



The Banner of Truth®

International Voice of The Church of God of North Carolina

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# MARCH WORLD MISSION DRIVE

Because of YOU We Could Go!

# HONDURAS



## Editorial....

*International Overseer*  
*John A. Wilkins, Jr.*



It seems that during the month of February everyone thinks about love and especially for their companion. They buy cards, flowers and special gifts for each other to say, "I LOVE YOU"

but nothing says it like our acts of dedication and our actions toward each other. These are special times and these things should be done for our wife or husband to show them that we love and appreciate them.

I was recently in Honduras and spotted a plaque on the wall of the National Overseer's home which caught my eye. When I asked the overseer, "What does the plaque mean?" He quickly explained that since 1990 when the former General Overseer, Bishop M. A. Tomlinson was removed from his office the plaque was made and hung on my wall to remember our love for him and The Church of God. The words on the plaque are "LA IGLESIA DE DIOS – REMANENTE FIEL" which says in English, "The Church of God – Loyal Remnant". Bishop Orlando Ortiz, the National Overseer has been leading the Loyal Remnant of The Church of God of Honduras, since 1990 because of unfailing love for

Christ's Church without the encouragement of the rest of the "Body of Christ". His work and love for the Church has now trickled over into Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua Belize, and other parts of the world. I have traveled into some 31 countries so far and received a lot of gifts from our dear saints, but never has a gift brought me to tears like this gift. It was precious to Bishop Ortiz, but he removed it from his wall and placed it here in my hand. Now it hangs on the wall of my office to remind me of this man and his family and their love for the



Great Church of God for all those years from 1990-2014 virtually alone except for God. Their love for Christ and His Church has sustained them through every storm and it gives me comfort every time I look at it. It helps me to know that not every knee has bowed to Baal and there are many out there somewhere just like them, who are waiting for

**THE REAL THING – THE CHURCH OF GOD!**

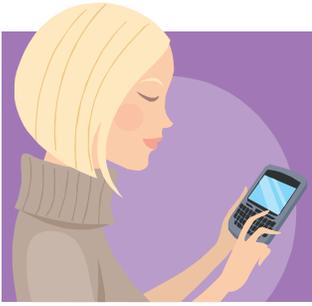
We have joined with these countries of Central America to Keep It, THE CHURCH OF GOD without change or compromise with the flag of 1933 still waving as we sing, "I am so Happy I am in The Church of God, Glory Halleluiah, I'm in The Church of God". □

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

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# A. B. M.

## Let's Talk about Texting

~Brenda Fowler~  
International Director

Let's talk about texting for a moment. My Mother gets upset when there is something that has texting initials in it and she doesn't know what is being said. Well, did you know *The Church of God* started the texting program? Yes it did! Let me tell you about it. How about **ABM?** **CPMA?** **BTI?** **SS?** **WMB?** Or even **BOT?** (By the way, BOT stands for The Banner of Truth.) So you see, my Mother and many of us "older" generation, we know all about the "original" texting. Okay, enough with the levity.

I am your newly appointed International "ABM" (Assembly Band Movement) Director and want to encourage everyone to take extra care in "keeping the sheep." I will talk more about this in the future, but for now, here is some background information, or a refresher course for some, about the "ABM" Department.

Israel was so great in number, Moses was not able to meet the needs of each individual. Jethro advised Moses to choose able men to serve over the people of Israel. Those able men were to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. (The Assembly Band Movement relates to rulers of tens.)

This "help" in the Church was introduced as "Watchers Over Tens" in the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly, 1916. In the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Assembly, 1928, the "Watchers Over Tens" was revised and called the "Assembly Band Movement," which seems to be more in line with the New Testament.

These leaders were to assist the pastor in taking care of the members of the Church, in groups of ten, more or less. They were not to consider themselves as rigid rulers over their groups, but to love them, administer spiritual help to them when needed, and keep a careful record of their location and attendance of the regular services. This way, the pastor could access this needed information on each member at any time. The above information is taken from the 1<sup>st</sup> term BTI (Bible Training Institute) book. There is also a reference in my book from 1973 that the band leaders are to collect the Emergency Dollar from each member. The Dollars are to be sent to the USA National Treasurer (not the International Treasurer).

I hope this information is helpful to everyone. If you have not been appointed as a band leader in your local church, please, please still care for the sheep in your direct line of contact. Everyone is important, whether it is a

sheep or a lamb. Please feel free to contact me at any time if I can be of assistance to anyone. My cell phone is 509-969-4688. □

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## “THE ORIGINAL RECIPE”

John Wilkins  
International Overseer



*And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.*

Exodus 24:7

There is a chicken recipe which was made famous by a man named, Col. Harland Sanders from Corbin, Kentucky. His business became known as “KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN” all over the world and it is still going strong even though Col. Sanders has been gone for many years. A copy of Col. Sanders “Original Recipe” of 11 herbs and spices is locked inside a safe inside a vault in KFC’s Louisville headquarters to safeguard his “Original Recipe”. The mixture is done by two different companies to keep the ingredients a secret. Now one might ask, “What does KFC have to do with our message?” This is considered to be one of the best trade secrets and has been kept locked away to protect it from compromise over the years. It has worked well for the people who own this corporation and has made them a lot of money.

