

Prophet's Column

"I've Lived Where You Live"

By JIM LITTLE

The great multitudes of our church members have built their houses (your religious profession) on the sands, but when the storm comes, their house will be destroyed. The matter would be funny if it weren't tragic.

I have lived where you live. I once thought that all there was to salvation was just joining the church, making a profession of faith, and living the best you can; abstaining from all the basest vices, and no bothering anyone. I thought that such a religious life would get me to Heaven. And that is where many of the great majority of you religious souls are today! That is the sand pile on which you live and stake the destiny of your soul.

Yes, I lived there for many years. I lived there crying peace, peace, to my soul but I did not know the peace of God which is Christ. The Scripture teaches that Christ is the believer's peace (Eph. 2:14). But I lived on a religious profession crying peace to my soul and all at the same time I had no assurance of salvation. There was always the doubt deep in my heart of whether I was saved. I never could get up to the high state of joy I thought I should have. Do you know what I am talking about?

Yes, I lived where you live, in all my religious rags of doing and doing, but I was never done. I lived there with an emptiness in my heart. But I lived with the hope that everything would be made alright before I went out into eternity. I lived hoping that some day the missing something in my life would be filled and I would be satisfied, and everything would be alright. That is where multitudes of you devoted church members live. You know there is an emptiness in your heart to matter how religious you live.

I lived from Sunday to Sunday trying to keep the pump primed. The first four years of my school life I attended a four room wooden school building and

on the outside we had a very old iron pump. In order to get water to satisfy our thirst we would have to often prime the pump, and pump and pump and pump to get water. That is how you live from week to week, you have to go back and prime your pump (your religious profession) every Sunday. What you felt in the services the last Sunday, you quickly lost, so you feel you must go back to church this Sunday to regain what you lost and you hope to get up to that great feeling of joy you didn't get up to last Sunday.

Let me tell you, friends, I lived there for years. I'd go to church and try everything I knew to get all the joy I could out of the services. But I never could get on the high plane of rapture I felt I should. Many times the preacher would say: as I pray, you pray right where you are. And when I tried to pray the Heavens seemed like brass and I wanted to shout out loud: MY PRAYERS ARE NOT GETTING THROUGH! There was a great gulf between me and God and I felt it. No one else may have felt it but I did. I didn't know anyone at the time I could go to who could talk to me about what was wrong.

And then I would get alone with my Bible and read much on Sunday afternoons. I read much about the life of Job and



was about sixteen years of age I almost went into the ministry. I was so troubled and feeling so empty I thought I should surrender to preach, may be that was what was missing in my life. And at that time other were talking it up. So I came within a hair's breath of going out preaching. Now many of you are there. And many of you went out preaching, you had to do something to satisfy the emptiness in your heart so you took to preaching. And what are you preaching? The same religious profession you lived under that could not satisfy the emptiness in your heart.

Yes, I lived in all those religious experiences until the Holy Spirit awakened me to my lost condition, and I had repentance and faith to believe on Christ for the salvation of my soul. I just don't know how to know Him as my Lord and my Saviour. When Christ was revealed to my heart, the emptiness left. Salvation is a person, and that Person is Christ. Do you know Christ? It's a daily living and having my move and being in Him. How is it between you and Christ?

Paul and I saw that those men had something I did not have. And I would cry out there in my reading; oh, I wish I could be saved like Job was saved! I knew I didn't have what they had. And many of you live right there today. I have lived where you live, my friend.

There are others of you who have tried every major religion in the world. So did I. I read every religious publication I could get hold of, hoping to find the miss-

ing, something in my life. I tried to get something from each one hoping that would give me what I needed.

Isn't that where many of you are today? If you could be honest with yourself and with the Lord you would see it. Some of you go from church to church and from religion to religion, and you are worse off as the days come and go; that is, you are more miserable no matter what religion you embrace. Yes, I have lived where you live.

Many of you join every new religious program that comes along. You get deeply involved in missionary work, doing this and doing that, caring for the needy and sick, which is all and well in its place. But your heart is still empty, you have many doubts about your salvation. And in spite of all the missionary work you are doing you are not satisfied! I lived there, too.

And others of you have gone out preaching and teaching, hoping to fill the void in your heart. When I

Plumbing Leak Can Run Up Large Bill

The time may be gone when leaky plumbing fixtures are ignored. Water, long taken for granted because of its abundant supply, can be a costly item when it is wasted. Small leaks may not appear to be much to be concerned about until you consider the amount of water that can drain away in a short time.

A leak as small as a sixteenth of an inch can waste almost 1,000 gallons of water in a 24-hour period, according to N.C. Agricultural Extension Service housing specialists.

If you are paying \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons, the cost of the lost water would be \$17.50 a week.

