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AIS interview with
William Turner on
"Taking the Gospel to
Russia."



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GUEST PULPIT:
Sermon and outline by the
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Indiana Bible College Perspectives

Apostolic Information Service

Vol. 6, No.5

Dan Walden:

URBAN

RENEWAL

By Richard C. Brown

Step into the inner-city portions of Los Angeles -- including the suburb of Bell Gardens -- and you step into a different world, resembling little of what you know about the rest of the United States. Racial tensions run high in this area, spawned by decades of prejudice, poverty and politics. The population nearly exceeds its boundaries. And despair is the rule, rather than the exception.

So when you find here a man such Daniel W. Walden, a pastor with a smile on his face and seemingly a perpetual song in his heart, you can't help but feeling he's out of place; maybe he's a stranger who got lost on his way through town.

Not so. Brother Walden -- and his church, Life Tabernacle -- are right at home, and are on a mission of their own brand of "urban renewal." But it's not buildings or roads they're trying to repair; it's the despair in men's hearts.

"You don't pastor in Los Angeles with the traditional mind-set," Walden said. "If you do, you're not going to make it. You have to

think in a different way, being careful to attract people to Jesus by something that says, 'here's hope for you.'"

Walden has been offering this brand of hope to the Bell

Gardens community now for 15 years. During that time, he has seen his congregation go from about 30 to 325. Indeed, last year alone, the church had more

than 125 who were baptized or received the Holy Ghost or both.

Personal History

Dan Walden's background was one
(Cont. on pg. 3)

BELOW: Pastor Dan Walden of Bell Gardens, CA, along with his wife Verlaine and daughters Danelle, Brittany and Michelle.



ALSO INSIDE:

Indianapolis Apostolics of various organizations, ethnic backgrounds unite for Pentecost Sunday. See "Apostolic News" on page eight.

Opinions

OUR NEXT OPINIONS TOPIC: "Helping Church Youth Attend Bible College"

If you have a topic that you would like to see addressed on the "Opinions" page, send your suggestion to: Apostolic Information Service, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Or call (800) 8000-AIS.



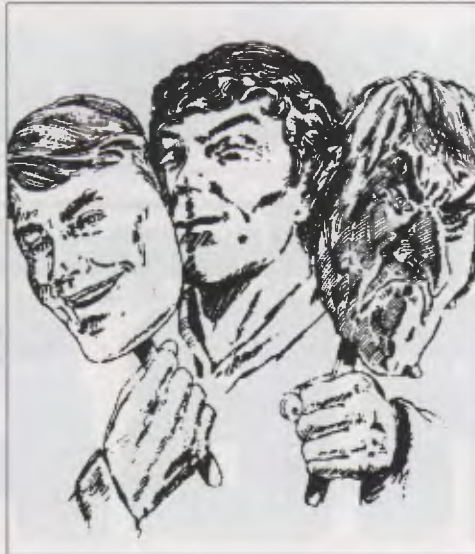
*Galyn Allen
Pastor
Westlake, LA*

There are different degrees of demon influence over individuals, including Christians. Dealing effectively with them requires us to understand these differences.

First, a person can be demon *oppressed*. In this case, the demon works on the outside of the person and puts things like fear, worry, and extreme nervousness on him. Second, there is demon obsession. This is where the demon, although still not possessing the person, puts thoughts into his mind, causing him to become obsessed with tormenting or unclean thoughts. These first two degrees can and do afflict Christians. Even the child of God can accept unclean thoughts and become obsessed by them until he's into mental bondage; eventually that could even lead to demon possession and the Spirit of God departing.

The third stage, demon *possession*, takes place when the spirit actually takes up residence in the person just like the Holy Ghost does. This cannot happen to a Spirit-filled Christian walking in the Spirit.

How do we overcome these influences? By walking in the truth! James 4:7 says if we submit ourselves to God and then resist the devil, he will flee.



Can a Christian Have a Demon?

AIS VIEW: *A Christian may certainly have demonic forces come against him and afflict him. However, because born-again Christians become the property of Jesus Christ, inhabited by His Spirit, it is impossible for a Christian to be possessed by a demon.*

Demonology is an area in which, unfortunately, many careless Christians have fled in order to explain their actions; they blame everything on the devil. The truth is that a Spirit-filled Christian cannot be demon-possessed. Still, there are times when unclean spirits will oppress people, and put pressure on them in specific areas of their lives.

Several factors can open up the Christian to these attacks: unforgiveness, bitterness, impurity, or a relapse into areas of sin previously conquered. I've even prayed for people who have had unclean spirits hassle them through the years, because of a failure to build bulwarks in weakened places. Consequently they're very susceptible in those areas.

Unclean spirits can also interfere with our physiology through spiritual warfare. Some sicknesses, although definitely not all, can be exacerbated by a spirit of infirmity (See, for instance, Luke 13:11). Acts 10:38 says Jesus healed all who were oppressed by the devil, thereby showing a connection between healing and deliverance ministry. As always victory comes through consistent prayer, a developed spirituality, and faithfulness to God, His Word and His church.



*Michael Meadows
Pastor
Fond du Lac, WI*



*Donald Bault
Evangelist
Ellettsville, IN*

A Spirit-filled person cannot be possessed by a demon, but he can be *oppressed*. To be possessed is to be controlled totally by an evil spirit. Oppression simply means to be pulled or weighted down by that spirit. I think that there are spirits of certain things, such as spirits of lust, or carnality, that can get hold of a person and lead him.



*Harold Grigsby
Pastor
Logansport, IN*

Can a Christian have a demon? It depends on what you mean by "Christian." Obviously people who claim they are Christians, but aren't, could have a demon. However, if you're full of the Holy Ghost, you can't have an evil spirit also in you. The Bible indicates that a demon inhabits a house that is swept and empty.



*Lonnie Treadway
Pastor
Beaumont, TX*

A Christian can be aggravated by demons, and maybe oppressed to a certain extent, but I don't think a Christian has to tolerate that. He has authority over that demon. The Bible says "greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world." This tells me that a demon cannot coexist with the Spirit of God inside you.