The recipe that I am talking about has been left on the living room tables, the night stands, Bible stands and all other places frequented by man. The SECRET RECIPE is openly recorded on its pages for all to see, but it is still the best kept secret in the world. It is the Word of God and it is not encrypted nor is it a language

known only by a few locked away in a safe. This recipe can be summarized in short by the last phrase of this text, “...ALL THAT THE LORD HATH SAID WILL WE DO, AND BE OBE-DIENT.” For many it might as well be locked away in a safe inside a vault inside the most secure building in the world because its content is hidden from the wise and revealed unto babes.

*At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.* Matthew 11:25

It is the Spirit that searches the deep things of God and reveals them to us as His children. The Bible declares that if we are willing and obedient then He will reveal the things we need to know to us and He will not hold back any good thing from us because He loves us and calls us friend.

*As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my*

*friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.* John 15:9-15

This spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ is part of the ingredients of the “ORIGINAL RECIPE”. The Word of God is not just a book, but a book of books containing man’s map to success; the only hindrance is the willingness of man to follow it and embrace the TRUTH contained there. Some say, “I just don’t understand the Bible”, but really what they are saying is, “I don’t like the parts that I do understand.” If these things are revealed unto babes, then we should not have to worry about its contents because He will reveal it to us as we walk on to know Him better. Thousands of denominations exist today because man wants to keep certain parts of the scripture while leaving out other parts or changing the recipe to suit their own liking. Col. Harland Sanders never allowed his secret recipe to be changed and neither will our God. It will remain the same no matter what man may try. If we will accept the “ORIGINAL RECIPE”, “THE BIBLE—GOD’S WORD”, then we will quit starting churches and cling to His Church which He paid the price for with His own blood on Calvary.

You see men came along trying to lay claims to the recipe

for chicken and say theirs was as good or even better than the colonel's but the colonel's is still being produced and eaten all over the world while the imposters continue to market their own brand, but it still doesn't change the "ORIGINAL RECIPE". Today man doesn't like the teaching on the divorce and remarriage evil and will go to any extreme to get it changed or softened.

Jesus asked Peter, "... **Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.**" You see the recipe was simple, if you love me then feed my lambs.

**So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.** John 21:15-17

Our instructions are the same for the Church. We have never been told to build His Church, but we are told to feed His sheep and win souls to His Kingdom. Jesus said to Peter, "... **But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said,**

**Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**

Matthew 16:15-18

Peter had to answer the question as to who Christ was and so do we. This recipe started with one man, Jesus, and was then revealed to others, just as He did with Peter and His other disciples as when He ordained the twelve and commissioned them to go into the entire world with the message. Then Jesus prayed in the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of John that we remain ONE under the "Original Recipe" in order that the world might believe that the Father had sent Him. What recipe are you using today and believing in? Is it the "Original" or has it been changed to fit the life styles of man so as to not offend and be politically correct? The Bibles are all being changed to reflect the new mentality and keep words like virgin, blood etc. from offending its readers. Soon and very soon you will not be able to purchase a King James Bible anymore because they will become extinct as little by little they are being left behind for the NEW VERSIONS.

Sarah laughed when given the "Original Recipe" and was told she would bare a son for Abraham and then she helped God out with her own recipe which proved to be a disaster. This act of defiance birthed two nations which will always be at

war with each other. Man always has a better idea because he can rationalize his way into disaster when it comes to the things of God. Spiritual things are just too simple for his mind and he must come up with a plan that will work according to his understanding while God just says, "Rely on Me and trust in Me."

The "Original Recipe" from the New Testament says, **"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."** Romans 12:1

We are to be holy, even as our God is holy. The recipe for a good life is for us to walk in holiness as God commanded.

**Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God. And ye shall keep my statutes, and do them: I am the LORD which sanctify you.** Leviticus 20:7-8

One of the ingredients in the "Original Recipe" is Sanctification. It was made possible by the blood of Jesus Christ in order to preserve us, His Children, to live without sin.

**Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.** Hebrews 13:12

When John Wesley started teaching perfection, everyone thought he was crazy at first, but he soon fully embraced the doctrine, and for many years it was a fundamental doctrine of the church which he established known as the Methodist Church. Then it was picked up and taught by many other churches and "Sanctification, a second definite work of grace" was taught and practiced, not only by the Methodist, but by The Church of God. →

Then most churches abandoned the doctrine because it was too spicy as part of the “Original Recipe”. It required too much commitment and was watered down by gradual sanctification, better known as progressive sanctification. Then many adopted the idea that we would never be sanctified until we get to Heaven, and various other watered down versions of this doctrine, until today it is virtually never mentioned by many churches with the “New Recipes”. This is a shame to all who fail to teach the “Entire Sanctification” as a second definite work of grace.

