, *"Burnside...Burnside!"*

"Here!" shouted Simmie waving the ticket high in his hand. I went blank. I couldn't believe it.

"Come with me...You have been selected and now invited to spend the day with the Pattersons. Come this way."

As we made our way to follow him, there was Bishop Patterson and Mother Patterson standing in a narrow hallway. They welcomed us with hugs and she gave us kisses. They shook our hands and said, *"Can you spend the rest of the day with us? We selected you to have a special tour, by us...a tea party for the lady with me and friends...and other activities for you and your husband with us and other noted guests, leaders, church officials...governmental officers...and a special banquet dinner this evening...around 6:00 P.M."* They looked at us... Simmie and I looked shock.

"Yes, we can," we responded. Mother Patterson took my hand and held it firmly and tenderly. Bishop Patterson and Simmie walked together, talked and laughed like old friends or dear family members...

That day, was far beyond my imagination or dreams. We had a glorious time together filled with kindness, hospitality, fellowship and great wondrous blessings. They shared great words of wisdom for living life, words of encouragement and inspirational words of the Gospel of Christ. They loved us by sharing and hosting a day of love, meals, and personal attention.

As that day ended with special gifts, flowers and literature...Mother Louise Patterson said, *"We secretly saw you coming into our church with a solemn spirit of love for each other, respect for the church...the House of God...and loved pour forth from you both! We are grateful. This has been a glorious day...we shall never forget you...Brother and Sister Burnside...you made a difference for us...we loved to be in your presence..."*

For years, Simmie and I have cherished this great encounter with our beloved...Bishop and Mother Patterson. They remained in our lives since that time. We love and miss them. Lord, thank you... Until we meet...again...

Gilbert Earl Patterson (September 22, 1939^[1] – March 20, 2007^[2]) served as the National Presiding Bishop and Founder of the Bountiful Blessings Ministries and Chief Apostle of the [Church of God in Christ](#) (COGIC), Incorporated.^{[3][4]} He has a long running television ministry and he was a gospel recording preacher and singer, You can read and learn more about him on Wikipedia and numerous listings.

***Dearly Beloved...
Mother and Big Sister
of
Mrs. Michele Barnes, Staff Writer***



In Loving Memory of...



My Momma and my sister, Lola were Christian ladies with a heart filled with love and kindness. They were strong, intelligent, hard workers, and firm in their faith in God. Both of them were graceful, charming and had a heartwarming personality.

God blessed them with many talents and gifts which they used to touch the lives of their family, friends and others. Momma and Lola will always be in our hearts. They are both sincerely missed and deeply loved every day.



Draw Close to God

By Ramelle T. Lee © 2015

Meditation Scripture: James 4:8 (KJV).

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

When you draw close to God, first of all you must open your heart to him with love. You cannot embrace his love without acknowledging that he is the Almighty God. He is all-powerful and nothing and no one can compare to his awesome existence. God is the ultimate maker of the universe.

When you draw close to God, you are allowing yourself as a believer in the Body of Christ to accept his love. You acknowledge that Jesus Christ has entered your heart and saved you from sin and shame.

When you draw close to God, you must also embrace the laws, precepts and commandments that he has established for you to live by. You cannot decide to be selective in what you will accept from God and what you will not. You must follow in the footsteps of Christ Jesus and love one another. You must obey him and live your life according to his example.

When you draw close to God and learn to live according to his will, you will not struggle and stagger in your faith. You will be totally committed to allowing God to order your steps and direct your path.

As a believer, you will never be the same again because you have decided to commit yourself to living a more suitable existence. Your purpose will be established and you will begin to truly dedicate your life to serving the Lord. You will ultimately please the Father and he will establish you and instruct you in the way you should go.