*Nathan Dudley
Pastor
Wichita, KS*

While a Christian can't be possessed, there are certainly spirits of jealousy, alcohol, drugs, and others that can come against a Christian. The Christian has to be calm and avoid giving in to these during a weak moment. We should all be involved in "deliverance" ministry, since that was one of the commissions Jesus gave to us.



*Larry Eddings
Pastor
Springfield, MO*

Possession is an internal thing, where a spirit actually takes control of a person's body. Oppression is external, and it's where a spirit works on the mind of a person. That person then, under the pressure of that spirit, may act certain ways and succumb to certain temptations. However, he does so under his own power.



*Jim Deramus
Pastor
Vicksburg, MS*

The Bible says we are the temple of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, a demon cannot live in the same tabernacle as the Holy Ghost. Nor can the spirit somehow attach itself to his flesh, but this is missing the fact that a healthy, Spirit-filled person has on the spiritual armament necessary to defend himself against the attacks of the evil one.

Dan Walden: Urban Renewal

(Continued from page one)



that prepared him for ministry in a hard-core area like urban Los Angeles. Raised in Lubbock, Texas, his mother left him when he was only six. His father, though, a committed Apostolic, taught him through his youth to allow God to take him through the hard times. At age 11, Walden received the Holy Ghost.

"All while I was growing up, there was a 'homing call' or instinct that made me feel like I was called to preach," Walden recalled, "but it was at 17 that I first publicly acknowledged it."

Brother Walden, who is now 43, married his wife, Verlaine, in 1971 and soon after moved to California to assist her father at his church. The Waldens stayed there until 1975, when they then became full-time evangelists for the next six years. Then, in 1981, Brother Walden was invited to pastor the church in Bell Gardens, CA. At the time the congregation was averaging 30.

A Different World

The Waldens soon discovered that entering the inner-city area of Bell Gardens was like entering a completely new world. It's an inner-city community, six miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. The church is located in a largely Hispanic area, with a large population of many other ethnic groups as well. And there seemed to be more people than there was room to house. So principles of church growth that the Waldens had heard from pastors in other parts of the country seemed strangely irrelevant now.

"There is very little available property in this area," said Walden. "That created unique problems for us. When I came here, the church property had a 7,000 square foot building sitting on one-half acre. A lot of pastors in suburban or rural America think you've got to have 10 acres of ground and 40,000 square feet to have a church here. We understand that

in a densely-populated, inner-city community like this, though, that this is just not going to happen without a miracle of the Spirit. Most churches our size throughout America have five or 10 acres with several buildings. We've spent most of our church life on half an acre. However, three years ago we did tear down the complete structure and build a new 13,000 square foot one.

One "miracle of the Spirit" did happen recently though, when property next to the church became available; the church purchased that land and the three buildings sitting on it.

Still, space is at a premium for the congregation. So how do they deal with large crowds on 13,000 square feet?

"We have 28 church services a month. That's how we get the work done. Although I believe God can give us new buildings or land, I perceive the day when we will be having almost 24-hour-a-day church, to meet the needs of all the people."

Fueled By Teamwork

Becoming a first-time pastor was an experience not without its insecurities for Walden, particularly in an area like Los Angeles. One way that he coped with the insecurity was by assuming more control over the functions of the church than he now feels he should have. "As a young man, I had a need to feel like I was in charge. I used to think I had to run every

ABOVE LEFT: The exterior facility of Life Tabernacle in Bell Gardens, CA. Bell Gardens is an urban community six miles southeast of Los Angeles.

ABOVE RIGHT: Life Tabernacle's bus ministry in operation during a Sunday morning. **RIGHT:** Brother Dan Walden preaches to a capacity Sunday night crowd at Life Tabernacle.

single project and attend every church function personally. I soon realized, though, that this was more about me than about ministering to other people. So I began to use others more in the church operation."

Indeed, watching Life Tabernacle in operation now, one sees, not a one-man show, but a well-oiled machine fueled by teamwork. Walden himself now places his priorities on training effective leaders. A pastor, he says, needs to "see himself as a trainer of leaders."

Walden himself schedules leadership training sessions in the church once or twice each year. As for the leaders currently operating in the church, "I meet with all department heads three times a year. But that's good only for our stage right now. If I had two or three times more people, we would meet two or three times more often. Also, within the 11 departments I have in the church, I have four or five outreach-related 'subdepartments.' I meet with the leaders of Sunday school, home Bible study,

(Continued on page 14)

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

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PASTOR R.E. LIBBY

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Taking the Gospel to Russia

AIS INTERVIEW
With William Turner

Editor's note: Brother and Sister William Turner have been missionaries since 1978, when they carried the Gospel to Korea. Three years ago, they changed their focus, concentrating on Russia and the former Soviet republics. Recently, AIS discussed with Brother Turner the state of missions in Russia. Portions of this interview are printed below:

.....

How did you come to be a missionary to Russia?

We'd been missionaries in South Korea since 1978. Then, in 1988, while home for deputation, we began to feel the Lord was going to change the direction of our ministry. In that first week we were home, the Lord began to impress Russia on my heart. Of course, during that time, the country was still under Communist rule, so we waited. In 1990, I made my first trip to Russia on my way to the World Conference in Amsterdam; I stopped in St. Petersburg on that trip. Everything I experienced there just confirmed what I already felt. Then, at the World Conference, I put in a request to have our field changed to the Soviet Union, which was approved in May, 1990. We first arrived on the field in 1993.

What have been the objectives of your ministry while there?

We had several objectives when we first arrived. One was to establish contact with existing Oneness believers and churches. Secondly, we wanted to establish a church in Moscow. Thirdly, we wanted to set up a training program.

Have you begun to achieve those goals?

We have. We had one contact when we arrived here. He was a lawyer who had been baptized in Jesus' name and received the Holy Ghost. He introduced me to a pastor of an old Oneness church in Moscow, and through that brother, we began making other contacts with the traditional Oneness church.

In a few months' time, this brother asked me to come and pastor the church in Moscow. He and his wife were going to retire and visit their son in the States. Within a year, we'd also made contact with a group of brand new Oneness churches pastored mostly by young men of Oneness background. Their churches have since affiliated with the United Pentecostal Church. We're working together to win Russia.