**Jesus speaking here:** *I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.* John 17:14-16

#### SANCTIFY THEM IN GOD’S TRUTH! THE “ORIGINAL RECIPE”

*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.* John 17:17-19

**Jesus continues speaking:** *I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it*

*should be holy and without blemish.* Ephesians 5:26-27

Because of the WORD, the “Original Recipe”, the world hates those who stick to it! If the colonel had permitted the changes that people wanted to make to his chicken, we would have no “ORIGINAL RECIPE” for “Kentucky Fried Chicken” today, but would have the many concoctions that exist all around the world by other names, just like the Church which Jesus designed, built and purchased the patent on with His blood. It is people who make up the Church and people must be willing to keep it the Church! Buildings and material assets do not make it The Church of God, but it is people who refuse to alter the recipe and thus are the “Keepers of the Truth” that Isaiah spoke about. Listen to the Word of God!

*For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married. For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice*

*over thee.* Isaiah 62:1-5

#### WE ARE PREPARING THE PEOPLE FOR IT BY USING THE “ORIGINAL RECIPE”!

*Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people. Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.* Isaiah 62:10-12

The Church of God must not use man’s concoction but must use the “Original Recipe”, regardless of the size of the mixture or the taste in the mouths of its members; it is the only thing that will work. It is Christ who will build His Church not we ourselves. We are commissioned to fish, bring them in, He will clean them and place them as He sees fit into the Body of Christ, The Church of God. We can no more place them into the Body than we can make a man and a woman one flesh in marriage; it is God who does this. Many are trying to build the Kingdom with phony recipes which are not given by God and are coming up with jello Christians with the wrong ingredients. The recipe calls for sanctified lives before they can receive the Holy Ghost, but most churches today want them to run a little and shout a lot and claim the power of the Holy Ghost while they have never laid claim on the real thing. We will never have the

real thing until we preach the Word and teach it to our people.

***In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.*** Isaiah 26:1-2

It is imperative that The Church of God cling to the TRUTH, because it is the "Original Recipe" while the world church, "Great Whore", adopts the watered down versions of the Bible, doctrine and vain philosophies of man's ideas to attract and build their mega churches. These mega churches hate the truth and despise those who teach it.

***And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*** Revelation 17:1-5

***For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.***

Revelation 19:2

The churches today are growing who have filled their halls with the abominable sins that God hates such as adultery, fornication, same sex marriage, homosexual activity, lesbianism and all other forms of sin which are now condoned, and even in some cases, encouraged. Their ministers are now being ordained to propagate this abominable activity without any mention of their power to tear down the family, churches and other institutions. Now the government of the United States is pushing these things on us at an alarming rate cutting into our religious freedom. Most churches today are saying nothing at all about these atrocities and are using the "New Recipes" to build SIN HOLES called churches that this world loves. They are like the Germans when Adolf Hitler rode in promising them a better life, while offering them only death and destruction, and they did nothing to stop him.

Now is the time for those who have decided to stand for the "Old Paths" to have their voices heard concerning the "ORIGINAL RECIPE". Let our opponents know that we will accept nothing short of the doctrine as it was embraced and taught by our 1<sup>st</sup> General Overseer, Bishop A. J. Tomlinson and later by his son, Bishop M. A. Tomlinson. These men taught us by the "Original Recipe", not mixing modern man's theology with it, but sticking to

the blessed Old Book, the Bible. Bishop A. J. Tomlinson said, "... that makes it THE CHURCH OF GOD." The seminaries of this century are full of professors who teach the Bible but do not know its author. The attempt to change the recipe is nothing new. It has been tried for many years resulting in some 33 splits since June 13, 1903, from the recipe found by Bishop Tomlinson. When we look back at the holiness movements, we find disciplines that are very much alike. They taught "Entire Sanctification" as a second definite work of grace. They taught against the divorce and remarriage evil, against the wearing of gold for ornament, against tobacco, modest apparel, feet washing, divine healing, Holy Ghost baptism evidenced by speaking in tongues, and several taught "One Church" just as the Catholic Church still does. His Church must teach "One Church" until He comes back for Her.

What happened to these churches that taught these principles of doctrine? These modern day churches have left the "Original Recipe" and concocted one of their own by mixing a little of this and a little of that. This is the same thing that has caused the grinders to grind off the faces of the markers in the "Fields of the Wood" to the point that no one can recognize the recipe any more by reading these stones. They cannot afford to have these markers there reminding people of what we used to have and enjoy as we shouted up and down that valley. You must embrace the "NEW" in order to attract the masses, but that hasn't worked very well for them. There were so many with the "NEW RECIPE" until it has become quite confusing for those going into business with the "NEW RECIPE"

without any means of keeping it pure, because anyone can change it to their own taste and liking. There are no controls on the new ones; you just mix it how it feels good to everyone. What will YOU do about the “Original Recipe”? The LOYAL REMNANT WILL STAND—WILL YOU?

