



The Banner of Truth[®]

International Voice of The Church of God of North Carolina

Volume 18—Number 04

October, November, December, 2015

October Missions

Happy
Thanksgiving



Merry
Christmas
One & All

Editorial: WHAT A JOYOUS TIME OF CELEBRATION!

International Overseer
~John A. Wilkins, Jr.~



I trust that you have already noticed the cover of this magazine, the colors, months and other things that set it apart from all the others this year. When I see the autumn colors it reminds me of the pumpkin pies in the oven and the wonderful smell of them as they cook. Then there is the reminder of the next month of November with Thanksgiving Day when families will get together to celebrate this day with turkey, gravy and all that goes with that, for the most wonderful meal of the year. This is leading up to that special day of Christmas when the family exchanges gifts and shows the love they have for one another and the birth of our Saviour.

This is a truly joyous time as we move into the final quarter of the year. I really get excited just thinking about it as I think on the things that God has given us to help us to remember that we are not our own, but we have been bought with a price. Just think Christ spilled His blood that we might have freedom and joy unspeakable and full of glory. How can people be so miserable that they cannot enjoy this season of the year? Yet we know many who find it hard to rejoice and enjoy any season of the year because of drugs, alcohol and the many sins that tend to hold them bound and joy slips away from them.

Please take this season as one in which to give thanks to the Lord for all the beautiful colors, special scents, beautiful flowers and other things which fill our lives with His presence on a daily basis.

Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.
Psalms 150:1-6

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

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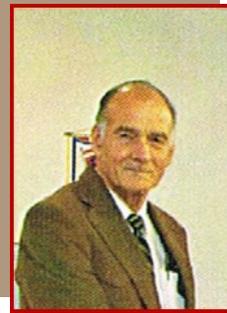
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Bible Training Institute (B. T. I.)



~Keith D. Murphy~
International Director

This year was the first time we have missed a single year since I have been serving as the Bible Training Institute Director. This was due to my illness and other circumstances beyond our control. With the Lord's help we will have the United States National Convention next year and we will be conducting First and Second Term, so get ready now to attend and learn more about the Bible and the Church. Get ready to study the B-I-B-L-E together in a warm atmosphere with food and fellowship for everyone.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
2 Timothy 2:15

We are obligated to know the truth in love and to share the truth in love. Here are some things to think about:

- What makes the Church of God separate from any other church organization in the world?
- Is the covenant really necessary in order to be a member?
- What does it mean to have Theocratic Government?

There are many questions that will be answered during Bible Training Institute. So please make plans now to attend and you will never regret the effort that you put forth and lifetime friends will be made during this session of training.

Love in Christ,



INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY ADDRESS TO THE 105TH ASSEMBLY

International Overseer
John A. Wilkins, Jr.

The Church of God still has a door of entry and it is the only door by which we are to enter. Some are revamping the plan of God and attempting to find other ways into the Church but they are wrong and will not be tolerated by the Lord much longer. These things have been tried before and they failed then just as they are failing now. Paul said it best when he addressed this problem.

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. Galatians 1:2-9

There are some thieves and robbers out there trying to outline another way that is easy and requires so very little of you but beware of them and listen to God, not man. I want to give you some words spoken by Jesus Christ for your safety.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. John 10:1-5

Jesus has given us clear instructions as to how we are to listen, hear and avoid the easy ways of man in order to enter into the sheepfold properly. Too

many are listening to the wrong voice and eventually that will lead you on a slippery slope that you may not recover from. For this way to be easy you must learn to listen to the Lord and be obedient to Him, and then the way gets smoother and is more easily followed without looking for a better way all the time. Obedience to the Lord is a work of perfection and to be perfect and walk in perfection we must be first obedient.