And what about the training center?

Just last fall, we started a Bible college by

correspondence. It's a two-year program out of Moscow. In our first semester we had over 200 students enrolled.

Our hope at this point is to begin an on-campus kind of Bible school. We've been travelling and trying to raise money for that.

You also use a correspondence course as an outreach, don't you?

We do. We started last year a correspondence program, originally written by [Indiana Bible College executive vice-president] T.R. O'Daniel when he was a missionary. We use it for people who don't know anything about the Bible. This is a series of introductory Bible lessons. So far, we've had hundreds of students in over 200 cities and villages across Russia to enroll in the program. This has given us all kinds of contacts and opportunities for ministry.

What challenges have you faced there?

Nothing is easy there. It takes a lot of time to get anything done.

For one thing, travel is extremely inconvenient. One time, my wife and I were trying to get a plane out of Moscow to the republic of Georgia. We waited at one of the airports all day for a flight, but they kept postponing it. Finally, at about eight o'clock that evening, we gave up. We went back the next day; it was foggy, so again, we waited all day. However, there were some people there who were from Georgia who were going to the same place we were going. So we just stayed in line with them. Finally, we departed at two in the morning.

Have you been hindered any by the government there?

Not by the government. However, there is a very strong nationalistic movement in Russia which is perhaps more dangerous than the resurgence of a Communist government.

This nationalistic movement is very closely tied with the Russian Orthodox Church. Generally speaking, they don't want foreign missionaries in this country; they think Russia should be an Orthodox country.

Specifically, what kind of pressure has the Russian Orthodox Church caused for you?

In one case, there was a pastor who had his home burned down; another had some people try to burn the church down. And one of our Associates in Missions in the Southern Ural Mountains has been followed around by the Secret Police, which is closely tied to the Orthodox church there.



What's been the response of the people to the Apostolic message?

There has been a very positive response to the message in Russia, especially when we go outside places like Moscow and St. Petersburg, (where they've been inundated with religious activity and missionary outreaches, and have therefore become a little cynical). The churches that we're working with are all growing at a pretty good pace. We've ministered among them and have seen quite a few people receive the Holy Ghost. Among the churches themselves, they're praying people through regularly. There are about 24 churches now and a number of preaching points in addition, all of which are experiencing growth and revival.

Are there any needs that saints in the States can help with?

We certainly need regular prayer support. Also those who can help us financially with setting up the Bible College and Evangelism Center would be a tremendous blessing to us. Finally, if anybody wants to contact us through the Internet, they could do that by E-mailing to wturner@glas.apc.org.

What are your goals for the future?

In addition to setting up the Bible school, we've been asked by the Foreign Missions Division to coordinate evangelism in central Asia, those countries to the south of Russia that are predominantly Muslim. I think we'll have a good opportunity to reach into those Muslim areas with the Gospel. We also need very much to do evangelistic work in Siberia; it's such a vast area. So there's a great deal of work yet to be done, and with God's grace, we're up for the challenge.

.....

Brother William Turner has written a book entitled In the Kingdom of the North: Missionary Journeys in Russia. It's available for \$8.00 plus 10 percent postage and handling by writing: William Turner, 1820-A, Country Club Road, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

Brother Turner was interviewed by AIS correspondent Linda Massengale.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION...

for any of these columnists, please address it to AIS Managing Editor, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Or call (800)800-AIS.



Paul D. Mooney

Ministry

I have a large and growing collection of sermon illustrations and other material to incorporate into my sermons and Bible studies. However, filing them is a challenge. What method do you use in filing material and illustrations?

I foolishly attempt to answer this question, inasmuch as I'm probably the world's worst at actually filing. I will say that I have used more different methods of filing than almost anyone I know; so in a strange way, I suppose that makes me somewhat of an expert on the subject.

Seriously, it should be obvious that each person must find his own way, his own system for filing. And of course, there are commercial products and systems which one might find helpful.

Here are a couple of guidelines that I would suggest:

- 1) Establish categories into which you can drop various articles that you might discover in newspapers and magazines. These categories might be Family Life, Preaching Techniques, American Politics, etc. As you can see, these can be as expansive as you wish.
- 2) Rather than keeping whole magazines, learn to rip, tear, copy, and file.
- 3) Never throw anything away. Scribble thoughts and ideas on cards or papers and review as needed. This is particularly helpful when suffering from preacher's block or writer's block.
- 4) Shift and rewrite material, constantly bringing your best ideas forward. The better stuff will become part of your intellectual repertoire, but keep the discarded stuff for review. You might be surprised to find what you reject at one point might become powerful to you at another.



T. W. Massengale

Outreach

We are struggling to encourage our saints to get involved in teaching home Bible Studies. Any suggestions on how to encourage greater participation?

Home Bible study is, without a doubt, the most effective evangelism ministry you can use within a church. However, for the ministry to work effectively it must be kept visible and promoted often or it will quickly become "out-of-sight, out-of-mind." The emphasis of your promotion needs to be "talk to your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors and ask



T.R. O'Daniel

Theology

Why was Christ crucified a stumbling block to the Jews?

In I Corinthians 1:23, Paul states that the message of Christ crucified was a stumbling block to the Jews. To understand why, it helps to realize that honor and shame exemplified core values in the Palestine of Jesus' day. Honor served as a group value and members of the group shared the group's honor or shame. Death by crucifixion was considered to be extremely shameful. Anyone identifying with Jesus would share in His shame.

Jews not only detested crucifixion for its excruciating pain, but because it was considered to be the death of a slave. Romans meted out this punishment for such crimes as treason, robbery, assassination, sedition, etc. In the Old Testament, the Jews occasionally hung dead bodies on a tree as a warning (Deuteronomy 21:22, 23; Joshua 10:26).

Both the Romans and the Jews did everything they could to publicly humiliate Jesus before and during His crucifixion. They mocked His ability to prophesy, His claims to Kingship, and His ability to save. They smote Him, spat on Him, and disrobed Him. Mark lets us know that even the justifiably condemned robbers who were being crucified with Him joined in the derision of Jesus. Truly Jesus suffered a fate considered by the Jews to be worse than death, public humiliation.