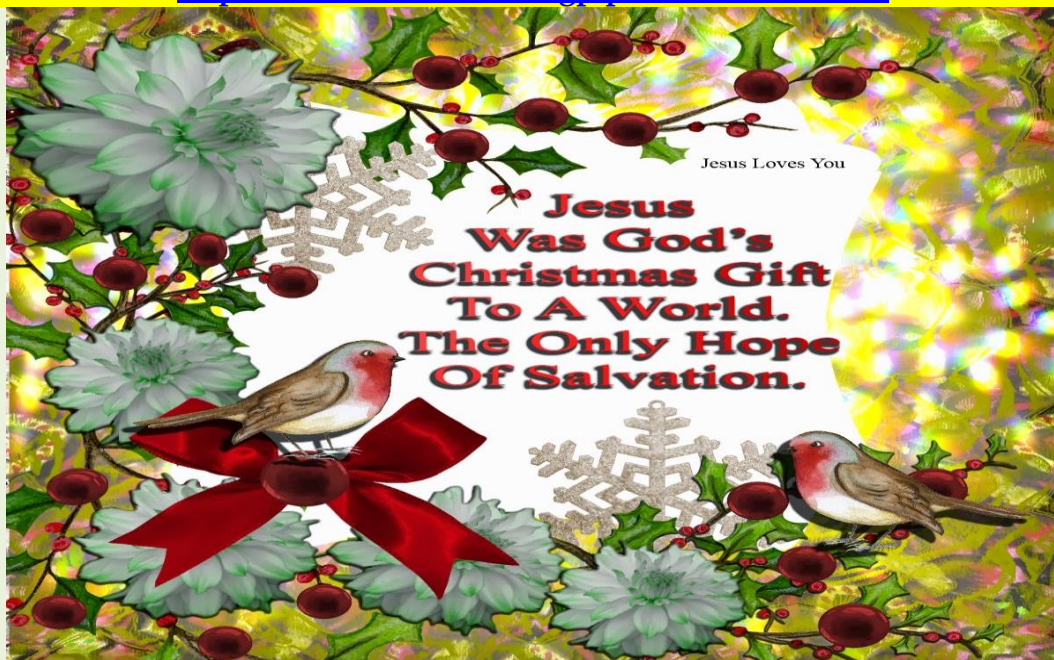
When you draw close to God, you are changed from the person you used to be. You have committed yourself to walk in the light and not in darkness. God has his hand on you and you desire to draw close to him because you realize he is the only one who truly knows how to develop your character and love you unconditionally.

Take the time to draw close to God and watch him draw close to you! He yearns to establish that intimate relationship with you and speak to you one- on -one. Allow him to show you a way to communicate with him more effectively and understand his character in a refreshing and new way.

Alas, when you must come to the end of your journey, God will provide you with the opportunity to be carried away in the bosom of his eternal love and give you sweet and blessed rest in his arms!

"Draw Close to God" is taken from my book, *"Step into His Greatness"* pages 143-145.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1522917853>



May this message of love, *"Draw Close to God"* encourage your heart this Christmas season. Keep your eyes focused on Jesus and He will embrace you with His love. You will be blessed.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

CONTACT INFORMATION:

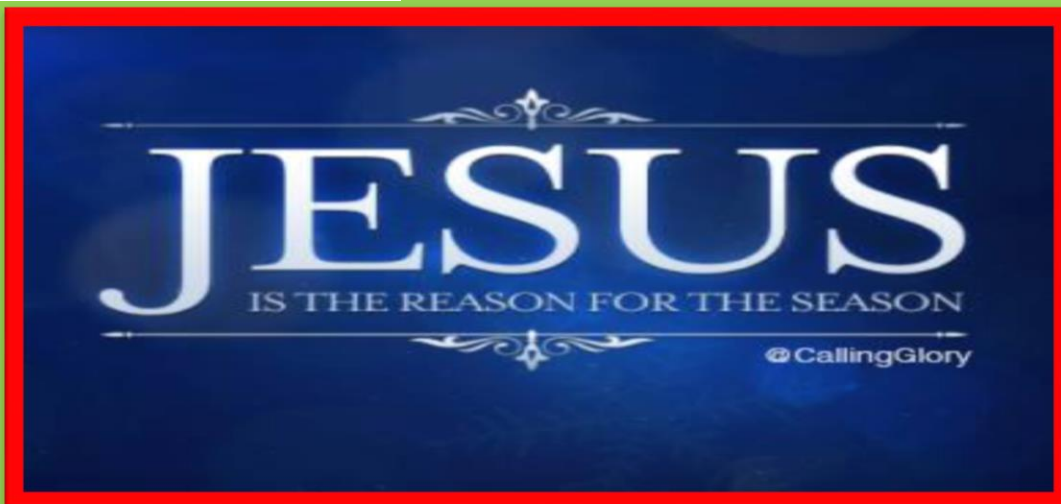
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Donna R. Brooks, Youth Staff Writer

Let us rejoice and be glad!