When the Jews had come out of captivity in the book of Haggai they had a spirit of wanting to rest and stay in their ceiled houses, they did not want to build a House for God. The profit of God told them that they were to rise up and build the Temple, but they did not want to move in that direction so they had to be given some stern warnings that if they did not do this then God would not prosper them and help them. The remnant did not feel the burden of the work at first but then it started to come on them and they arose to build the temple back and they were told that the glory of the latter house would be much greater than that of the former house. Christ was to speak from this house although the natural splendor was to be less the glory of it would be greater. Many have failed to see the glory of this latter house and they have given up in some cases, because it looks so dismal and much like a failure. They cannot see the glory of it, because it is small in comparison to the former house which was so flamboyant and amazing, but the work of this remnant is to be far greater. A greater than the temple is in this house now to perform the work of these last days.

At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day. But he said unto them, Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him; How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests? Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane

the sabbath, and are blameless? But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple. But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day. Matt 12:1-8

You see here that Jesus does things which are not according to the norm nor does He follow the Law, but He sets about a new way in the fulfillment of the Law and permits us to move on with our work. God is about to set a new standard of all of us in The Church of God and our work will be different than that of the past as He moves us into the final Victory March toward Heaven. He is still in charge of His Church and He is building It His way not man's way. We used to talk about divine revelation and we preached about divine revelation and it was understood that before one could see the Church, they must first have this revelation from God but now we hear very little about it. Divine revelation is the understanding about the Church that comes directly from the Bible and is given by God to the individual as they read and understand how the Church works and functions in the world. Once it comes this way you won't lose it the first time something don't go just right.

Section One: Many Excuses For Failure in Doctrine

There are too many concessions being made with those who are wrong in doctrine and belief in order to try to influence them and cause them to see the Church. If you believe this is His Church and that you are doing the best you can to follow the Lord Jesus Christ and you see those who are not following Him then excuse yourself from them and their beliefs. Our former General Overseer was asked if it was alright to visit other churches, he told them that it would not hurt anything as far as he could see if they had time, but he was so busy trying to build up the Church of God that he didn't have time to visit others. I hear of people who desire to marry a person outside their faith and they say they will win them to the Lord, but they seldom ever do, usually the sinner wins the Christian and the marriage often fails. Use caution as we go about our daily living and be the example of Christ to others who do not believe in the Church of God. I feel it is important to warn all of you regarding this matter and it is my job to try to keep all of us on the right course toward Heaven. Our homes are filled with those who do not want to obey

the doctrine of the Church of God, marriages that are wrong, life styles that do not fit into God's plans yet they want us to accept them. No, a thousand times NO we will trust in our God and wait for His return to claim His own. Yes, we must be busy working in the Kingdom like bees in a hive making honey for all who will accept it and will follow Him.

Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. John 6:28-29

Section Two: Christian Stewardship

Good stewards are needed in The Church of God today. Ministers are to be good stewards as an example to the flock, they should be conscious of the things around them that draw the sheep away from the fold of God. They are to know those things that people are having problems with such as debt and misuse of money to the extent that men fail under the pressure of responsibilities they cannot meet. As ministers we are to train others under our leadership by example and keep them from making many of the errors of the early days in the Church of God. Ministers are to give liberally into the storehouse of God beyond normal tithes which cannot be given because tithes are to be paid just like any other debt we have. This money belongs to God as soon as we earn it and tithes are to be the first fruits of our laborers before any others are paid. Then we are to give unto the Lord that which he leads us to give after we ask Him how much we should give. The scripture is clear on these and we must obey Him if we are going to expect a blessing.

Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith

the LORD of hosts. Mal 3:7-12

Many of the blessings of God are held up today because we have not harkened to His Word regarding these matters. God's house is often let go until everything else has been taken care of and then if anything is left we pay our tithes and give a few dollars in the offerings. This is the wrong way to bring the favor of God upon us as His children. Some say this scripture is from the Old Testament and it is under the Law but you ought to study the New Testament regarding this matter. I have had some that want their tithes held until a certain thing happens and they are able to catch them up and we must know this is the wrong thing to do because it causes things in God's House to be paid late. You are not supposed to borrow God's tithes. While this is better than not paying them at all it is still not the way to pay tithes into God's House. Many think nothing when we are asked to pray and seek the Lord regarding an offering, but it is imperative that we ask God, "God what would you have me give?" And then give cheerfully into the work of the Lord for a blessing that your heart will hardly receive. Giving is also important and that is why the scripture says we have robbed God in tithes and in offerings. Neither I nor any other minister will be able to help those who do these things, because there is a curse on those who do them and have no remorse in them. We are to pay our tithes and give in the offerings to keep God's House open and provided for; it is our responsibility to care for His House. Our stewardship needs attention today in order to provide for His House tomorrow.