In the honor-driven society of the Jews where honor derives from whom you are associated with, the Jews as a group did not want to identify with such a one as Jesus. He was not what they believed a Messiah should be, and this proved to be a stumbling block. As for me, I say, "Thank you, Jesus, for enduring the cross, despising the shame, and making my salvation possible."

them for a Bible study."

The most successful studies are those that people obtain themselves and teach themselves. This maintains the "oikos" principle of successful evangelism.

Here are a few good ways to promote the ministry: (1) Each year, bring in an outside speaker to teach a H.B.S. seminar. Use a major church night to kick it off, then several following nights to teach the "how-to's" of how to get and teach Bible studies. (2) Immediately following this seminar, launch a "Home Bible Study Emphasis Month." Promote the ministry in every service for at least one month. Encourage everyone to get involved in some way, either as a teacher, assistant teacher, host (they set it up, someone else teaches it), baby sitter (both for the teacher's children or the



O. C. Marler

Family

Unexpected problems seem to keep coming up in our marriage. At times it seems as though we have things worked out, but then circumstances arise a new set of circumstances, and there seems no way to prevent them, because each situation is unique. How can we avoid these "surprises"?

First, there is no quick fix for your problems. A relationship exacts a great deal of emotional energy. Two people - a man and a woman - must commit themselves to the relationship; it is comprised of the contributions of each one. These contributions are not made just on the wedding day, but a good strong relationship must be added to and maintained for a lifetime. It's an ongoing thing - the new paint on the walls will eventually have to be painted again, and the oil in the car will have to be changed.

Many times the situations we think of as problems are really the symptoms. Most confrontations are really not over who didn't take out the garbage or a forgotten birthday, or wedding anniversary. These are merely surface eruptions of deep resentments and conflicts.

We can see the trembling collapse of a house in California and know that the shaking of the dwelling did not cause the earthquake. The quake came from a force deep beneath the earth. No matter how many times we smooth things over with a glib, halfhearted apology, until the root of the matter is located, discussed, and a prayerful, mutual agreement reached, we are merely patching the symptom. Working above ground is a quick fix. Locating the cause and patiently working to effect a change - over and over - though a lifetime job, will produce a loving relationship, a relationship that will stand the test of time.

student's children), prayer partner (to be a prayer as the study is being taught) or financial sponsor (contribute money to the support of the ministry).

(3) Schedule a regular time, at least once a month, to promote the ministry. Use ideas from the file "35 Ways To Promote the Home Bible Ministry (AIS file HBMA 01.TXT). (4) Testimonies from students and teachers. (5) Contests (divide the church into two teams and assign points for each type of involvement listed above. Encourage everyone to get involved in some way). (5) Most important, the pastor needs to be involved in teaching and to talk about the Bible study regularly. The saints need to consider the pastor to be leader in all areas of the church. He should also lead the most all-important ministry.



PENTECOSTALS

Speaking in Tongues Rare in AOG

Assemblies of God officials are now conceding that receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in other tongues, is rare in their churches, according to the denomination's own magazine, the Pentecostal Evangel.

Echoing the view that other AOG officials have recently put forth, James K. Bridges, general treasurer of the nation's largest Pentecostal denomination, says that the church has lost much of its evangelistic fervor in recent years because so few have spoken in tongues. "During an open controversy on this issue at the 1918 General Council, Daniel Warren Kerr, founder of both Southern California College and Central Bible College who also helped found what is now Bethany College and an early executive presbyter in our Fellowship, cautioned that when the church backs away from this position, there is a significant lack in evangelistic zeal. The opposite is true where speaking in tongues is upheld and practiced," Bridges said in the May 26 *Evangel*.

Bridges also took issue with the belief that one could have the baptism of the Spirit without speaking in tongues. "If you rely completely upon the biblical record, there is no getting around tongues as the initial physical evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit,"

he said. And addressing the issue that it's not "essential," Bridges noted, "So significant was this experience that Jesus commanded His disciples not to leave Jerusalem until the Spirit came. In essence He said in Acts 1:4, "Don't even think about leaving Jerusalem until the promise of the Father has come." Still, Bridges and the rest of the denomination stop short of saying the experience is essential for salvation.

FAMILY

Family in Trouble Around the World

A May Population Council report shows that the family is not in trouble just in the United States - it's in a crisis state around the world. Among the findings of the report:

- Since 1970, the divorce rates in Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and France have more than doubled.

- Twenty percent of households in the former Soviet Union are headed by women, usually because of the absence of a male authority figure in the home. In Hong Kong, 25 percent of homes are headed by women, with 29 percent filling that role in Trinidad.

- More than 40 percent of "forty-something" women in the Dominican Republic, Ghana and Indonesia have had at least one divorce.

MEDIA

Religion News Rare On TV News Shows

A survey by the Media Research Center concludes that religion coverage on television news program is "insignificant," according to the Religion News Service.

The survey found that of more than 18,000 stories on the four major networks' evening news programs, only 249 pertained to religion. Of the 26,000 segments on morning news programs, only 224 were about religion.

The survey also found that most religion coverage favored Roman Catholicism over Protestant Christianity. Seventy-one percent of morning news stories and half of evening segments pertaining to religion were about Catholicism.

POLITICS

Could Pentecostal Be Vice-President?

Could Republican Presidential nominee Bob Dole select a Pentecostal as his Vice-Presidential running mate? *World* magazine raised that possibility in its June 1 issue.

"While Mr. Dole scours the nation looking for the perfect veep," Bob Jones IV writes in the magazine's cover story, "he may be overlooking a prime candidate right next door. The single most mentioned name in *World's* survey [of Christian leaders about the ideal running mate for Dole] was something of a surprise: Sen. John Ashcroft of Missouri."

Jones suggests that, because many of the so-called "Religious Right" are skeptical about Dole, he needs a solidly religious conservative to balance out the ticket and win over Christians. Sen. Ashcroft is a lifelong member of the Assemblies of God, the world's largest Pentecostal organization. Soon after becoming a senator for Missouri, Ashcroft expressed a desire to take Christian values into government.