CHRISTMAS VERSE

Isaiah Chapter 9 verse 6

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Remember, JESUS is the REASON for the SEASON! I wish you all a very Blessed CHRISTMAS and a PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR in JESUS' NAME!

**Much Love,
Ms. Donna R. Brooks**

Coming 2023...

28 January
Saturday
2023

3:00 PM

Master's Domain COGIC
511 Fremont Avenue
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

HOSTED BY:

PASTOR SAMUEL JACKSON

WOMEN OF GOD IN *Unity* WORKING TOGETHER



MC. LINDA STEPHEN



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GUEST SPEAKER
PASTOR JEAN M. BRISSEY



GUEST SPEAKER
MINISTER ANNETTE JACKSON



GUEST SPEAKER
SUSANNE WIGGINS



GUEST SPEAKER
SANDRA DURHAM



GUEST SPEAKER
APOSTLE SHERILYN FLETCHER



GUEST SPEAKER
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EVANG. SARAH HOWARD



GOSPEL RECORDING ARTIST
VERONICA GOMEZ



GOSPEL RECORDING ARTIST
MERCY J.

For more information: Sammy050657@aol.com

Christmas at Tiffany's

By Michele Barnes



“ I have been young and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His seed begging bread,” Psalm 37:25

I am so thankful for our family's generational tradition of celebrating "the birth of Jesus." Jesus is what Christmas means to me and my niece Tiffany. I am so proud of the love that she shares with her family. Tiffany is my brother Daniel's daughter.

Our purpose in this life is to love and live so that we may all see each other in heaven. We want to receive a good judgment from God to live eternal life. Now, life now...is not forever....

Years ago, Tiffany's first Christmas was celebrated in Detroit, the Motor City. Yes, at a time and season when icicles hung from roof-tops and snowflakes beautifully fell from the sky! Snow was often knee deep and oh so cold! Winters of cool winds and chills for Christmas.

She grew-up stepping out on faith. Tiffany worked hard and made her choice to move to Texas. There, in the midst of her adjusting to work, school, and a new city, she found new happiness and love.

Tiffany married and moved again to a house some call a mansion. However, God heard Tiffany's prayers for a house large enough for her, her husband and his family. It is a home where they celebrate Christmas together. Their prayers were answered!

Christmas at Tiffany's is a celebration of the birth of baby Jesus, the son of God. Yes, Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Family will also rejoice and thank God for the three young members in their family who have accepted Christ and received the gift of speaking in tongues. Yes, many miracles have happened since last Christmas, and this Christmas is special too!

Tiffany looks upon the table that will seat her family. Her mother, Carol, will bless the food and the hands that prepared it. At the end of dinner, everyone will move to the Christmas tree for the opening of gifts.

The love and the hugs will be shared as each one opens their gifts under the tree. It's this love and God's love that will be the testimony of everyone attending Christmas at Tiffany's.

Merry Christmas

I am happy to share a photo of Tiffany's Christmas tree.



A Message from Kizzy Staten-Gray...



You sometimes feel like you are running a race on an obstacle course where you keep getting bogged down in mud holes, having to jump hurdles, and hitting brick walls.

But I tell you that I am with you to make rough places smooth and crooked places straight.

Trust Me to bring you through, says the Lord.



Isaiah 40:4-5 "Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Greetings from Jordan in Australia!

**Dear Readers,
Merry Christmas!**



Jesus lives forevermore.

JESUS **C**HRIST IS THE **S**AME
Yesterday
Today &
Forever
Knowing-Jesus.com

HEBREW
8:31

I 
JESUS
**ALL DAY, EVERY DAY,
AND FOREVER!**



Therefore the Lord
Himself will give you a
sign: Behold, a virgin
will be with child and
bear a son, and she
will call His name
Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

Favored and Blessed

(Luke 1)

Amazing declaration to Mary by the Angel Gabriel:

"Greetings, O favored one"

"The Lord is with you

Do not be afraid, Mary

You have found favor with God."