Section Three: Women's Role In The Church

For many long years our sisters have carried the load and been responsible for starting missions, organizing churches and seeing that the work gets done on the field. Many of them have pastored churches, preached revivals and done the various sacerdotal duties of ministry in the Church of God of Prophecy only to be told that they have no place except for prayer in the Church. I am alarmed at our attitude toward women of the Church so I have asked the Executive Committee during our last assembly to appoint a Study Committee to examine the role of women in the Church. They did appoint a committee and they have worked hard on this subject and have asked for biblical answers to the problem. I know of some who have written their

answers and mailed them in only to say to the committee, "My understanding in this matter is that they (women) have no right to say anything about the business of the Church." I certainly will not address this subject without some biblical evidence that we need to change what we agreed to several years ago based on biblical evidence not merely opinions. While I do not understand our position on this subject, I will not propose a change unless we can point to the scripture and say thus saith the Word of God. It is my desire that the Executive Committee will properly address this subject in their report to the 105th International Assembly and we will be able to find the biblical answer to our problem. I look forward to hearing their report to this assembly on this subject. We are coming close to the end of this age and we need better understanding on the role our sisters are to play in helping us reach our goals in these last days.

Section Four: Finances For Headquarters

Financial problems at headquarters are not caused by extravagant spending. We operate our headquarters on a budget equal to a limit paying local church. This includes every expense such as utilities, mortgage, office expense such as paper, ink, internet and all other incidental expenses, but we run out of money before the end of the month each time so we must do something about this during this assembly. We started out with the upside down pyramid when we organized some 20 years ago and that has not worked well because of our size so now we have to do something different to get the money in to pay our bills. The Executive Committee has proposed some changes in the way we do business and they will report on these changes during their report to this assembly. We have requested all churches to pay 50% of all their auxiliaries into the headquarters account until we get on some level ground but that hasn't worked well either. In fact some churches have no auxiliaries operating for various reasons and some cannot do any better due to their size. We must find a solution to this problem during this assembly.

Section Five: Appointment of New International Overseer

The time has come for the new overseer to be appointed to serve for the next 7 years. The Executive Committee will be responsible to bring forth the name to this assembly for your approval and acceptance. Let me remind each of you that this

appointment is your responsibility and it must be the one pleasing to our God or it will be a mistake so when this time comes on the program we need to be in earnest prayer and allow God to help us. It is my desire to please the Lord and I could be very happy to move aside and allow someone to take my place next year at the set time, but I want God's will not mine. They must make the formal suggestion, but we want God to take charge of it at this point. If this man doesn't have God supporting him and directing him it will be a disaster for The Church of God and we don't need this. We need God to make His choice and approve this position for us in order to stand against the things being conjured up against God's People. May God give us direction during this appointment and anoint this person with His powerful Holy Ghost to lead us on into the work of The Church of God.

Section Six: New Executive Committee Members

All of the Executive Committee members will need to be replaced during this assembly. Three have served out their time on this committee and must be replaced or reappointed. Two have asked to be removed due to poor health and personal reasons so that makes a total committee to be reappointed. The Executive Committee has a recommendation that they will read during their report for two of these and then we will need five more to be appointed if that is possible. This committee meets a minimum of four times each year which makes it impossible to put men on the committee from other counties at this time because we can't afford to bring them into the United States for the meetings. We need five able new men to serve on this committee but you must be willing to travel in for all meetings. Please keep these things in mind as this subject is dealt with by the Executive Committee during their report. This is one of the most important jobs within the Church as this committee works hand in hand with the International Overseer when the assembly is not in session and also during the assembly. with the Church. This is one of the most important jobs within the Church as this committee works hand in hand with the International Overseer when the assembly is not in session and also during the assembly.

