

## Faith leads Gastonia man to a victory over cancer

By Fran Farlow  
THE GASTON GAZETTE

GASTONIA, N.C. (AP) — Harry Holmes is looking forward to running around the block, going back to work simple things other people take for granted.

He has been through chemotherapy, radiation, a stem cell and a bone-marrow transplant.

Add that to his financial troubles and there were so many problems some called him a "modern-day Job." Yet Harry never lost his faith.

He has confounded his doctors who once held out no hope for him. Now they tell him he should write a book about his experiences.

"I lay it all to the power of prayer," Harry said.

"I had so many folks praying for me, my family, my church family, even strangers who heard or read about me, they were all praying."

And the Lord listened, he says. Seven years ago, the life of Harry and Sandy Holmes seemed to be going along very well. They were planning on retiring in the not-too-distant future.

They started a business, "a little nest egg" where they could work after retirement from their full-time jobs, a business they could pass on to their four children.

In 1997, they purchased Bagel Express & Deli on Union Road in Gastonia. Sandy quit her banking job to become what her customers called "Gastonia's Bagel Lady."

The first two years were successful, but the couple decided they needed a more visible location so they relocated to the Bi-Lo Shopping Center at

the corner of Union and Hudson roads.

"We met and grew to know a lot of wonderful people and their families," Harry said, "and we were determined to make our business prosperous."

The couple put all their personal savings and 401(k) into their business. They even took out a second mortgage on their home.

They took a gamble and lost.

In October of 2000 they had to liquidate their assets and pay off all existing Bagel Express debts on the equipment, vendors, rent, attorney and accounting fees so the new owner of the equipment would be free and clear.

"We decided as a family to put our lives back into the Lord's hands and pray that He would lead us back on track and salvage what we had left," Harry said.



### Southern Sons-Gospel Group

Southern Sons Gospel Group, founded in 1991, is one of Charlotte's oldest gospel groups continuously singing. The group started with two faithful and devoted members, Charles McClee and James McMurray. Shortly after, Robert Giles and Willie Crosby were asked to join to enhance the melody.

Over the years many male voices blended in, but only six additional voices remain part of the Southern Sons. James Tillery, Clifford McClee, Jewell Mitchell, Vincent Tillery, Odell Miller and Reverend J.C. Ramsey helped grow their music and are part of their most recent tapes and CDs.

Recording artists of Sharp Records, Southern Sons latest productions include greats such as, Kings Highway, In My Father's House, Jesus Loves Me, Oh Lord Don't Leave Me, Glory, Mother's Touch, and many others.

Highly respected in Charlotte for their talents, Southern Sons have received many awards, certificates, plaques, and a very special recognition from The Beasley Home. Well known and loved all over South Carolina and Florida, you often will hear them featured on area radio stations. Southern Sons have traveled the eastern coast from New York to Florida spreading the good news of God's favor.

Invitations are extended to join the "Southern Sons Gospel Group Fan Club," to receive reminders of future programs. To join or contact them for performances, please contact Elizabeth McMurray, 704-597-0657, or Barbara McClee, 704-598-7728.

**Southern Sons are Seeking 2 Musicians,  
Lead Guitarist & Key Board Player,  
Applicants Call Charles McClee, 704-598-7728  
or, James McMurray, 704-597-0657**



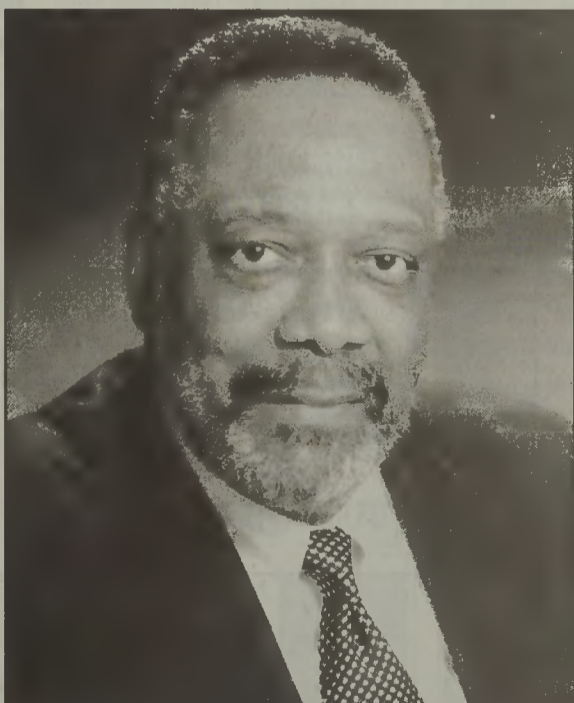
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Just as God in His great Sovereignty elected a certain number and ordained them to eternal life in Christ, He ordained a certain number to condemnation or Reprobation. God is Sovereign. Every church member, beginning in the pulpit and classroom, needs to learn the Sovereignty of God. Our religious leaders as a whole have never learned that God is Sovereign. You've never learned that because you have never been taught of the Lord (Isaiah 54:13). It would be funny if it weren't so tragically to see these "jackals" up there trying to teach or preach the Word of God and they have never been taught of the Lord. Let's look at another Scripture which so clearly sets forth God's Reprobation. "and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being DISOBEDIENT: WHEREUNTO ALSO THEY WERE APPOINTED." (1 Peter 2:8). The Word is so clear and plain on God's Reprobation but in your spiritual blindness you will not have God as Sovereign, and electing some and reprobating others. It is because, hold it now! "...but the election (elect) hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded." (Romans 11:7). Here we see the elect and the reprobates set forth so clearly in one Scripture. The "election" are the elect chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world. "The rest...blinded" means those who were reprobated before the foundation of the world. Hold your seats again now because I'm going to jump a creek down here, and if you don't hold on you may drown and, if you drown, you may wake up in hell. "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, BUT ESAU HAVE I HATED." (Romans 9:13). Here is another gem of Scripture containing election and reprobation. This Scripture is going to meet great multitudes of religious leaders at the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:11-12) because the great multitudes of religious leaders will not have the truth that God loved some and hates others. You rare back on your heels in your blindness and say it is unrighteous for God to love one and hate another but God is Sovereign and can love and hate as He pleases!

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