NOTICES OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

June 12, 1980

City of Charlotte
600 East Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

To all interested agencies, groups, and persons:

The above named city proposes to request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal funds under the Urban Development Action Grant Program to be used for the following projects:

Trammell Crow Hotel Project

A proposal to construct a 524 room convention hotel, a 439-car public parking garage and the construction of a publicly owned overstreet pedestrian walkway connecting the new hotel to the City's Civic Center and other central area structures. The project will provide 486 permanent jobs as well as over 500 construction jobs.

Woodland Industrial Park

Proposal to construct 1.2 million square feet of building space for light industrial uses. To facilitate this construction the UDAG funds will be used to install the complete infrastructure as well as the necessary earthwork.

It has been determined that such requests for release of funds will not constitute actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the above-named City has decided not to prepare Environmental Impact Statements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190)

The reasons for such decisions not to prepare such statements were as follows:
1) Beneficial impacts of the projects are significant and will result in a lowering of unemployment rate in the pocket of poverty, as well as aiding the revitalization efforts at uptown Charlotte.

- 2) Adverse impacts are minor and can be physically and economically ameliorated.
- 3) All known alternatives to the projects have been considered and evaluated.
- 4) The projects conform with federal, state and local objectives.
- 5) The projects will not impact any known historic structures.

Environmental Review Records respecting the within projects have been made by the above-named city which documents the environmental review of the projects and more fully set forth the reasons why such statements are not required. These Environmental Review records are on file at City Hall, 600 East Trade Street, Office of Special Projects, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

No further environmental review of such projects are proposed to be conducted, prior to the request for release of Federal funds.

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City to the Office of Special Projects. Such written comments should be received at 600 East Trade Street on or before June 27th. All such comments so received will be considered and the City will not request the release of Federal funds or take any administrative action on the within described projects prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Eddie Knox, Mayor
City of Charlotte, North Carolina
600 East Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

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NOTICE
Soliciting Subcontractor bids from minority contractors for contracts 6 and 7, Wastewater facility, town of Valdese, N.C. to be bid June 26, 1980 at 2 p.m. Sub-bids for clearing and grubbing, grass, manhole, pipe laying, miscellaneous concrete, pavement patching and other. Please contact Bill Norwood, Dickerson, Inc., P.O. Box 400, Monroe, N.C. (704) 289-3111.

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DEADLINE
Deadlines for receipt of copy for classified advertising are 5 p.m. Monday. Cancellations must be made before the deadlines.

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NOTICE
Need minority subcontractors' bids for 2 sewage plant projects in Claremont, N.C. (near Newton). Types of work are: Sewer line (900 L.F.), boring under I-40, structure excavation (700 CY each), concrete (50 CY each), seeding (½ acre each). Plans available at AGC, 1100 Euclid Avenue, Charlotte, or call 545-9048 for details. Bids must be in to us no later than 11:00 a.m. Monday, June 23, 1980. James E. Harris Construction, Box 25885, Charlotte, N.C. 28212.

SUBCONTRACTORS NEEDED
Christopher Construction Company invites Minority Subcontractors to quote on the following areas of work for the Lake Rhodhiss Wastewater Facilities for the Town of Valdese, North Carolina. BID DATE: June 26, 1980.
Excavation & Grading
Paving
Seeding
Cast in Place Concrete
Masonry
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Curb & Gutter
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Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools System is accepting teacher aide applications for the 1980-81 school year. Individuals interested in applying may pick up an application in the personnel department at the Education Center, 701 E. 2nd Street. CMSS Is An Equal Opportunity Employer

EMS EVALUATION SPECIALIST
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CPR PROJECT COORDINATOR
Salary \$11,566-\$15,323 depending on qualifications. Minimum: BS in Health Education or related, current certification in CPR. Experience in planning and conducting large-scale public education program is desirable.

Send resume specifying position of interest and detailing education, experience and other qualifications to: Deputy Director, P.O. Box 4008, Charlotte, NC 28204 before June 23, 1980. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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ATTENTION MINORITY SUBCONTRACTORS
We will be bidding the New Lake Rhodhiss Wastewater Treatment Plant and Outfall Project in Valdese, NC on June 26, 1980 at 2:00 p.m. We need qualified minority subcontractors and/or suppliers in many categories, some of which are listed below. Should you wish additional information on these or other work categories, please contact us by phone, write, or visit our office. Plans and specifications are available for review at the Town Hall, Valdese; at AGC Offices in Charlotte and Greensboro; or at our office. Prices must be received in our office no later than 10:00 a.m., June 26. Please provide written quotations.

- Areas for Subcontract Consideration**
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Plant Water Line Installation | Chain Link Fencing |
| Seeding and Landscaping | Roll Up Doors |
| Clearing and Grubbing | Concrete Placement & Finishing (Flat) |
| Masonry | Concrete Rubbing |
| Roofing | Concrete Pier Construction |
| Painting | Curb & Gutter |
| Ceramic Tile | Sidewalks |
| Acoustical Tile | Storm Drainage |
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