Section Seven: Reporting by Ministers, Deacons & Teachers

Only those who intend to report every thirty

days should apply for the office of minister, deacon or teacher because if you do not report your license will be asked for. The Executive Committee has made it a responsibility for these to report every 30 days in order to stay in good standing not my ruling; it is the ruling of the assembly and the committee. I have to do it as well as you do. If you do not report within 90 days I have no choice, but to request your license to be sent in. I don't like to mail reminders, but that is better than request for license so don't complain about these reminders unless you get one that was intended for someone else or another mistake is made. We love you and want to keep you in the work of the Lord, but we do have some rules to follow. Your reports are due on the first day of every month and they are late on the 10th day of every month if we do not have them before. Please report on time so we can keep everything running smoothly.

Section Eight: Salesman Needed

I, like most other preachers used to sell vacuum cleaners and I heard a good story about a salesman that was shy and just could not approach a person directly on a sale. He used to walk up and introduce himself and then he would say, "You really don't need a vacuum cleaner do you?" Now you probably have guessed that he did not make a sale that day to that person. You could be like the one that told the lady, "Lady this cleaner will cut your work by 50%" She replied, "Bring me two of them." You can under sell or you can over sell. In this case he over sold because he could not deliver. We have been under selling the Lord's Church because we are not telling the people what they need to hear on the field. We need some super salesmen today who will go out there and tell the people the truth about the Church. Now I am not accusing anyone of not telling the truth, but something is wrong when we have a program that is absolutely perfect and outlined in the Bible for us to sell to those outside the body. Our growth in the countries outside the USA is prenominal but here in America we are very slow and we must reach those who are waiting to see in us the necessary works to cause them to want to be a part with us. They need what we have and know about, The Church of God of the Bible. I am afraid we are too cool in our approach and we condone their actions of denying the flag, denying the name and other things which separate them from us. You can't deny the flag of 1933 and be The Church of God because it is the one that God gave us to identify us and single us out as His Church. It must be taught

that it is wrong to say another has been given when it has not been given. God had nothing to do with it; it was man made and man presented to a fearful group of people who have been misled for years. If you become cool to this lie you might believe the rest of their story and not be the salesperson that God wants you to be. They are flaunting a flag that is not only their own doings but it is against the laws of the United States of America and can never be registered. This is a cowardly act by the group which cannot be supported by the laws of America or the laws of God.

Section Nine: Same Sex Marriage Position

Our position is very clear from a biblical perspective and our teachings are all we need to explain our position on adultery, fornication, same sex relations, same sex marriage and any other aspect of marital relations. God has wondrously given us the proper understanding and statement to deal with the United States Supreme Court decision regarding marriage and this is all we need to face the courts. It is our biblical position that these unions are against God's Word not ours and that is the end of the story. Teach the 31 teachings to your people and if you don't it is your fault and no one can correct this but you as the pastor. If we teach them and brief our incoming members on the full instructions then it falls on those who say, "I WILL" to practice what they have agreed to. You cannot be forced to marry any couple if you state the facts correctly and counsel them ahead of time. Your headquarters has already been called on the support of the gay rights movement asking if we will support them so get ready to tell them about our stand.

Section Ten: Assembly Every Year

Some have suggested having the assembly every year instead of every two years, but the problem is the cost of this on our people. If the Executive Committee desires to bring this up then they should do so during their report and deal with this properly. We now have the USA Convention every other year and this would require them to change that also so we leave this with you for your consideration before this assembly.

