

STROBE Al & Shirley Talk Of Upcoming Albums

Responding to the spirit of the season, both the First Lady of Gospel, Shirley Caesar, and the inimitable Rev. Al Green called to offer *Strobe* readers their hopes, prayers and blessings for renewed spiritual growth during the Christmas season.

Ms. Caesar was calling from Dayton, Ohio. She'll finish touring December 18 in Longview, Texas and then head home to Durham, N.C.

for her 9th annual tree ceremony, part of her ministry. This year, more than 1,000 families will be there to benefit from her food and poverty program, receiving, food, clothing and toys for the children.

"Remember that under the tree is a beautiful Christmas gift that is always there. It's ours to claim, the gift of the Baby Jesus, and it's my prayer that this Christmas there will

be more emphasis on giving than on receiving," she said.

"Think of others first this year and the I, the me, last," she emphasized. "I would suggest that we take the 'X' out of 'X-mas' and make it Christmas again, put Christ back in."

Ms. Caesar is now on the Myrrh label for Word Records. Her second album for them, "Go," is receiving a great deal of radio play on

secular stations. "I walked through Word," she told me, "and I was impressed with the number of blacks, skilled blacks, too, that were making sure the product got out. They recognized me, too. So I signed," Ms. Caesar co-produced "Go" with Tony Brown and says now she'll co-produce all future albums.

Ms. Caesar is gathering material for the next album, but assures me that in addition to her own songs, she will use material written by her second lead singer, Bernard Sterling, and her keyboard player, Steve Twyman. "I hope we can have it ready by February," she concluded. I'll relay Ms. Caesar's words of wisdom for aspiring gospel singers in a later column.

Calling from his home in Memphis, Al Green was almost beside himself wanting to give me a taste of his current work, a full studio tape ahead of his contract with Myrrh.

"Oh, I just wish you could hear this better," he said, holding a tape player to the phone to tease me with a segment. "I just can't tell you about it yet!" He finally admitted it will be a country

gospel record, probably called "Al Green Goes To Nashville," held for release until next summer.

Only five weeks out, his "Higher Plane" is superb; my favorite cut is "Amazing Grace." Green praises Laura Lee for vocals on the "Higher Plane" cut and says of Marjie Joseph, "she's a superb talented gal who's wasting her time when she's not singing." Joseph and Wanda Neal Bobo are key elements of "The Spirit Might Come — On And On."

"We're not on the pitching mound alone," says Al. "Many people are out there pitching for dear life. We've got to close out, tune out, the bad vibrations and listen for the good ones. That's what we're trying to do with 'Higher Plane,' lift people to a higher elevation.

"I trust in the Lord for everything," he confessed. "I wasn't born to it; I kind of learned. I came into this world in my birthday suit and no matter how many clothes I put on, I try not to get bigger than my birthday suit."

And from Tim Walter to you and your family...LOVE!

Sunday

December 20, 1981

	WFMY CH. 2 Cable 2	WPTF CH. 28 Cable 3	WTVD CH. 11 Cable 6	WUNC CH. 4 Cable 9	WTTG CH. 5 Cable 10	WRAL CH. 5 Cable 12	WTBS CH. 17 Cable 13	WGHP CH. 8
7:00	Kenneth Copeland	Jerry Falwell	Kidsworld		Jimmy Swaggart	World Tomorrow Spiritual Awakening	James Robison II Is Written	Dr. D. James Kennedy
7:15	Blackstar		..	..	..	..
7:30
7:45
8:00	Rex Humbard Oral Roberts	Kenneth Copeland	Mighty Mouse Heckle Jeckle Drak Pak		Frederick K. Price	Robert Schuller Meaning Of Christmas	Three Stooges & Friends	Gospel Expo Show My People
8:15
8:30
8:45
9:00	Sunday Morning	Jim Bakker	Sunday Morning		Dr. Jerry Falwell	Oral Roberts Rex Humbard	Lost In Space	Jimmy Swaggart
9:15
9:30
9:45
10:00	..	Jerry Falwell	..		Insight	Day Of Discovery Dimensions 5	Hazel	Robert Schuller
10:15	L. Rukeyser Bus. Journal		..	..	..	..
10:30
10:45
11:00	Best Yrs. Times Face The Nation	Jimmy Swaggart	Gospel Jubilee Face The Nation		..	First Presbyterian Church	For My Of Our Lives	Help Yourself Business Journal
11:15
11:30
11:45
12:00	Carolina Basketball NFL FB: Tampa Bay	Meet The Press Carolina Basketball	F.Y.I. NFL FB: Tampa Bay		Theatre II:	Pro & Con This Week With David	..	Omni Bugs Bunny
12:15
12:30
12:45
1:00	vs. Detroit	NFL Football: vs. Detroit	vs. Detroit	Firing Line	..	Brinkley Jim	..	We're Movin America's Top Ten
1:15
1:30
1:45
2:00	Masterpiece Theatre	Theatre III:	Duke Basketball Southern Sportsman	TBS Theatre: "The Country Girl"	Showcase: "Scrooge" Parade
2:15
2:30
2:45
3:00	All Creatures Great Small	..	Directions	..	..
3:15
3:30
3:45
4:00	Hesston Rodeo	..	Matinee: "Last Train From Gun	World Of Cooking Victory Garden	Metromedia:	Cinema 5: "Sunshine Christmas	TBS Theatre: "Abbott & Costello Meet	Grizzly Adams
4:15
4:30
4:45
5:00	Hill	Almanac	..	..	Captain Kidd Wrestling	Panther Look At Us
5:15
5:30	Wall Street Week	..	..	..	..
5:45
6:00	CBS News	N. Carolina People Stateline	Playhouse 5:	News 5	..	News
6:15
6:30	Reel Perspective	..	..	ABC News	Nice People	ABC News
6:45
7:00	60 Minutes	Of Muppets And Men	60 Minutes	Nashville Music	..	ABC Movie: "Rudolph	Mr. Magoo's "Christma-	ABC Movie:
7:15
7:30	Wildlife Safari	..	& Frosty's Christmas	Carol	"Rudolph & Frosty's Christmas
7:45
8:00	Oral Roberts Special	Chips	Archie Bunker's One Day At A Time	Nova	Lawrence Welk	In July	1981 Winter Special Olympics	In July
8:15
8:30
8:45
9:00	Alice Jeffersons	NBC Movie:	Alice Jeffersons	Masterpiece Theatre	Merv Griffin	..	Atlantic City Alive	..
9:15
9:30
9:45
10:00	Trapper John	..	Trapper John	No. Honestly! Fall & Rise Reg. Perrin	News	..	Atlanta Hawks vs. Los Ang.	..
10:15
10:30
10:45
11:00	News CBS News Don	Carol Burnett Jim Bakker	News CBS News Mary Tyler Moore	Twilight Zone	Movie:	News ABC News Late Movie: "A Place	Nights	News ABC News Jim Valvano
11:15
11:30
11:45
12:00	Corbett Baratta	..	Rockford Files	..	..	In The	TBS News	Duke Basketball
12:15	..	Charles Young
12:30
12:45	Open Up	..

By Tim Walter
TSI Syndicate Features

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