"I want to capitalize on this inspiration to intensify my desire for public service with the Spirit of Christ in humility and to shun the spirit of arrogance, which can so often be characteristic of this city. I want it to motivate me to be a better father and husband, as well as a better public servant."

Ashcroft agrees with most on the Christian Right, making him an attractive candidate to them for Vice-President. During the 1992 Presidential campaign, he served as cochairman of the GOP's platform committee and pushed hard for maintaining the party's pro-life plank. He also supports voluntary prayer in public schools and opposes special rights for homosexuals.

But, as Bob Jones noted in his *World* article, "at this point, Sen. Ashcroft is the darkest of dark horses. He'll know he's a serious contender for the number-two spot when [the other contenders] start trashing him."

STRANGE WORLD

Your Sins Will Find You Out

In this month's foray into the world of the strange and bizarre, we discover the Biblical truth: "Be sure your sins will find you out."

- Norman Newmarch of Toronto, Ontario was charged in October with Driving Under the Influence of alcohol - after he nudged a car in the police station parking lot to ask the officers if he was sober enough to drive.

- The Associated Press reported the September capture of Carlos Trujillo for smuggling \$78,900 into Kennedy Airport in New York. \$18,900 of the money was rolled up in condoms that Trujillo had swallowed. Officials, however, were uncertain why he went to the trouble since he was also carrying about \$60,000 more with him.

News In Brief...

- A bill is being readied for introduction into the Ohio House of Representatives that would require public schools to present evidence for and against the theory of evolution.

- In a massive sting operation in May, the Postal Service has discovered and shut down the largest child-pornography operation in the nation's history, called "overseas Male." More than 2,000 names were on the organization's mailing list. Forty-five men have been charged with buying child porn through the operation and at least 70 more arrests are expected.

Indianapolis Apostolics Unite for Pentecost Sunday

APOSTOLICS TODAY

Between 5,000 - 6,000 Apostolics put aside racial and organizational barriers on May 26 to celebrate Pentecost Sunday together in Indianapolis, IN.

More than 60 churches throughout Indiana convened at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis to express their desire for unity among Oneness Pentecostals. Congregations representing the Indiana District United Pentecostal Church, Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, and the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ attended the Sunday afternoon event, which replaced most of the churches' normal Sunday evening service.

The mega-rally was originally the idea of Indiana District Superintendent Paul Mooney. Brother Mooney, who also pastors Calvary Tabernacle in Indianapolis, said the city was once a major center for Apostolics, and should be again.

"Back when this thing first started, Indianapolis was a mecca for Apostolics. And back in those days, when the Holy Spirit was in charge, blacks and whites worshipped together. We're coming to a time when we will again need to find one

another," Mooney said.

Seven people were baptized throughout the service. Preachers included Mooney, Bishop James Tyson (with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World), and R.B. Bingham (Indiana District Superintendent for the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ). The keynote speaker was Morris Golder, suffrogate bishop with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World.

Perhaps equally important was what went on away from the pulpit. The mass choir for the evening represented a broad cross section of Apostolic organizations and ethnic backgrounds. Brother Lindel Anderson from Calvary Tabernacle and Donald Golder from Grace Apostolic Church directed the 400-voice multi-cultural choir.

The song service too consisted of the best of both white and black Pentecostal praise songs, with Apostolics of all races sitting together in the 6,000-seat auditorium.

"I hope everyone here agrees we should do this again," Brother Mooney told the assembled congregation.



P. Mooney



M. Golder

New Youth Home Bible Study

OUTREACH

Teaching home Bible studies is a fearful thought for most teens. That was the motivating factor for Brother Tracy Lewis of Gaithersburg, MD, to co-write his new youth home Bible study (with fellow youth pastor Harold Linder of New York). "A few years ago, the Youth Division created *The Life and Times of Jesus Christ* which really makes it easier for youth to teach Bible studies," Lewis, who is youth minister for Brother Ron Libby, said. "We took it a step further."



T. Lewis

Lewis and Linder adapted the Youth Division's study into a fill-in-the-blank workbook format. He then added a fifth lesson entitled "What Shall We Do?" about Acts 2:38 salvation. The Youth Division has plans to eventually make Lewis's study available as a supplement to their course.

In the meantime, Brother Lewis himself has made it available as a 23 page teacher's manual with a cardstock front and back cover and a student manual without the cover. And it has worked. "Last year, our youth taught 43 Bible studies in 12 months. This year, in just six months, they've already started about 40. And we've had 30 receive the Holy Ghost, all prayed through by youth."

Cost is \$12. To order, write CLC at 11800 Darnestown Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878. Or call Lewis at (301) 208-9810.

'Mourning to Morning'® Program Offers Grief Counseling

APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES

The memory is still vivid in the mind of Michael Rickenbaker of Nashville, Tennessee.

It started with the telephone call. Only 10 miles from his house, a United Pentecostal Church minister and his family had been travelling through the city. The tragic car accident claimed the lives of the father and five-year-old daughter and left the mother devastated. "Not long before that, my own father passed away unexpectedly," Rickenbaker recalls, "and at first I blamed God."



Michael Rickenbaker

These pivotal events first sparked the vision in Rickenbaker's heart which led to the creation of "Mourning to Morning," his ministry to the bereaved.

"What we try to do with Mourning to

Morning is provide a setting in which people can face the loneliness and emotional turmoil of grief and yet not feel alone. We provide acceptance, education, and support in times of grief," said Rickenbaker, who is assistant pastor to Brother Ron Becton at First United Pentecostal Church.

In practical terms, Mourning to Morning is a support group with an Apostolic foundation. The program is being implemented by Harpeth Hills and West Harpeth Funeral Homes in Nashville and seeks to provide a warm atmosphere of acceptance and confidentiality and people with whom to share the emotions of grief. They also make available literature as well as individual and group counseling. A lecture series on recovering from grief are featured regularly.

"The funeral homes just basically asked us to provide an entire after-care program for them. We do not go as far as trying to convert

people; I think it's important that we just try to reach people where they are and be a friend to them.