The “Fields of the Wood” is a part of our heritage that I really love, but before it was known, it was already THE CHURCH OF GOD. The flag of 1933 is the only flag of THE CHURCH OF GOD, but before it was there, was already THE CHURCH OF GOD. These are both important parts of our heritage, but neither makes it THE CHURCH OF GOD, but the “ORIGINAL RECIPE” is what makes it THE CHURCH OF GOD when individuals accept it. Nothing more and nothing less makes it His Church. When Col. Harland Sanders decided to allow no one to take his recipe, he secured the reputation of KFC, and someone could put their chicken in the same box, but it did not make it Kentucky Fried Chicken. It wasn't the logo on the box that made his chicken KFC, but it was the recipe alone that made it his chicken. It is the same with His Church. It is only the recipe that He keeps safe all the time that makes it His Church, and regardless of the logo or wrappers, no one can change that fact. It is not the logo, the name, the flag or a piece of real estate, but the “ORIGINAL RECIPE” that

makes it His Church. We must not allow the recipe to be changed or compromised, because the end result will be something much different than the Church purchased by Jesus Christ.

*Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD. Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken.*

*Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it. To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt Offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me. Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will lay stumblingblocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbour and his friend shall perish. Thus saith*

*the LORD, Behold, a people cometh from the north country, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth. They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they are cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O daughter of Zion. We have heard the fame thereof: our hands wax feeble: anguish hath taken hold of us, and pain, as of a woman in travail. Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side. O daughter of my people, gird thee with sackcloth, and wallow thyself in ashes: make thee mourning, as for an only son, most bitter lamentation: for the spoiler shall suddenly come upon us. I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among my people, that thou mayest know and try their way. They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders: they are brass and iron; they are all corrupters. The bellows are burned, the lead is consumed of the fire; the founder melteth in vain: for the wicked are not plucked away. Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them. Jer 6:15-30*

Hell will be full of preachers, and those that hear them, who have rejected the TRUTH of God's Word!

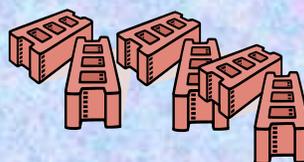
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# Armageddon

~Pastor Susan Cox~

Festus, MO



We have been having sermons on the events that are to come upon this world according to the Word of God. We covered the event whereby the saints will be caught away—commonly referred to as the rapture, which is the way of escape of the wrath of God that is to be poured out on this sinful world. Jesus Christ made the way of escape possible and we can escape the wrath of God which is to come upon this world by the blood of Jesus. When you are saved you are saved, and forgiven from all your sins and from the wrath of God for those sins, and you must go and sin no more. We must be found watching and waiting for the return of Jesus Christ. We must keep our garments pure and spotless, by the washing of water by the Word. We read in Acts the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter beginning at the 7<sup>th</sup> verse:

## Acts 1:7-12

**7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. 12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.**

Then He ascended to be at the right hand of the Father. Where was He when he ascended? The Mount of Olives—remember that as we continue. The hour is approaching when the work He left for The Church of God to do will be over and the Father will say, “Son go get my children,” Gabriel shall sound the horn and Jesus will step out and we will see Him in the air. This is the catching away (rapture), not

the Day of the Lord when He will come back to this earth.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

**16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.**

This is what we are striving for Church, that we would escape that which is to come. We have not made it yet so we must be found faithful unto the end.

Even though we, who are found faithful unto the end, shall escape that which is to come upon this earth, it behooves us to strive to know all the Word of God that we might be found worthy, and that we have greater compassion and strive to win the lost and undone from that which is to come.

We covered the Beast, the mark of the beast and the false prophet. Today, with the help of the good Lord and the anointing of the Holy Ghost, I pray that the Lord will help reveal unto us the battle of Armageddon.

Armageddon is the word used by John in the book of Revelation for the great battle between the “kings and rulers of this world”, being led by their god”, which is the god of this world”, which we know is Satan, who at that time will have been given full reign of this world against the one and only true living God, The King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ.

Armageddon is the last terrible and final conflict between the forces of evil and the Lord Jesus Christ upon this earth as we now know it. The Lord Himself shall return in all His glory and will deliver the Jews who will have been seized by the allied world powers under the direction of the Beast and his false prophet which we heard in the past two sermons in **Revelation 13:1-18.**

**1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw** →

*a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. 8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. 9 If any man have an ear, let him hear. 10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints. 11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. 12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of*

*the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.*

Zechariah prophesied in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of the move against the Jews and the Lord's coming to deliver them. His smiting of the world powers will be the fulfillment of the smiting – stone prophecy in

**Daniel 2: 34 & 35.**

*34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.*

You see, just as Jesus fulfilled every prophecy concerning His Birth, His earthly life and His death and resurrection, so shall every prophecy of His second coming be in complete fulfillment of all prophecy, for Jesus is the Word of God.

