

The Prophet's Column

This is a paid advertisement by J. M. Little

"The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee..." (Obadiah 1:3). Some of you here know too much to be saved, pride has deceived you. Others of you don't know enough to be saved. A man told me over 20 years ago: "I'm getting this truth from you, another from So and So, and another from So and So, and then after a while I feel I'll be saved." His heart was deceived 20 years ago and lost, and today he is more deceived. Hear the Word, if you can; "...he (Christ) calleth his own sheep by name,....and the sheep follow him... And a stranger will they not follow..." (John 10: 3,4,5). When the Lord gives a sinner the Effectual Call, the sinner will not follow an unsaved reli-

gious leader. Note especially that my Lord said: "A STRANGER WILL THEY NOT FOLLOW." The reason you run here and there listening to strangers is because you have not heard the Effectual Call. When God awakens you by this effectual calling, you are obligated to put yourself under the teaching of the truth! Before you are saved you must come out of the religious world. You will not listen to the hirelings, including those on WHVN. If you were awakened you would know they are hirelings. Some of you here I will not be able to help, you think you know more about how God saves a sinner than I do. But all the while you have never known

the deceitfulness of your wicked heart. I wept much here over the last year or so as I saw Satan circling a heart, planting doubts and questions in that heart and puffing them up in pride. When the Holy Spirit awakens a sinner, that sinner has a broken spirit, a teachable spirit. Some here I cannot teach. When the Holy Spirit awakened me to my lost condition, I couldn't call God's servant a liar because the Holy Spirit showed me that man was teaching the truth. After God saved me, I saw how ignorant I was and felt I knew nothing. I was so helpless and I had to depend on the Lord for every spiritual step I made. I can't describe how helpless and

nothing I felt myself to be. I find just the opposite in some here who profess to be saved, you know everything. But I detect in your testimony that you don't know what it means to be a completely lost sinner with all hope gone. (Luke 19:10). Some profess to have been saved under my late pastor, but you have never told me how you were awakened to your lost condition. And you never say how his message bless your heart. And you almost never mention his name to me, and there is not a special love in your heart for him that I find in the heart of others who give outward evidence of knowing Christ. As I said, all I can go by is the outward evidence.

Church news...

Continued from page 13A

•Salem Baptist

5318 Salem Church Road
The 15th anniversary and appreciation celebration for the Rev. Anthony Jinwright will be Feb. 11-18. Each night will feature guests ministers: the Rev. John McCullough Jr. of Friendship Baptist Church in Gastonia; the Rev. James Logan of South Tryon Church; the Rev. Benjamin Hinton of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Gastonia; the Rev. Cardes H. Brown Jr. of New Light Baptist Church in Greensboro; the Rev. Billy Wilson of Boyd Hill Baptist Church in Rock Hill and more.

The Rev. Henry J. Lyons, president of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc., will be the banquet speaker 6 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, Two NationsBank Plaza. Donation is \$30.

The Rev. Anthony L. Jinwright is pastor. For more information contact Walter Holtzclaw at 355-4117.

•Second Calvary Baptist

114 Nelson Ave.
Lemar Foster Jr. has been called to minister God's word. He will preach his first ser-

mon 3:30 p.m. Sunday.

The Rev. Lemar Foster Sr., pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in California, will be the guest speaker 11 a.m. Sunday.

The Rev. Steve L. Carlton Sr. is pastor. For more information, call 399-0378.

Shiloh Institutional Baptist

2400 Greenland Ave.
Shiloh Institutional Baptist will celebrate the fifth anniversary of pastor Rev. Clinton Ceasar Sr. through Sunday.

Closing services are at 5 p.m. Guest speaker is Pastor Marion Newton, Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, Sumter, S.C.

•Solid Rock Missionary Baptist

125 Wadsworth St.
The church family will celebrate its first church anniversary Sunday through Feb. 4. The Rev. George Cook of Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church will be the guest speaker 4 p.m. Sunday. The revival portion will be 7 p.m. Monday through Feb. 1. The church's pastor, the Rev. Charlene Hendricks-Stewart,

will deliver the messages. The closing banquet ceremony will be 7:30 p.m. Feb. 2 at Renaissance Place on N. Tryon Street. The Rev. L.C. Riddick will be the guest speaker.