Conclusion:

We have come together for God to speak His will in our hearts and we trust that each of you have heard from Him during this special time and if you

haven't it is not over until the gavel sounds at the end. These items need your attention and God wants your devotion and commitment to Him for the success of His House, The Church of God. Let us go from here determined in our heart to please the Lord in everything we do and to build in His Kingdom as He builds the Church. I can see some awesome times just ahead so let's keep going for Jesus. My greatest desire is to see all of you so full of Jesus that there is no room for yourself anymore. To God be the glory! Praise His wonderful name! Halleluiah! □



Sunday School Is Our Teaching Department

I send special greetings to all of our new Sunday School Superintendents. We have started a new year, are you ready to build God's Army? Let's try new things this year to stimulate our schools so they will grow. Sunday School is a growth building program through which you can build your church by reaching all ages. So let us teach our youth about the Bible.

Jesus is soon coming! We don't want to be sleeping, but working for Christ when He comes. Let's all try to reach out with all that is available. Why not try different teaching methods, if one doesn't work then try another until we find one that does.

Think about a workshop this year for our teachers. Train, train and train so that we will be better equipped to teach our youth. We need youth in God's Army so let's recruit them now.

I will be praying for all of our Sunday School Superintendents and teachers. Teaching is a great responsibility so ask God for new inspiration.

For Sunday School,
Polly Murphy,
International Sunday School Director

THE 105th INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 3-5, 2015

IS NOW HISTORY!

Theme: *Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? Haggai 2:3a*

The assembly was conducted in Dunn, North Carolina at our headquarters facility on the 3rd through the 5th of September, 2015 with the presence of God in every session. There was much good preaching, singing and testimonies of the goodness of the Lord from all over the United States and the countries of the world. The healing line was full of God's healing virtue and I believe there were several healed during this special time.

Yes, it has now faded into history, but we want to reflect on some of the happenings as they relate to the world. We were very sad to see everyone load up and leave from the assembly this year as we always are. Many were missing from our assembly this year due to illness and some have departed already to be with Jesus and it makes it harder each year on those who are left. We must start winning some new souls in order to keep up with our losses and have an energetic crew to preach this glorious gospel of the Kingdom and the Church. Our growth inside the United States is very slow to say the least and our growth in other countries is phenomenal in places like Africa, South America and the Philippines. America has been a country sending missionaries to the rest of the world, but in recent years it has been reduced to a country of gross sins and the rejection of Jesus Christ. While she has supported abortion, homosexuality and now same sex marriage there is a spirit of complacency and mistrust that has come over our churches and revival is almost a thing of the past. It is now time for the Church to shine out of darkness and offer hope to the weary and rejected saints of God. Let us rise to the occasion and preach Jesus to the lost and show them our love as we walk in His holiness of life!

Here are a few pictures to share some of the highlights of this assembly:



"Divine Revelation Needed" John Pultz



"Our Faith Is Weak" Richard Colon



"The Body of Christ-One Church" Rodger Tidwell



"We Must Seek the Lord" Cathy Elder



"All Healing is Divine" Dolores Yost



"Gideon's Shrinking Army" Jannece Colon



"Our Vision, How Is It?" Theodore Lowe



"Sharpen Your Vision in Sunday School" James Miller



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE 105th INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY
September 5, 2015, Dunn, NC

“The Banner of Truth” Executive Editors:	John Wilkins Cathy Elder
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Field Secretary to the International Overseer	Roger Tidwell
“The Banner of Truth” Managing Editor:	Elizabeth Wilkins
Public Relations:	Jona Nelson
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International Retreat Coordinator	Jannece Colon
International Evangelism Director	Richard Colon
International Treasurer:	Cathy Elder
International Sunday School Director:	Polly Murphy
International Victory leaders (VLB) Director:	David Cox
International Women’s Missionary (WMB) Director:	Tenna Tidwell
International Church of Prophecy Marker Association (CPMA):	James Miller
International Assembly Band Movement (ABM):	Nellie Lowe
Publishing Committee:	John Pultz Roger Tidwell John Wilkins
Publishing Department Manager:	Elizabeth Wilkins
Publishing Manager Assistant:	Brenda Fowler
Building Maintenance & Property Management	Keith Murphy
International World Mission Secretary	John Pultz