"I've found that this does give me credibility and exposure in the community, but I don't use it as 'just another outreach.' I use it to demonstrate the love of God."

Rickenbaker said a ministry such as this can also be an important tool for ministering to a pastor's own church folks. "I've had other pastors contact me about this program, pastors who have seen the value of having a grief support group," said Rickenbaker. Rickenbaker's response is to go to the church and train workers for the ministry in how to deal with the grief-stricken.

Those interested in learning more about the "Mourning to Morning" program or in starting a ministry to the grieving may contact Brother Rickenbaker at (615) 460-4673. Or write him at Mourning to Morning, P.O. Box 91078, Nashville, TN 37209.

- Apostolic churches should try to incorporate men's ministry into their program.
- William Bennett's latest book is excellent for illustrations and inspiration.
- New statistics show the importance of reaching out to senior citizens.

PREACHER'S PICKS

Recently we asked Bible college administrators what resource books should be in every minister's library. Here are more recommendations from Brother T.R. O'Daniel, Indiana Bible College executive vice-president.

- *The Epistle to the Galatians*, by James D.G. Dunn
- *A Theology of the New Testament*, by George Eldon Ladd
- *Spiritual Leadership*, by J. Oswald Sanders
- *The Unfolding Drama of Redemption*, by W. Graham Scroggie
- *The Anatomy of Preaching*, by David Larsen

■ establishing a men's ministry

The growing Christian men's movement in America "is a response to the secular men's movement. It is, in part, an attempt to come to grips with the wrenching social changes and questions about gender roles inspired by the women's movement of the sixties and seventies." That, at least, is the assessment of *Leadership* magazine (in its summer, 1994 issue). But regardless of its cause, Christian men's ministries, as seen by numerous Promise Keepers conventions being held this summer, are on the grow. They are, however, greatly outnumbered in Apostolic churches by ladies' ministries. Some tips from men's ministry experts on reaching out to the male half of your congregation: 1) Glenn Wagner, vice-president of Promise Keepers said the first step is to make a "profile of the men's interests,

needs and desires." Then, 2) based on these needs, Wagner and other men's ministry authorities highly recommend the small-group concept, with the group focused in on a particular need. 3) Make sure you have ample resource materials to feed to the men. Some examples: *Locking Arms* is a hardback book by Stu Weber on the benefits of Christian men working together (\$14.99). Also, *New Man* magazine is a Christian publication "for men of integrity." To order the bimonthly magazine, call (800) 877-5334. Cost is \$24.95 per year. You might also be interested in the following files, available for download or request from AIS: "Making Men's Ministry Work Today" (MMMA01.TXT), "The Christian Men's Movement" (MMMA02.TXT), and "Organizing Men's Prayer & Fellowship" (MMPF01.TXT).

■ book review

The Moral Compass, by William J. Bennett, 1995 Simon & Schuster, New York, 824 pages, hard cover.

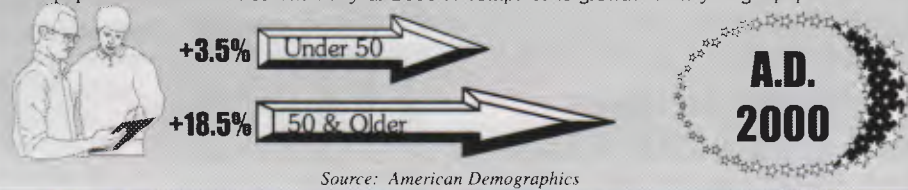
The sequel to William Bennett's *The Book of Virtues* has often been billed as an excellent resource for parents to use with their children. And while it is that, it's much more.

This book of classic morality tales (many of which you doubtless read in elementary school) is great reading for anybody who likes wholesome stories advocating right living. The story of the "Three Billy Goats Gruff" is there, as is the story of Chicken Little and a host of others.

Use it for your children, yes. But also use it for Sunday school classes and to sprinkle your sermons with classic illustrations. And by all means, use it for your own edification.

■ American Pulse: The Aging of America

Recent numbers show the importance of having ministries to senior citizens. The projected growth of the older population between 1989 and the year 2000 as compared to growth of the younger population:



Church Law

By Owen Taylor

The area of bequests or gifts to churches is a complex area, usually requiring the help of an attorney. I've been called by churches in several states regarding what they should do when someone offers to leave part or all of their estate to the church. My first recommendation is to make sure the person has independent advice that will later hold up in court if their decision is challenged. Then, some real estate planning is probably in order.

Recently, an interesting case was reviewed by the IRS. A donor left \$50,000 to a church for the school scholarship program. The gift was to be passed on to the donor's heirs if the school ever stopped operating. This is called a reverter clause. A reverter would ordinarily prohibit the estate from claiming a charitable deduction unless the reverter is so remote "as to be negligible." In this case, the court ruled that the age of the school (25 years) seemed to indicate that the chances of the school closing were remote enough to allow the deduction.

Reverters are usually found in instruments where the donor wants to keep some controls over the use of their gifts. The donees are normally willing to accept the contingencies involved, but not always. The pitfalls of surviving families trying to reclaim the gift can be avoided by using independent witnesses and counsel.

Owen Taylor is an Apostolic attorney specializing in church related issues. Call him at (410) 757-8080, or write: Christian Freedom Foundation, 1304 Harmony Lane, Annapolis, MD 21401.



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Grace: The Power that Saves Us

Selected Sermon Outline by David Gray

Guest
Pulpit

TEXT: Ephesians 2:8. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: It is the gift of God."

Editor's note: The following sermon and sermon outline are printed below as a tribute to the memory of the late Brother David Gray, who passed away in April.

AT EVERY LEVEL of existence in which man finds himself, God reaches him. This is the history of the human race. There is no condition in which man finds himself but what God has a plan to meet man's needs on that level. Progressively, starting with man in his innocence before the fall, God came down to man to help him and to save him. God tried every means in every dispensation of man's existence, yet none of them changed man and brought him into oneness with God until grace came.