“The Day of the Lord” will be ushered in after Armageddon. He will judge all nations, and He will cast the Beast, the false prophet, all who have worshiped and followed them into the lake of fire. The Devil himself will be cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand years, and Christ will set up His Kingdom for the millennial age of 1000 years.

You see, this is what the Jews were looking for in His first coming. This is what the Jews were looking for in His death and resurrection as we read in Acts the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter, but they did err by not truly knowing and understanding the Word of God. Let us not make the same error. Under the direction of the Holy Ghost, He can lead and guide us into all truth and reveal unto us the spiritual meaning of the Word of God. For the Word was written as holy men were moved by the spirit, therefore, it takes the spirit to discern it. God is a Spirit, and we must worship him in Spirit and in Truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

May each of our heart's prayer be today, “Let it be me Lord, that I might worship you in Spirit and in Truth.”

God made a way and left a time for the Gentiles to be grafted in, praise God for His mercy and grace. The hour is soon approaching that the time of the Gentiles shall end.

**Romans 1:18** 18. *For the wrath of God is revealed*

*from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

The Word is telling us that the wrath of God is continually against all ungodliness and unrighteousness.

“The Gospel of God’s Righteousness”, and “The Wrath of God”, comes from His Holiness. Holiness requires His righteous indignation against evil, just as it is required of the Children of God to love the sinner but hate the sin. To an even greater degree, God, who has and is “merciful, gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, also is a God of wrath and a God of judgment against sin, and He will by no means clear the guilty. Sin separates us from God who has no sin.

The Gospel is the good news of God’s mercy, that He sent His only begotten son to take away our sins. This also tells us of God’s great hatred of sin, that He would require such a great price for the penalty of sin, the persecution, rejection, and punishment unto death of His only begotten Son. The only acceptable sacrifice for sin unto the Father.

There have always been those who pervert the truth of God’s Word, and the wrath of God is continually against them.

#### **Zechariah 14: 1-4**

*1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. 2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. 4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

This prophecy has not yet been fulfilled. Zechariah is prophesying of the great Battle of Armageddon. The prophecy tells how the Gentile world powers allied together under the direction of the Beast, and will attack Jerusalem and will take half of the city, killing many and threatening to destroy all Jews. It is at that point that the Lord returns to this

earth to fight against those nations and to deliver the Jews who will receive Him by faith recognizing Him as the Messiah. He will deliver His people and defeat their enemy. This is the day of the Lord as opposed to the day of the world powers in Daniel’s vision in Daniel Chapter 2. Do you see how all the Word of God fits together perfectly in one? It always has up to now and it will continue until all of the Word of God is fulfilled. Hallelujah! I have said it before, the deeper you get into the Word of God, the more you see that you need to know and study more to show yourself approved.

#### **Let’s Read Verse 4 again. Zechariah 14:4**

*4. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

The Mount of Olives, where did Jesus Ascend? Where did He tell us He would come back in the same manner? When His foot touches the Mount of Olives, the mountain will divide creating a great valley, just as the waters of the Red Sea were divided to provide a way of escape, so shall the Mount of Olives divide to provide an escape from the nations which have threatened Jerusalem.

#### **Revelation 16: 13-14, 16**

*13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.*

The unclean nature of Satan, the Beast and the False Prophet is indicated by the three unclean spirits in Chapter 12. After the sixth trumpet, there is a description of the two witnesses of God who perform miracles, which we will try to cover in another message. But here, after the sixth vial, is a description of three witnesses of Satan who also work miracles. Satan always has an imitation of what is godly, a sinful counterpart, because Satan wishes himself to be god. Satan will deceive the people just as he has from the beginning in the →

Garden with Eve. He is the spirit of deception. Satan will win the support of the kings of his earth, for they are seeking the things which this world can offer, pleasure, wealth, power and influence. They will all go to battle against God. Though a man may be a king and rule a nation, if he is controlled by the unclean spirits of the devil, he is a slave to the devil and only deceives himself into thinking that he is in control. He is chained and bound by sin. Under the direction of the beast, they will all gather together to attack the hosts of the Lord's army.