For more information, call 364-8092.

•Statesville Avenue Presbyterian U.S.A.

3435 Nevin Road
The church's 44th anniversary will be celebrated 4 p.m. Sunday. Ted Hayes will present the program.

For more information, call 548-8664.

Trinity Park Baptist

9115 Trinity Road
Help for students in kindergarten through second grade to improve their reading skills will be offered second and fourth Fridays in January. Volunteers will be available to listen to children read and read to them starting Friday.

•University Park Baptist

2400 Keller Ave.
The church family will conduct worship services every fourth Friday of the month. No time was given.

The Rev. Claude R. Alexander is pastor. For more

information, call 392-1681.

•Walls Memorial AME Zion

2722 Bancroft St.
Walls Memorial AME Zion, Johnson C. Smith University and the Know Bookstore is co-sponsoring a traveling exhibition which explores the African presence in biblical Eden 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The exhibit offers the general public the opportunity to gain a new and uplifting cultural and historical perspective on the African presence in the Bible.

Ahmadiel BenYehuda, Minister of Information and national spokesman for the African Hebrew Israelite Community, will lecture 1 p.m. Friday on the campus of JCSU.

A rally will feature African dancers, drummers and guest speakers 5 p.m. Sunday at the church.

The Rev. Sheldon R. Shipman is pastor. For more information, call 375-5361.

All announcements for "Church Notes" must be post-marked, faxed or hand delivered to:

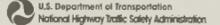
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Sunday school lesson

Continued from page 10A

us to find activities and experiences that make us feel good. We have lost sight of the interdependent relationship of pain and pleasure. Simply put, to have a rainbow there has to be a little rain. A Chinese philosopher points out that in order to feel the exquisite sensation of scratching, one must first endure the discomfort of a big itch.

If gain follows pain, it follows that the greater the pain the greater the gain. And no greater pain has ever been experienced than the torture of Christ on the cross. The physical torment was very real, but the spiritual dimensions of the agony were greater still. No wonder Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46, New International Version). He bore our sins at

Calvary, and at that moment our iniquities separated the sinless Son from the forgiving Father.

No pain ever achieved greater gain. By His sacrifice we are justified - perceived by God to be righteous in spite of our transgressions. His pain was/is our gain.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming to the Jordan, he announced His arrival by saying "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). There are other words he might have chosen.

He might have said, "Behold the Son of David, who has come to restore the kingdom of Israel!" or, "Behold the Master Teacher, who has come to proclaim the truth of God!" or, Behold the Great Physician, who has come to heal the sick!" or, "Behold the Great Reformer, who has

come to show us a new way to live!" He might have said any of these, for they were all true. But he reached instead for the very purpose for which Christ had come and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world..."

This, the most powerful of the Servant Songs, anticipates better than any other Old Testament prophecy the significance of Christ's coming. In some way the suffering of the servant Israel led to God's redeeming the nation from the bondage of the Babylonian captivity.

But that pales in comparison to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. God's ultimate Servant, at Calvary. There the very Son of God offered himself to be slain He paid the penalty for the sins of all mankind so that we all might be brought back to God.

*You haven't made your goal at this time,
but choose to hold on to God's hand,
which shall guide you down life's path of
valleys and high mountains.*

Even as Elijah went aside and prayed to God and saw the rain coming before it did.

*You must also get in the presence of God and
know that my season of rain is really already here
and it shall water my grounds at any moment
now gardens need the most rain and which need less,
because I've been using his products
and he's the chief farmer.*

Leslie Gardner

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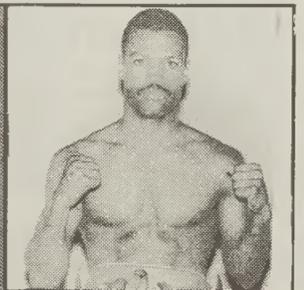
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