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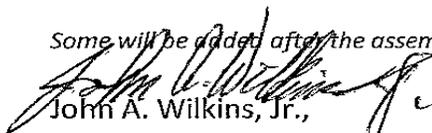
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Africa:	Ezekiel Zufungo
Honduras	Ortiz
Nicaragua	Ronald Duarte

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Bolivia:	Julio A. Cabrera
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Columbia:	Pending Appointment
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Peru:	Gerardo M. Nolasco
Philippines:	Darwin P. Gaba
Spain	Darwin P. Gaba
United States of America:	Roger Tidwell
Uruguay	Jose M. Coronel
Venezuela	Pending Appointment

Some will be added after the assembly as I am in receipt of their organization report.


 John A. Wilkins, Jr.,
 International Overseer

All Things Are Possible To Him That Believeth

~John Pultz~

World Mission Secretary



October is the start of the Fall season, with the onset of cooler weather, the crisp clear views of distant mountains, and thoughts of Thanksgiving and Christmas being just around the corner. Memories of past holidays and times of fellowship with many brothers and sisters in the Lord who no longer fellowship with us, because we seek to continue to follow the way of holiness, as the Lord lights the path before us. Most of us remember times in local churches where we were all family in the Lord and no one would have ever believed that we would be separated and divided, because of sin and error being embraced by so many. But we are still grieved in our hearts, when we think of the good times in the Lord of past years. But, we need to focus on the family we have, whom we have never seen face to face, both here in the United States and abroad.

We have many brothers and sisters in many countries, that are members of The Church of God of NC and many who are outside of the fold, but still holding to the truth. We need to assure our church family that we love them and care about them. We also need to reach out to those who are waiting for the Lord to send someone who will tell them the truth and let them know that the Lord's church is still alive and well, even in this world of gross darkness.

But there is a problem that prevents us from doing this! We are not able to visit, because we are not financially able. The Psalmist tells us: "For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills...for the world is mine, and the fullness thereof...Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." (Psalm chapter 50, selections from verses 10 - 15). And our Lord Jesus said: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." (John 15:7-8)

Let's change our focus from the past, to the present and beyond. Let's seek the Lord to guide us not only in our giving, but also to open doors that we haven't seen as yet, so that He can provide the means for us to reach out and visit our "Church Family" all over the world, as well as whosoever will embrace the full gospel of our Lord and HIS Church. He has told us that if we trust and OBEY Him, that "ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you". I know that many of us are on fixed incomes and we are not able to give as in the past,

but I also know that God can make a way where there just is no way! Our God is the AWESOME God, the God of the supernatural, creator of all that is and was and is to come! He said to Abraham "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Gen. 18:14a). And Jesus said: "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." (Matt. 19:26b).

Let's make some new memories this year! Let's focus as much on the needs of God's worldwide church and all of our family outside the fold who need to come into the fold, as we do on the needs of ourselves and our local churches. Wouldn't it be great if five years from now we could look back and say "2015 was the year that we sought the Lord and He heard our cries and answered them and now we are able to visit ALL of our family ALL over the world!". We are finite, but our God is infinite. Though our bodies are natural, our God has spiritually made us His supernatural children: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2)

God has proven time and again, that He is well able to do the impossible for us. So, let's trust Him to do the impossible through us, opening up doors that will provide the means for us to bear much fruit, so that our Father is glorified. He fed the multitudes with a few loaves and fishes, with much leftover. He can make our meager finances to multiply so that many are nourished with the truth, and yet, we can have much left over! But first, we have to believe that He is able and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Let's quit saying "this is all I can do" and start saying "Lord make a way for me to do more!" It's just like the song says: "You raise me up to more than I can be". Let's make this Thanksgiving and Christmas season a time to remember, as the time we trusted the Lord as never before (The Lord told us through the Holy Ghost, in this past Assembly, to "Trust Me as you have never trusted Me before"), and the year that He helped us, as His church, to not only get out of debt, but become that city that is set on a hill, which can not be hid. To remember this as the year that God made a way for us to begin regular visits to our brothers and sisters all over the world! "Jesus said unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." (Mark 9:23) □



A STUDY ON FAITH

~Shirley Evans~
Aiken, SC

OUR PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED:

God's Word tells us that each of us is given "The Measure of Faith" when we become born again.