Now in closing turn to Revelation 19: 19-21

*19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. 21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword*

*proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.*

These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Which sword proceeded out of his mouth. They are slain not with physical force, but by the Word of God. His Word is more powerful against evil than all the might and power which men can have, and He will prove it at that great day. The Word of God, which is Jesus Christ, will bring the ultimate victory against sin. Nothing can stand against the Word of God. And my friend, let us take heed today to the power of the Word of God, and the power of deception. Are we seeking what this world has to offer or are we seeking that which is Spiritual and only comes from God? We shall all be judged by the Word of God, I am not your judge, nor are you my judge. We all must answer to thus saith the Word of the Lord. I want to be part of the army behind Jesus when He returns. I want to be caught away and meet Him in the air. (Rapture) Don't you? ☐

## Here's How To Contact us...

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## Painting Presented To the Local Church at Fetus, MO



Brother Andrew is a member here in Fetus, at The Church of God of NC. He gave the local church a hand painting on Sunday January 12, 2014. It now holds its place on the wall next to the Church Flag. The colors match remarkably. The pictures and his testimony are on the following page.

## Artist's Personal Testimony

Andrew Ehrenreich  
Festus, Missouri



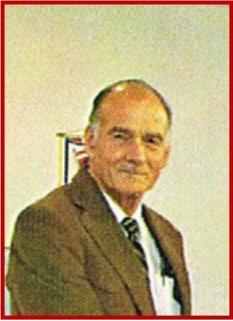
In August of 2008, the powerful conviction of the Holy Ghost moved me to repentance on a Sunday night at The Church of God of N.C. in Barnhart, Missouri. That same night I prayed for the cleansing blood of Christ to sanctify me. After that night my life was given true meaning. Christ had moved into my life and made me a new creature. Two months later, after the days of prayer and seeking, I was blessed with the anointing of the Holy Ghost. This was the start of my spiritual walk.

Since I was a young child I have always had a love for drawing pictures. Through the years I have been blessed. My drawing ability has grown from adorable childlike figures into life-like recreations of the creation which the Lord God has so delicately made. At the age of 15, I painted a portrait of Jesus Christ for the Church in Barnhart, my first painting as a young adult. From that day, the excitement of blending colors to create an ensemble of life has grown into my obsession. I paint a new work as often as I can. Like many of the great artists before my time (from Italian sculptor/painter Michelangelo, to German composer Ludwig Von Beethoven), I believe that my art brings me closer to God, and the understanding of His need to create life. But God be praised that I live in a time like today where the age of Lutheran Enlightenment has paved the way for The Church of God to exist now. I have been blessed by God many times over. And I knew it was time for me to paint a portrait of Christ again. Not only would it be my first Oil Painting of a person, but this time it would be a painting that showed Christ in a different perspective.



Two thousand years ago Christ died for the sake of all the world and was resurrected on the third day. He was despised and rejected by the Jews, so the gentiles may have hope of salvation. Here we are two thousand years later, and He is still despised and rejected. Men do not want to live the life that Jesus died for. They hold to their sin, and by this, they crucify Him still. So, with this thought, I created a painting that shows Jesus' true feelings even today. A feeling of grief. And the grief expressed in His face is derived from **Psalms 69:20** "*Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.*"

I am only 19 years old, and a covenant member of The Church of God of N.C. And through prayer, faith, and diligence, I am sure that I will be blessed as an artist and a child of God. The portrait of Christ hangs near the church flag at The Church of God of N.C. at Festus, Missouri, (the church in Barnhart moved to Festus). □



# God's Word is Truth

~Keith Murphy~

International BTI Director

**Galatians 1:6-11** *Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia: Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.*

How can we be removed from the gospel into something that is not the gospel? Not unless we are deceived, but that would be because we are not paying attention to God's Word or want to hear something else! Think about it. Could it be that we have waxed fat-and grown lazy and just hear pleasing things that tickle the ears?

Now, let's look again to the Galatians. These were saints in the church; what excuse could they possibly have?

**Galatians 3: 1-3** *O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?*

They listened to a spirit that was among them, but was not of them; that spirit of light that came from Satan to deceive and destroy all they once had. It's

easy to be deceived if we don't reach out beyond our own boundaries. In the early church, the Apostles traveled from Church to Church and renewed their faith, whether it was by letter or in person. Paul reminded them how he withstood Peter in Antioch to his face.

**Galatians 2:11** *But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.*

Why did he do that? God's Word can never be compromised by anyone. Did Paul and Peter have a falling out? Of course not. Why? Because Paul spoke the truth in love and they were at peace with each other.

**Ephesians 4:15-16** *But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

Today, though our churches are scattered all over the world, technology is such that we have the opportunity to keep in touch. A short note via e-mail could be very encouraging in these times in which we live.

The best thing you can do is to attend all church functions as far as possible especially in your area.

We are going to have Third Term B.T.I. this year just before our USA National Convention in Walnut Ridge, AR. The dates are August 26 thru September 2nd. The tuition this year will be \$60.00. The THEME is "I Believe It".

Those of you in the USA, who have taken Second Term B.T.I. need to come to Third Term. If you don't, you just might miss something special. □

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## Do YOU Know Him?

