

CHURCH

RELIGIOUS

COMMUNITY

"IN OUR TIME"



by Rev. R. M. White

1 Cor. 13:3 - And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing.

Gifts of benevolence and responses to requests for help, in any cause, the extending of a helping hand to aid the feable, feed the poor or a gift to God's kingdom work -- if done without love, profits you nothing.

It is possible to have a comfortable home, fine care, adequate wardrobe, position which pays a fat salary and still be "Spiritually Bankrupt!"

Bankruptcy means in common terms: You have allowed your liabilities to so exceed your assets that your position of solvency is totally unstable. "Unstable", in this sense means, you no longer have control over your material destiny. You are now at the mercy of every wind that blows. You are now tossed to and fro by every wind of your defenselessness...Your situation has become futile. Like being caught up in a gushing wind -- then the waves come! You're gasping for breath! One rush of billowing waves sweeps you off your feet -- you can only cry as Peter while walking the water, "Lord save me."

When you reach that point, you are the beginning again. The words of the text mean nothing to you. "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing." For at this time, you only have love for yourself. "Save me!"...Is your desire and your only cry. However, you must remember... "man's extremity is God's opportunity". So you've cried "Save Me!" And you were saved. Now it's time to help to seek and to save those who are outside of the "household of faith". If you have not gained enough experience from nearly drowning, yourself, then you are "Spiritually Bankrupt!" You have nothing left to pay your debt to your unsaved fellowman! If you are a christian, if you have truly been born anew, "Then you are your brothers keeper!" You are now out of bankruptcy. You are now a "mercenary" -- asoldier of the cross. Because, everytime you go to battle for Jesus, you're laying up wealth in the kingdom of heaven! This wealth of which we speak is found in the archives of God's love.

This is the season of the year when we should be especially occupied with the LOVE OF GOD toward a lost world. This is the time when we give special expression of our love to our friends and loved ones. Some of these friends and loved ones which we acknowledged with expressions of the Christmas season will hear no more from us for another year! So much of our expressions of love is so selfish! So much of our love is limited to those who love us in return. This love for friends and relatives may be very strong and sincere, even to the degree of complete personal sacrifice. Jesus expressed this human love when He said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Now in contrast to human love, think on The Love of God... "But God commandeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

When God sent his son Jesus into the world over nineteen hundred years ago, He knew exactly what men would do to Him. He knew beforehand that He would be rejected, falsely accused, spit upon and hung upon a cruel cross to die. And yet, in spite of knowing all this, He still sent Him forth to die. What was the reason for this strange action of a father sending his son -- his own beloved son into the camp of the enemy to be killed by them? We stand amazed at the reason; for it was because God loved those enemies so much that He was willing to sacrifice His Son in order to save them. What else does John 3:16 mean? "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God bless you during this Holiday Season.

Deaths And Funerals

GREENSBORO

MR. JAMES ROBERICK BLOUNT, 55, a former resident of Greensboro died in Charlotte. Funeral service was held at Grier Funeral Home, Charlotte, and burial was in Charlotte Courtesy of BROWN'S FUNERAL HOME Directors.

MISS BERNICE EDWARDS of 1308 Salem Street died in her home. Funeral service was held at Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church, The Rev. E.N. French, pastor, officiating. Burial service was held at the Cornith A.M.E. Zion Church, Siler City, N.C.

BROWN'S FUNERAL HOME Directors were in charge of arrangements.

MRS. EMMA R. GRAY of 802 Oxford Street died at L. Richardson Memorial. Funeral service was held in the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charleston, West Virginia. Burial was in Spring Hill Cemetery. BROWN'S FUNERAL HOME Directors were in charge of arrangements.

MRS. MARGO G. NESBITT, 26, of 727 Bingham Court. Funeral service was held at New Light Baptist Church, the Rev. Cardes H. Brown, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Maple-

wood Cemetery. BROWN'S FUNERAL HOME Directors were in charge of arrangements.

MRS. ROBERTA TUCKER, 65, of 222 E. Lee Street died at L. Richardson Memorial Hospital. Funeral service was held at the House of Prayer, Augusta, Georgia. BROWN'S FUNERAL HOME Directors were in charge of arrangements.

HIGH POINT

ROBERT LEE JORDON, 12, of 1513 McGuinn Street was DOA at High Point Memorial Hospital. Funeral service was held at First Ammanuel Baptist Church, the Rev. D.D. Mason, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Carolina Biblical Garden. HAZLIP FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

MRS. MINNIE LONDON, 65, of 1010 Sharon Street died in her home. Funeral was at the Green Bay Baptist Church, Lynchburg, S.C. Burial followed in Sanders Cemetery. Courtesy of HAZLIP FUNERAL HOME.

THOMASVILLE JESSE W. McDONALD of 306 Memorial Park Drive died in the North Carolina Baptist Hospital. Funeral service was held at Central United Methodist Church, the Rev. W.P. Cole officiating. Burial was in Carolina Biblical Garden. THOMAS-HAZLIP FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

CHURCH EVENTS



GASTONIA - Mrs. Gretna F. Mason (left) stands with Mrs. Mandell Ashe in the background.

GASTONIA - The Minnie C. Lyons Missionary Group #2 of Friendship Baptist Church sponsored a Christmas party Monday, Dec. 15 in the Fellowship Hall. Christmas carols were sung followed by prayer by rev. T.M. Walker. Interesting games were played, pictures taken, and refreshments served.

Mrs. Maudell Ashe, program chairman of the group, presented Mrs. Gretna F. Mason a corsage for her excellent work as president.

Mrs. Ethel Walker was given a token gift on her birthday during the occasion.

Mrs. Josephine Washington is chairman of the

social committee, and Rev. T.M. Walker is pastor of Friendship Baptist Church where the event was held.

GASTONIA - The annual Christmas Dinner was sponsored by the Minister's Wife's Alliance at the home of Rev. & Mrs. J.G. Whitfield of 114 Long

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