The study of the dispensations is fascinating and revealing. To this present time, six dispensations have passed in review from the time of man's beginnings upon the earth. To explain, a dispensation is a period of time during which man is tested with respect to obedience to some specific revelation of the will of God. It is a period in which God allows man the opportunity of approaching Him on a basis set by God. The tragic truth, however, is that man has failed in every dispensation, except for a few isolated cases.

FOR EXAMPLE, in the Dispensation of Innocence, man was created pure, innocent and free from sin, but that dispensation ended in tragedy in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were stained by sin and expelled from the garden. Nevertheless, God provided a way for man on this level, and instituted the Dispensation of Conscience, whereby if a man would only listen, God would speak to him through his conscience. But this dispensation, too, ended in human failure:

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Genesis 6:5).

The pangs of a guilty conscience did not cause man to obey God. Again judgment came, this time in the form of a great flood.

IN LIKE MANNER all the succeeding dispensations ended in failure. God tried to draw man to Himself by instituting human government. That dispensation ended in the dispersal through the confusion of languages at the Tower of Babel. Then God made great and wonderful promises to Abraham and his seed and the Dispensation of Promise was born. Again failure came, and the dispensation ended with the death of the firstborn in Egypt and the Passover, resulting in Israel's escape from Egypt. Shortly after this, God inaugurated the Dispensation of Law at Mt. Sinai, but law did not change the sinful heart of man. The Law Dispensation came to its end at Calvary with God's judgment upon man's sins in the person of Jesus Christ.

Sadly enough, there are still people today who try to please God by keeping the precepts of the law, but that dispensation ended at Calvary. Now we are in the wonderful time called the

"The law had no power to change you or save you; it only threatened and condemned."

Dispensation of Grace. And we are told, "by grace are ye saved" (Eph. 2:8).

Of none of the other dispensations could that statement be made. It could not be said, "By innocence are ye saved," or "by conscience are ye saved," or "by the law are ye saved." But thank God, "by grace are ye saved!"

NOW, IN A SENSE, we all travel through all the dispensation. We are born in innocence. We all were in our own little Garden of Eden. But our infant innocence did not keep us from sinning. The Bible tells us:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

It was not long before our innocence was gone. Perhaps you remember the first lie you ever told. Right then

your conscience was awakened, but did your conscience save you? The sense of shame filled you but did not prevent you from sinning more.

Human government in the form of parental authority next tried to restrain and correct you. That, too, is ordained of God, but if you were like most children, you obeyed while Mom and Dad were watching. Then you disobeyed behind their backs. No, government did not save you. Then Dad tried another tactic: "If you will finish school, make good grades, and keep out of trouble, I will make you a partner in my business." Those were wonderful promises, but you kicked over the traces and sowed your wild oats anyhow. Promises did not save you.

Finally the law stepped on the scene and told the parents, "If your boy won't live right, we will have to take action." A heavy hand comes down on the boy's shoulder. Some of you know what happened. Your inborn rebellion rose up, and it was not long before you were a lawbreaker. The law had no power to change you or save you; it only threatened and condemned.

AFTER GOING through all this, the human soul cries out like Paul:

"I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death!" (Romans 7:21-24).

Is there any hope? Yes, friends, there is hope! This answer comes loud and clear, "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 7:25).

What did grace do that the others did not do? Grace did more than just scold, argue, or give me a guilt complex. Grace changed me. Grace made me a new creature. Grace gave me a new life, a hope, power, enablement, the mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost, all by grace! How do we obtain that grace that justifies us and makes us brand new? "By the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5). That is grace, friends, the free gift of God that will save you and transform your life. **AIS**



Before his passing in April, Brother David Gray had been known as Pentecost's own Scripture Answer Man, answering hundreds of Bible questions in his syndicated column and books. He also served for many years as both pastor and evangelist, and was a well-known conference and campmeeting preacher and teacher.

OUTLINE

- I. Introduction - No Dispensation Saved Man - Until Grace Came
- II. Man's Failure in Each Dispensation
 - A. Innocence
 - B. Conscience
 - C. Government
 - D. Promise
 - E. Law
- III. The Dispensations in Our Own Lives (And Subsequent Failure)
- IV. Only Grace Changed Us
- V. Conclusion: Grace Changes Us By Regenerating Us Through the Holy Ghost

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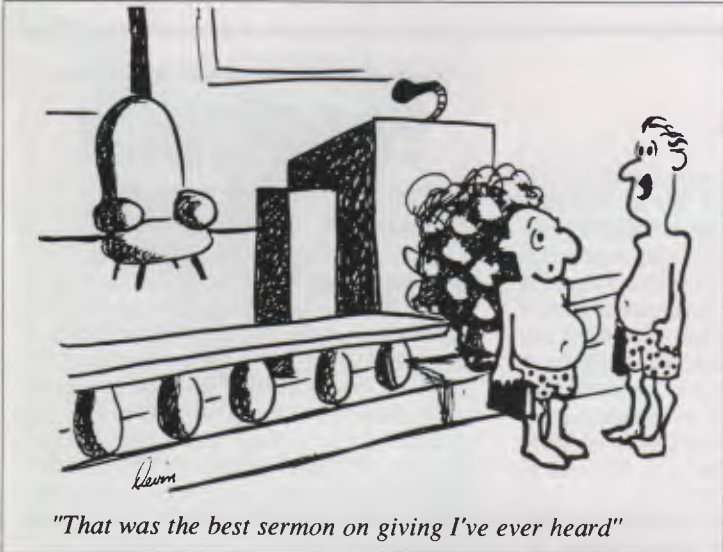
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WORD TO THE WISE:

"Isn't it funny how the same dollar bill that looks so small in the grocery store looks so big at church?"

Smiles



A minister preached a very short sermon. He explained, "My dog got into my office and chewed up some of my notes."

At the close of the service a visitor asked, "If your dog ever has pups, please let my pastor have one of them."

Surgeon: "I think the medical profession is the first profession mentioned in the Bible. God made Eve by carving a rib out of Adam."

Engineer: "No, engineering was first. Just think of the engineering job it was to create things out of chaos."

Politician: "That's nothing. . . Who do you think created chaos?"

Two deacons were out hunting and came upon a game warden. He reminded them that if they became lost to fire a shot at four o'clock. He added that, if not found by a search party by 4:30 p.m., another shot should be fired, and also one at five o'clock.