~Harry D. and Cathy Elder~

Dunn, N C

Ephesians 1:17-18a *That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened;* In these scriptures we find a portion of Paul's prayer for the Ephesian saints – God, give these saints the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ. Enlighten them or open their eyes of understanding and cause them to see.

How many today truly have the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of who Christ really is? How many put their trust in Him totally, no matter what may be the circumstances or situations? Those who do will be driven to follow Him with their whole hearts and obey Him fully. Many claim to know Him, but when the storms of life appear, faith that He has total control of the circumstances seems to disappear.

An example of this is found in Mark 4: 35-40 *And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, **Let us pass over unto the other side.** And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, **Peace, be still.** And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, **Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?***

Jesus had plainly said they were going to the other side. He then went to the back of the ship and fell asleep. With the coming of the storm also came great fear. The fact is they forgot so soon what He had said and even though the ship was now full and they were in jeopardy, the ship was going to the other side. They awoke Him; He rebuked the wind and sea and

then asked them two questions: Why were they so fearful and how could they have **no** faith? The fact remains that when those who know Him find themselves in a similar situation, they will let the Word arise in them and conquer all fear because He truly is in control and has all power in heaven and earth!

As He does in the storms of life, so He does in the natural disasters that are now coming upon the whole earth even this very hour. The prophets spoke of these things long ago. When God's people failed to fully obey Him, they had to suffer the consequences. Read the following verses:

Isaiah 30:1 *Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: verse 30 And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.*

Isaiah 29:6 *Thou shalt be visited of the LORD of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire.*

And... Isaiah 28:2 *Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth with the hand.* Think about all the things that are happening today all over the world.

Remember also the plagues that God sent to bring them out of Egypt's bondage. They were delivered by the great and mighty hand of God.

Then in Exodus 16:3 *And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.*

They murmured and complained, and so it is with some folks today. They won't accept the fact that it is a *walk by faith in the spirit*. There is freedom and peace of mind in the revelation of Him and the power of the Holy Ghost who will work

through those who trust and obey Him fully! Do You Know Him!

However, when Jesus was speaking with the disciples concerning the end times, the first thing He warned them of was deception. To *deceive* means to cause to roam from safety or truth; to go astray, err or wander.

I John 4: 1, **6 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.**

Many false prophets are gone out into the world and we know that the spirit of anti-christ is at work today. Those who do not know Him and will not listen and obey the Word of God are, as the scripture describes, in the spirit of error.

II Timothy 4:3-4 **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

Isaiah 4:1 **And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.** This describes them very well. They want to follow their own pernicious ways (eat their own bread and wear their own apparel), but be called **The Church of God!**

But read the following from I John 2:19-20 **They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.**

Those who truly know Him will be able to discern the spirit of error. When people get caught up in the spirit of error, they have been deceived by the arch deceiver, satan himself, for lack of wisdom and knowledge in the revelation of Christ, the Word of God.

Look at II Corinthians 11:13-15 **For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of**

**righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.**

To be *transformed* here means to be disguised as an angel of light. Jesus declared this in Matthew 24: 24-25 **For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before.**

Thank God for The Church of God. Therein is found safety and truth – the spirit of truth – for she is the pillar and ground of the truth and the gates of hell shall not prevail against her! Though she may not look like very much in the eyes of the world, she is precious in the sight of God and she is the bride of Christ. Will you be among the Bride or will you not? There is a remnant who know Him and are obeying His commands.

John 4:35 reads **Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.**

There was a time in the Old Testament that the people thought the same way.

Haggai 1: 2 – 7 **Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built. Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying, Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.**

Those who listened, which was a remnant, was stirred by the spirit of the Lord and the work was completed.

Those who know Him and are listening will be stirred by His spirit in these last days and the work will be completed. Will you be among the remnant who Know Him? □

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# Home Going For Charles Alvin Clark of London, Kentucky

The Church of God has lost another soldier to his eternal reward. Brother Clark has completed his assignment here on this earth and moved on to the Permanent Change of Station in Heaven as he had planned to do many years ago when he first got saved. He was planning this trip for a long time and throughout the years of preparation suffered many things which were neither pleasant nor enjoyable but now there is joy and peace and pleasant surroundings for eternity.

Charles Alvin Clark was born on September 13, 1944, in Ohio, the son of the late Raymond and American Gabbard Clark. He is survived by his wife: Alma Lois Rogers Clark of London, two children: Timothy Clark of London and Rebecca Cornett of West Liberty, Kentucky, four brothers and sisters: Eunice Foster of Crab Orchard, Junior Clark of Seattle, Washington, Ike Clark of California, and Eugene Clark of Ohio, nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he is also preceded in death by one brother: Don Clark. He departed this life on Wednesday, January 01, 2014, with an earthly tenure of 69 years, 3 months and 19 days.