Mary's response to Gabriel:

"How can this be since I am a virgin?

I am a servant of the Lord

Let it be to me according to your word."

Beautiful confirmation by Mary's cousin, Elizabeth:

"Blessed are you among women

Blessed is the fruit of your womb.

How is it that the mother of my Lord would come to me?"

*"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken
to her from the Lord."*

Mary's song of praise:

"My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

He has looked on the humble estate of this servant.

From now all generations will call me blessed.

He has done great things for me and holy is His name..."

NOTHING is impossible with God - HE has a PLAN and we are part of it.

Elizabeth barren and now advanced in years...will bear a son to be the forerunner to prepare the way for the coming Messiah.

Mary, a young virgin....will bear a son that will be great; the Son of the Most High, whose kingdom will not end.

This account is FULL of GRACE, FAVOR and BLESSING. What does it mean to have favor with God? He bestows this status on all of us who come to faith in His Son. He declares us righteous in His eyes because He sees us in Jesus' righteousness. GRACE, FAVOR, BLESSING....all freely given NOT because we've earned them but because Jesus is worthy to receive honor, glory and powerHe is the perfect lamb of God who took away the sins of the world and all who put their faith in Him are made righteous.

Notice it is all God's doing....our part, like Mary and Elizabeth, is to BELIEVE and SURRENDER our will to His plan for our lives.



Doris Homan is an author, a spiritual, and relationship coach.

**Ask for your free eBook at:
Coachdoris@greaterimpact.org**

**Contact information:
dorishoman.com.**

Thank you!

Important Words from Mary Hanna



Where are the Prayer and Bible Bands?

Where did they go? Where are those ladies who prayed and taught the things we needed to know as women, specifically Black Women to survive. The women who taught us Not to falter but to be strong. The ones who told us to pray without ceasing? Where did they go?

The ones who missed you, the ones who had a phone and would call a relative to check on you to make sure all was well. We know the church is ever growing and moving. Women are serving in many new and exciting ways. Yes...



*But where are the Prayer and Bible Bands? ...*Those meetings in Saints' houses... when women came in their house dress or in the house attire. We would sit together, pray, talk and try to get a handle on the day to day living in a world such as this. Those meetings when we got strength in prayer to face new challenges that popped up every day. Yes, when the challenges in this life as a woman, mother, employer, employee etc...comes with no instruction. *Where are*

those ladies?

We have a generation of lost young adults struggling with their identity and clarity. Many are from the lost "crack years" that ravaged through our community and we got no relief from. We have lost moms, dads, aunts, and uncles, those foundational people who were the glue in life.



Those Bible Band members wrote to the prisoners, checked on families, and tried to be a bridge. I miss them. I still remember things some of them told me that still matter.

I used to look at those ladies, and be encouraged. To me they were the glue that held many in the church together. *So I ask where are the Prayer and Bible Bands?*



Mary La'Nette Hanna is a mother of 3 young adults and 2 grandchildren. She is proud of her family that was and is active in the church. They were and are Elders, Deacons, Evangelists and Missionaries.

Mary is thankful she was a Sunday School Secretary for many years. She also was involved in Vacation Bible School, a choir member and bench member. Mary grew up where the church and the activities at the church kept her active and free from boredom. She grew up with an awesome First lady and Pastor who made sure there were no idle hands and minds.

The True Meaning of Christmas

HOW DO YOU SPELL CHRISTMAS?



Dr. Willie B. White



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://goodshepherdwritingandpublishing.com/books>.