Sure enough, that afternoon they realized they were lost. At the appointed times, they fired their shots. Said one, "If we aren't found soon, we'll run out of arrows."

Actual Children's Versions of the Lord's Prayer:

- "Our Father, Who are in heaven, hello! What be Thy name?"
- "Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hollywood be Thy name."
- "Our Father, Who art in heaven, Harold be Thy name."
- "Give us this day our daily breath."
- "Give us this day our jelly bread."
- "Lead us not into creation."
- "Deliver us from eagles."

"Do you say your prayers at night, little boy?" inquired the local pastor.

"Yes, sir," answered the lad.

"And do you always say them in the morning as well?" the minister continued.

"No, sir," responded the lad. "I don't have to; I ain't afraid in the daytime."



A young minister was delivering one of his first sermons in his first pastorate. Excited and wishing to make a good impression, he became confused about a Scriptural event: "Consider the scene where the Master fed the multitude with 5,000 loaves and 2,000 fishes." A visitor shook his head in a vigorous "No!"

Wishing to correct his error, the young preacher began his next Sunday's sermon with the words, "Consider the scene where the Master fed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fishes." He pointed to the visitor and emphasized, "You couldn't do that, brother!"

"Oh yes, I could," said the man, " if I had what was left over from last Sunday's message."

"I've been racking my mind," one man said to another at a gathering, "but I can't place your face. You look very much like somebody I have seen a lot - somebody I don't like, but I can't tell you why. Isn't that strange?"

"Nothing strange about it," the other man said. "You have seen me a lot, and I know why you resent me. For two years I have passed you the collection plate in our church!"

Indiana Bible College

Perspectives

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Daniel W. Walden:

URBAN RENEWAL

(Continued from page three)

and new convert care two to three times more often than I do the rest.

"The first 20 to 30 minutes of every meeting, we spend in leadership training. We spend the rest of the time planning upcoming events."

Brother Walden has also learned the value of planning by committee: "There came a time here in Bell Gardens when we needed to build this current church building. I absolutely dismissed our whole church infrastructure. I dismissed all of our department heads, keeping only what we had to have to run a church service. During that time, I learned to do things by committee. The committee would operate while a program was being implemented, but once the program had run its course, the committee was no longer in operation; it was no longer needed. So if we had a special dinner coming up, we would appoint a committee to plan it, and then after the dinner, the committee would be disbanded. During that season, I learned that I could trim down and travel light while still making effective use of other leaders."

While learning to grow a church in an urban community was a challenge, the Life Tabernacle congregation seems to have mastered it. And Walden stresses that it was not a particular program that brought revival to Bell Gardens. Rather, it was a proper concept of the role of the church.

"Often, when we list a bunch of outreach programs, we treat them like a formula," Walden said. "But that's not what produces revival. You cannot administrate a revival. Revival comes out of a move of the Spirit. Programs should be born out of a spiritual move, instead of trying to get a program in place hoping that it will produce something spiritual."

Urban Growth

"I could tell you that we teach home Bible studies, and we do. I could tell you we operate a bus ministry; we do that as well. But these things do not produce revival. They become tools of revival once a move of the Spirit is in place."

What then is the focus at Life Tabernacle? "The focus is on what's going on within the

body of the church. What really brings people to church is the glory of God. We see ourselves here in Bell Gardens as custodians of God's glory. If we maintain the glory of God in the services and in our lives, then that glory acts like a magnet to the world around us. People can be entertained or excited for the moment, but there's nothing that will attract the spirits of people like the glory of God. Frankly, a lot of the programs and administrative techniques of some churches are in competition with God's glory. They draw attention to the people rather than to the Lord. We seek to direct men's spirits to the Lord."

With that thought in mind, Walden said his church tries to keep services always active and flowing smoothly. "A good church service is like a good volleyball game. You should never let the ball hit the floor. There should always be something happening in that service that only God can do. So when you come to church, that service needs to continually be moving. Taking even a minute for singers to get ready to

sing can hinder the service. We try to run things in a way that there is a constant flow in the service."

The fact that Walden stresses Spirit over programs does not mean the church doesn't believe in outreach. Indeed, Brother Walden expects it from all members.

And, as mentioned, there are regular outreaches such as home Bible study, bus ministry and visitor follow-up. In addition, the church operates a growing Spanish-speaking ministry which has approximately 60 members. "Our church reflects the demographics of the Los Angeles area, which includes Chinese, Thai, Filipinos, Puerto Ricans, Central and South Americans, American Indians, African-Americans, as well as Caucasians. The church is not a majority of any particular group, but is a mixture of all of these."

Outside the walls of Life Tabernacle, there is a tension among these ethnic groups, but inside the church at 8300 Eastern Avenue, there's a different world. There, men and women of all backgrounds live together in love, a large extended family. A few times a week, they join together for "family time." But then, during most of the week, they take the Spirit that binds them together into the surrounding communities, offering the only true hope for urban renewal.

"You cannot administrate revival. Revival comes out of a move of the Spirit."

--Dan Walden

Feedback

To the editor:

I always enjoy the cover story in *Perspectives*, but they are usually on the larger to mega churches. I would like to see some articles on smaller but growing churches. Specifically, I'd like to know what kind of things they are doing to see growth, especially churches that run from 40 to 100. It would be nice to hear from some of the pastors of smaller works who are sometimes more on the front line in a different way. I have personally had two people from larger churches come to help in our smaller work, and it has been almost overwhelming to them, because they've found that there aren't enough people to spread the work load out to. Articles on smaller churches could help people to be prepared for these kinds of settings.

--Kenneth Coffman
West Terre Haute, IN

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Editor, AIS, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247
Include name, address and phone number. Letters may be edited for space. If you prefer, initials may be used instead of your name. You can also reach us via FAX at (317)781-7711. Or you may leave your "letter" on our answering machine at (317)781-7712. One other option is to send your letter via E-Mail on the AIS computer network. Send the message to the User I.D. "Perspectives." Our e-mail address on the Internet is ais01@prodigy.com.



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