He was a minister, a veteran of the United States Marine Corp. and a member of The Church of God of North Carolina, 330 Falls Street, London, Kentucky. He has taught Old Testament History in our Bible Training Institute, (BTI) for the last two years and will be greatly missed by our students.

Pastor Clark had often said that he would love to go home while preaching in the church. So on the last day of 2013 he went to his church for a "Watch Night Service" and after preaching hard of about 40 minutes he sat down and went to sleep in the arms of Jesus just as he had requested. He has left us an example of how to prepare for our time to be finished on earth. He has been faithful to his Lord and the Church of God. He will be missed by his family and The Church of God of North Carolina as well as a host of friends who knew his life. □



## London, KY Church

*~Evelyn Castle~*  
Reporter

We here at the London Church have lost a wonderful man of God and pastor. He will be missed more than words could say. Our Pastor, Charles Clark was a Godly man who preached the Word straight from the Holy Bible. I can see him with his arms up shouting Glory, Glory, Glory!!!! When THE LORD SAYS ENTER IN MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.

We ask for prayers for his precious wife, Sister Lois Clark who stood by his side all through his ministries. She is a faithful Godly woman and misses him greatly. Pray for the family and the church family as we move forward trying to do all God wants us to do at London.

We went the last mile here on earth with our Brother, but we will see him again in Heaven.

# Honduras Report

Our trip to Honduras was pretty much routine as we packed up to leave the Raleigh/Durham Airport at 3:00 AM on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2014. Brother Keith Murphy and I had looked forward to this convention visit for a good while as the trip had been in the planning stages for over one year. It was my second time to visit Honduras, one time with the U. S. Air Force and this time for The Church of God. It was Brother Murphy's first visit to this country and we were both in for a surprise. Upon arrival in Honduras we were greeted by a delegation of 20 or more waving the flag of the Church and hugging us and making sure we felt welcome. Soon we were underway to the home of the National Overseer, Bishop Orlando Ortiz, some 45 minutes away from the airport in Rio Abajo. The Ortiz family made sure we felt at home, as they welcomed us and provided us with a very nice place to rest and make ready for the convention. Sister Ortiz also made sure that we didn't go without plenty of good food served from her own kitchen. They tried to teach me Spanish and Brother Murphy how to sing, but we didn't have enough time to grasp it all.

Now it is convention time and the saints from Honduras, (Host Church), Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala wasted no time in getting into the worship of the Lord. It was most beautiful to see the saints from these countries raising their hands and praising God as one army against Satan in Central America. The Convention was under the direction of Bishop Orlando Ortiz, whose leadership has kept these countries together as The Church of God for many years. They have now allowed us to work with them as THE CHURCH OF GOD of the Bible under our International Assembly, thus making us ONE.

One of the highlights of this convention was when we learned that the Women's Missionary Band and the Victory Leaders Band were going to march from the village square down the highway to the Convention location. When we arrived at the square, we saw that not only the WMB ladies and the VLB's were marching, but every convention delegate as well. We had 200 to register for the convention and it looked like that all of them were in the march. The youth had on their uniforms and the WMB ladies had on their white uniforms and all looked like angels to me. I



haven't been so excited since we used to have the marches during the assemblies led by Brother Tomlinson. The color guards moved into place with the flags and away we went, Brother Murphy and I included, and the amazing part is we all made it. These saints were fired up and the singing continued for the duration of the march, approximately one mile. Please attend the convention some time in Honduras and you will come back with a new outlook on The Church of God, and make sure you join them for the march. Central America is on the move for Christ and His Church!

Now it was time to say goodbye so we did on the first day, again on the second day, and again on the third day, but it just wasn't time yet. Brother Murphy needed more time to practice his singing and I needed more time to learn Spanish, so we were snowed in, or out might be a more believable way to put it. Atlanta had received 3 inches of snow and paralyzed the entire USA, so we could not leave Honduras, but our new family took extra good care of us, and somehow, I fully intend to lose this extra weight that Sister Ortiz put on me. I think Brother Murphy is a bit heavier too.

We had fun and Honduras and these other countries are now in our fellowship as THE CHURCH OF GOD OF NC/HONDURAS, NICARAGUA, EL SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA. Thanks to all of you that helped in any way to make this trip possible. To God be the glory!

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We are marching against Satan as we promote the “**MARCH WORLD MISSION DRIVE**”. Almost everyone in the Church knows that March is a special month to promote world missions offerings in all of our churches around the world. This would be a good time to show our support for world missions by preparing a special personal offering and earmark it for this promotion. God is moving around the world and especially in Central America where

we were just privileged to visit the Convention of Honduras. There we were able to have fellowship with several of our members from other countries of Central America where The Church of God is alive and well. The flag of 1933 will never be relinquished by these dedicated Church of God members and we thought you would like to know about how your mission dollars are working. Your efforts in this drive will help us reach out to others of our brothers and sisters around the world. Hurrah for Missions and the red, white, blue, and purple!



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