<http://theshepherdministries.org>

www.goodshepherdwritingandpublishing.com

<https://willie-writing.blogspot.com>

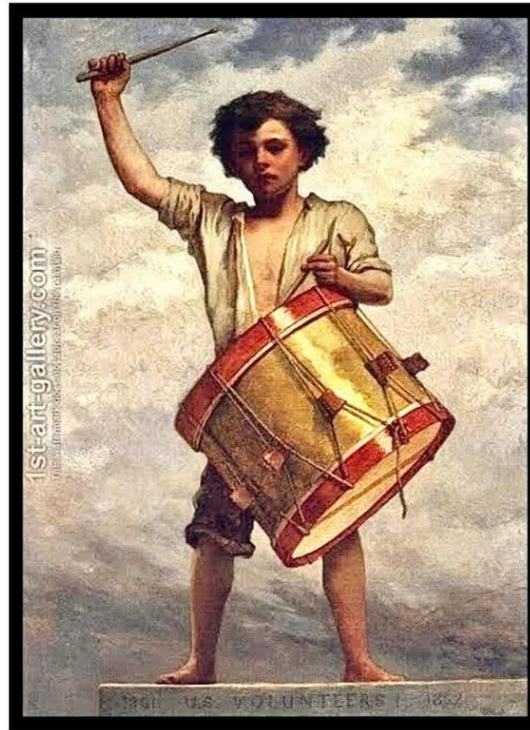
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUya5OrWPvzru4dpaTF80KQ>

— THE — PERCUSSIONIST SAVIOR



Sandra Hickman
Australian Staff Writer

John 3: 5-8 NKJV
5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."



The Christmas countdown has begun with or without me. The tree is decorated and sparkling with presents wrapped in bright red and gold wrapping paper beneath it. Beautiful gold and silver reindeers of all sizes stand in perfect array amidst gorgeous decorations setting the resplendent and glittering scene. My daughter has done well. But this year my mind was far from decorations and the beautiful tree. Instead I constantly caught myself thinking of all the heartbreaking reports every day on the television news. The world is in a heartbreaking decline.

Suddenly the little drummer boy was on my mind. I was singing and humming his lovely little song.... "Come they told me, Pa rum pum pum pum..... a new born king to see, Pa rum pum pum pum, rum pa pum pum...." Envisioning his little hands proudly swinging in time to the tune and the words. I thought of how his life was not a quiet one. I can imagine him as a robust little musician. He had a rhythm, a beat to play. A story to be told with the beating of rolling drumsticks, a sound as solid and regular as the beating of a healthy heart. That image put a wonderful new slant on this song for me. All I could see was Jesus. How He came to earth to be The Percussionist to the world! The entrance and life of the only begotten Son of God was never going to be a quiet passing through.... just the opposite. Never before has there been anyone in history, biblical or otherwise who has made such an everlasting and eternal impact upon the earth.... and there never will be!

Ironically whether people believe in Jesus as their Savior or not, we all celebrate the event of His birth. Whether we believe the Bible or not, we all sing Christmas carols which acknowledge exactly who **'He'** is! "Away in a Manger" and "Oh Holy Night" spring to mind, and of course, "The Little Drummer Boy" ... a song about beating the drum for the Christ Child. Oh hear the drum-roll 'tadatada'!! I can almost hear heaven's drum rolling now... announcing the birth of Jesus! The thunderous crashing of heaven's monumental drumsticks as they beat in spiritual unison with the earthquake of another time, on a future day in the biblical timeline of Jesus life — A day which would strike fear into the hearts of all onlookers and shake the souls of men as they watched Jesus hanging on the cross of Calvary, even whilst the temple veil rendered itself in two. A coming day when the earthquake would split the earth and the temple of religiosity would crumble and fall.

As if that wasn't enough to make even the hardest heart believe, the final and most amazing climax to the birth and death of the Savior of the world would be the future and final heavenly drum roll reverberating in the hearts of His people heralding His rising from the dead. The resurrection! Can we even imagine the sight and the sound of the stone rolling away with blinding light spilling out boldly in response to the drummers beat. I imagine the heaven fuelled drum roll as the giant stone rolled away and the tomb was opened — Boom!...went the percussion mallets! Even the Roman soldiers finally knew this was no urban fairy tale... this Jesus, and the stories they'd heard about Him! This was the earth shattering foretelling of the crucified King coming back to life. Oh how they must have gaped their mouths and held their breath at the sight of it.