MEASURE OF FAITH

Romans 12:3 states: *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*

This scripture tells us that every one of us, no matter who we, when we become born again, are given the **measure of faith**. When we pray we already have the faith to believe that what we pray for we may have. We must not doubt when we pray.

UNBELIEF will cause our prayers not to be answered. It's not a matter of us not having enough faith nor, us needing to increase our faith but it's a matter of us not having **UNBELIEF** when we pray.

PETITIONS WE DESIRED

1 JOHN 5: 15 Tells us: *And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

(Petitions) Webster dictionary defines the word Petition this way, a solemn entreaty or request to a superior authority.

We petition, ask, or pray for a specific need or request and we know God hears us, so what we ask of God, he grants. What a powerful statement coming directly from the Word of God.

SAY UNTO THIS MOUNTAIN

Matthew 21:21, 22 states: *Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.*

Notice, Jesus said if ye have faith. and doubt not, we not only can do what was done by Jesus to

fig tree, but we can say to this mountain, (problem) be removed and be cast into the sea, and it shall be done. I think the key words in this verse are **FAITH, NOT DOUBTING, AND SPEAKING**, to whatever the problem may be, **AND IT WILL** be removed and be cast into the sea, according to God's word, **IT WILL BE DONE!**

WHERE TWO AGREE

Matthew 18:18-19 asserts: *Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.*

Again, according to God's Word, we as God's children have the power to bind and loose situations and circumstances here on earth.

These scriptures emphatically tells us that two of us on earth can come into agreement on a matter and whatever we ask will be done by Jesus father, and our father in heaven. Oh, what power and authority God gives to his children through Jesus.

FAITH AS A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED

Matthew 17:14-21 affirms: *And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.*

Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

A man brought his son unto the disciples to be healed of Lunacy. The disciples could not cure him, and the father asked Jesus why his disciples could not cure his son. Jesus said to them, you are a faithless and perverse generation. Jesus asked, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I suffer you, or how long shall I strive with you? Jesus then told them to bring the man stricken with lunacy to him and he healed him.

Jesus disciples seemed to be unaware of why they could not heal the man. Jesus told them it was because of their UNBELIEF. Right here, we may ask, did the disciples not believe that they could use the authority Jesus had been given them to heal the man?

After seeing first hand, the miracles that Jesus had performed in their presence, did they still not believe? Jesus also told the disciples that this kind of miracle only came by prayer and fasting. Jesus was telling them that it only takes faith the size of a grain of mustard seed. Jesus was saying that if we pray and don't doubt, we can say to the mountain, whatever that mountain may be, be removed and cast into the sea and it WILL BE DONE!

What need do we have in our life today? What miracle do we want God to perform for us, or for someone we may be praying for? Would Jesus say the same words to us that he said to his disciples of long ago?

WE MUST ASK IN FAITH

James 1: 6-8 Proclaims: ***But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.***

This text from James tells us that we must not waver (doubt, have unbelief) when we pray. What does James say? Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the lord. Why? God's word says we should not waver when we pray for a need, whether it may be a personal need we may have or if the prayer is for someone else.

Do we always receive an answer to prayer? My belief is, we always receive an answer to our prayers, but we may not always, receive the answer soon after we pray. Does that mean that God does not always hear us? Not at all. God hears the sincere

prayer of the believer but to have our prayers heard by God we must be in a right relationship with him. Some may ask, does God does hear a sinners prayer? God hears if it's a prayer of repentance.

One, who is not born again and yet expects God to hear and answer his/her prayers is actually by-passing God's sovereignty. One should ask himself/herself this question, why should the God of the universe hear and answer my prayers if I am not willing to receive him as my Lord and savior?