Fast forward, if we dare... to that moment in time when it won't be the pounding of a drum, but the piercing echo of the shofar, the trumpet of God's glorious yet ominous warning in it's final melody— ***I just shuddered as I wrote those words.*** I wonder if you did too? Can we even know, or even imagine what that long-awaited-for-sound will be like? The sound of exhilarating joy to all those privileged to hear it. But those who have refused Christ as the begotten Son of God, those who chose the way of the dying world instead, will not hear the trumpet. It can only be heard by those who have spiritual ears to hear. The apostle John tells us, '***...how the wind blows this way and that... how no one can tell which way it's blowing, except those who are born again, and how they will be the only souls who will hear it.***' Those who chose to remain ignorant **can not, and will not** hear the directing of the Holy Spirit. Tragically their drum is beaten and broken. It will be too late for those who scoffed God and refused the Lord.

Only the saved soul and regenerated heart... only those true lovers of the Lord will hear it. I pray now that everyone who is reading this will consider — and then, reconsider their lives. Are you truly born again? **John chapter 3:3-8 tells it loud and clear as a drum. John's drum roll is loud!!** If you listen you may hear heaven's drum roll in your spirit now! Like the little drummer boy do you feel the weight of the percussion mallets in your hands? Will you join the beat of the greatest Percussionist? Will you join the rhythm of the beating heart of Jesus who is calling you to come? Will you join the chosen band? Or will you choose the "other" destination? These are the most important questions we and our beloveds will ever have to answer. This Christmas we must share the good news of the Gospel as if lives depended upon it — ***because they do!***

There are only two destinations. Heaven or hell.

© 2022 ><

This Christmas, give your heart and life to JESUS!

Congratulations...Michael D'Aigle

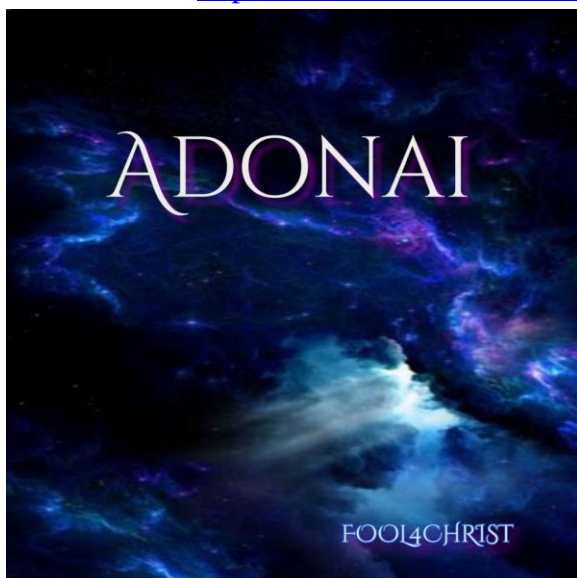


Michael and Deborah D'Aigle

20 MILLION PLUS THANK YOU'S!

I'm happy to announce that over 20 million people have stopped by my music sites and it is God who gets all the glory and praise! I'm releasing my 13th album of 16 new songs, that should be available everywhere digital music is sold/featured by January 2023.

<https://www.reverbnation.com/fool4ch.../song/33557152-adonai>



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I'm happy to announce that over 20 million people have stopped by my music sites and it is God who gets all the glory and praise! I'm releasing my 13th album of 16 new songs, that should be available everywhere digital music is sold/featured by January 2023.

My goal was to try to reach 20 thousand listeners a few years ago when I began posting my music online; and it just exploded much to my surprise. God keeps giving me new songs/words/melodies so my task is simply to make time to record and release them into the public domain... God has the songs go where He wants them to go, and the emails and messages I get from listeners all over the world let me know the songs are blessing folks in many different ways.

Thanks for everyone's prayers and support; I know anointed music has the power to touch the deepest parts of the human soul & emotions... I know because it does that with me when I hear music inspired by God. Please know you are all appreciated!

In Jesus name



Mother Wilma Ruth Bardwell Ellis-Johnson



**MOTHER WILMA RUTH
BARDWELL ELLIS-JOHNSON**
JUNE 6TH, 1934 - DECEMBER 9TH, 2022

Ellis Funeral Home
22401 Grand River, Detroit, MI 48219
(313) 535-8800

Greater Grace Temple (City of David)
23500 W. Seven Mile Rd, Detroit, MI 48219
(313) 543-6000

Thursday, January 5TH
Mother Ellis-Johnson will lie in repose at the Ellis Funeral Home from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Friday, January 6TH
Mother Ellis-Johnson will lie in repose at Greater Grace Temple from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.
(The family will arrive at 7 p.m. to commence a programmed Memorial Service.)

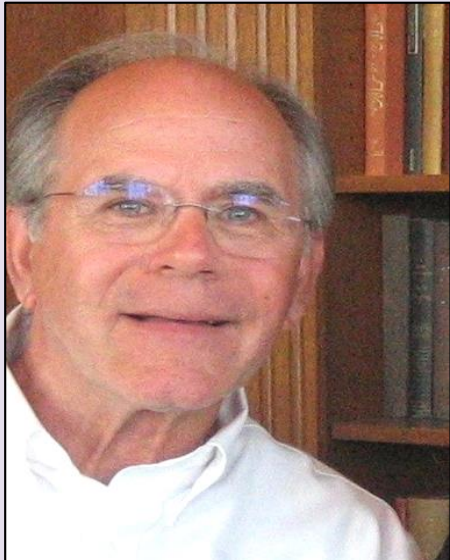
Saturday, January 7TH
The Homegoing Celebration – 12 noon @ Greater Grace Temple
Mother Ellis-Johnson will lie in repose at the Church and can be viewed beginning at 10 a.m. until the Celebration of Life service begins promptly at Noon. She will be entombed immediately following the service in the Bishop's Memorial Garden located on the City of David Campus.

Lodging Accommodations have been arranged in Southfield, MI
Westin Southfield Hotel (248) 827-4000
Marriott Detroit - Southfield (248) 356-7400
(Request the Greater Grace Temple rate)

The family is requesting that **NO floral tributes be sent. All monetary gifts of love should be made out to the "Greater Grace Temple Scholarship Fund".**

The Homegoing Service on Saturday will be streamed on greatergrace.org and the Greater Grace Temple Facebook page.

December Birthdays



A Birthday Prayer

May our God bless you today
and each day that follows.
May you hear his voice
Follow His footsteps
Be comforted by His care
And live in His grace
Now and forever.

Amen.

Lifelong Friend, Mr. Bruce Toussaint –December 10, 2022.

Happy Blessed 76th Birthday



HAPPY 16th Wedding Aniversary – December 16, 2022

(Mr. and Mrs.) Shuan and LaShaundra Barnes

and

Happy Blessed Birthdays!

Mr. Shuan Barnes – December 12 and his wife, LaShanda December 11

Our Staff Writer - Mrs. Michele Barnes' Son and His Wife.

Birthday Memorial
BISHOP EARL J. WRIGHT, SR.
December 10, 1929 – June 10, 2015



**Pastor,
Greater Miller Memorial Church of
God in Christ**

**Jurisdictional Bishop,
The Second Ecclesiastical
Jurisdiction
Southwest Michigan Church of God
in Christ, Inc.**

**Former General Board Member,
The Church of God in Christ, Inc.**

**Married,
International Leader
Mother Geraldine Miller Wright
Father of three Children,
Grandfather and Great-Grandfather**

Bishop Earl J. Wright, Sr. was my precious pastor and dearly beloved bishop. He was a profound and anointed preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He tenderly cared for his members, extended help to others and worked diligently in numerous areas to bring hope in this dark world. Many lives were changed because of Bishop Earl J. Wright, Sr. He left an awesome legacy. He is truly missed.

-Wanda J. Burnside

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL

**National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
81st. Anniversary**

December 7, 1941 –December 7, 2022



Author Ramelle T. Lee

Patriotic Writer, Staff Writer, The Lamp Newsletter Int'l



Information taken from Wikipedia



Bombing of Pearl Harbor

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise military strike by the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service upon the United States against

the naval base at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii, just before 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 7, 1941.

In a speech to Congress, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the bombing of Pearl Harbor “a date which will live in infamy.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced with determined indignation the following day, December 8, 1941, while asking Congress for a declaration of war.

“No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might, will win through to absolute victory.”

Pearl Harbor attack kills 2,403 Americans, (1178 wounded). Launches United States into World War II.

The United States Congress




In 1984, the United States Congress designated December 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The joint resolution was signed by President Bill Clinton on August 23, 1994. On November 29, Clinton issued a proclamation declaring December 7, 1994, the first National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.



Pearl Harbor National Memorial- Honolulu, Hawaii




Pearl Harbor Navy Hero



USS DORIS MILLER (CVN 81)

Honoring a U.S. Navy Hero




Doris Miller's Service

- Doris "Dorie" Miller was born on October 12, 1919, in Waco, Texas.
- On September 16, 1939, Doris Miller enlisted in the Navy.
- Following basic training, Miller was assigned to USS Pyro (AE 1) and transferred to USS West Virginia (BB 48) in 1940.
- During the attack on Pearl Harbor, Miller bravely performed beyond the call of duty aboard West Virginia.
- For distinguished heroism during the attack on Pearl Harbor, Miller was awarded the Navy Cross in May 1942.
- In the spring of 1943, Miller was assigned to USS Liscome Bay (CVE 56).
- Miller served aboard Liscome Bay during Operation Galvanic, which sought control of Makin and Tarawa atolls.


CVN 81 Quick Facts:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Name: USS Doris Miller (CVN 81) | Class: Gerald R. Ford |
| Length: 1,092 feet | Speed: 30+ knots |
| Crew: 4,369 | Aircraft: 75+ |

Mission: USS Doris Miller (CVN 81) will be the premier forward asset for crisis response and early decisive striking power in a major combat operation. Gerald R. Ford-class aircraft carriers and carrier strike groups will provide the core capabilities of forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security and humanitarian assistance.



© 2014 US Navy. Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78), the Navy's first Ford-class carrier.



Distinguished Devotion to Duty

Petty Officer Miller's selfless actions on USS West Virginia (BB 48) and throughout his naval career exemplify the Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment.

HONOR – Disregarding his own personal safety during the attack on the fleet in Pearl Harbor, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing, assisted in moving his captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety.

COURAGE – During the attack on Pearl Harbor, Miller continued to help his shipmates to safety and engaged enemy aircraft from a .50-caliber anti-aircraft machine gun until he was ordered to abandon ship.

COMMITMENT – Miller continued to serve and fight, giving his life for his country. He stationed on USS Liscome Bay (CVE 56) when it was struck by a torpedo from a Japanese submarine in the Gilbert Islands. The resulting damage rapidly sank the ship. Among the missing, Miller was officially presumed dead on November 25, 1944.

A Salute to our Pearl Harbor Survivors



We Salute you, Veteran Survivors



Pearl Harbor Memorial Wreath



We Salute you, Pearl Harbor Survivor



The WORLD WAR II vets returned to Honolulu decades after Pearl Harbor. Six Pearl Harbor survivors, all over 100 years, attended the remembrance ceremony on the 81st. Anniversary of the attack.

The ceremony began at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial. An emotional moment occurred 25 minutes later at 7:55 a.m. as over 2, 500 people sat in silence in remembrance of the time the attack began on December 7, 1941.

For more details, please goggle about the 81st Pearl Harbor National Remembrance Day Ceremony.

THANK YOU

To our readers, thank you for taking out time to share in this special honor to recognize all World War II Veterans, who served and fought for our country.

In this troubled and hurting world, Remember...

JESUS
EMMANUEL
god with us

Dear Readers and Supporters,
Thank You for reading
THE LAMP NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL

Please continue to keep us and our families in your prayers.
You are always in our prayers!

GOD BLESS YOU!

The Anointed and Uplifting Radio Broadcasts of...

MISSIONARY JANNETT S. GAINES



Tune in Twice Each Week!

Every Sunday Morning
at
7:00 am on WRDT - AM 560

Psalm 119:
"The Power Of The WORD Of GOD Broadcast"

AND...

Every Monday
at
6:00 am on WCHB - AM1340
The "GOD Is Good" Broadcast
LISTEN IN and BE BLESSED!

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL

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Twitter, LinkedIn, Website: www.thelampnewsletter.com .