God is not obligated to hear and answer the prayers of those who do not receive him as their Lord and savior.

GOD HEARETH NOT SINNERS

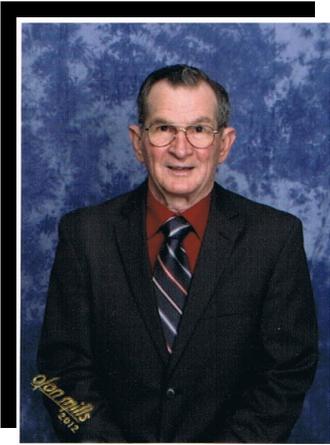
John 9:31states: ***Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshiper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. God does hear a sinners prayer if it is a prayer of repentance.***

ALL SHALL BE SAVED

Acts 2:21 ***And it shall come to pass, that whosoever that shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*** □



Faith



CPMA

Church of Prophecy
Marker Association

~James W. Miller~

International Director



The Holidays will be on us and over before we know it. It is now time to renew and join the CPMA for 2015 because time is running out for this year. (January to January Annually) Have you joined?

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:2-3

The Church of God was given the Last Commission, the last day's message. The CPMA has its part in this commission.

The Purpose of the CPMA is to locate, mark, beautify and maintain Prominent Places of the Work in Connection with The Church of God of the Bible. Be a part of this program and join the CPMA. Help your Church to be 100% ? □

Remember in Prayer



T.J. Lowe

Anna Goins

Hillard Foster

Ray Bradshaw

Eunice Foster

Inez Price

VLB

Victory Leaders Band

~David Cox~

International Director



Hello everyone.

I pray the good Lord is blessing you and keeping you. We have reached a time where it is more important than ever for the young people to get into The Church of God and claim their place in the Body of Christ.

Every where we look signs of the end time are all around us. Jesus said in Revelation 22:12 *And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*

The time is now, Church. The Devil is hard at work trying to make the young people feel lost and all alone, but this is a lie from the enemy.

In Matthew 28:20 Jesus tells us *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

Young people you are not alone. Jesus is always with you. Don't let the world try to rob you from having the privilege of being in the Body of Christ.

Pastors, I pray you take time to talk to and up lift the young people. They are the future of the Church. Help them on this wonderful walk with the Lord. You are all in my prayers. □

We Welcome Emma Ray Cox

~Pastor Susan Cox~

Festus, MO



Greetings from The Church of God NC at Festus MO.

We welcomed Emma Ray Cox her first Sunday to service by dedicating her to the Lord. The Church celebrated with a Welcome Emma Party after the service with Lunch, and gifts we were blessed with visitors attending.

The Church has been gathering Coats and Clothing and we are having a gift of love to give coats, clothing and Traks, to those in need in the Festus MO area. Please pray for us on the

4th Saturday of October as we minister to those in need.

One of our faithful members had to move to an assistant living home. The Good Lord has opened the door that they will allow The Church of God NC to have Sunday night Service the fourth Sunday of each month in the Chapel at the assistant living home. Please pray for us as we labor for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to help win souls for his Kingdom that he may add to His Church.

Thankful to be part of The Great Church of God,

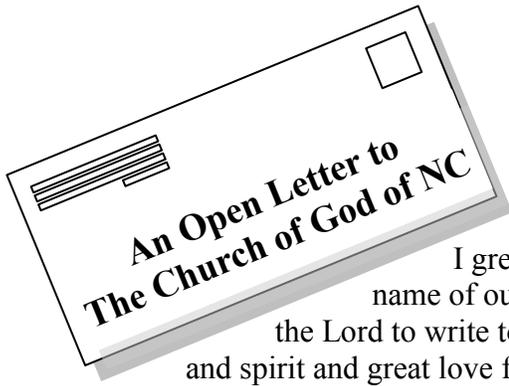
Love and Prayers

Sis Cox



Congratulations...

We are all rejoicing with the Cox Family!



~Dolores Yost~
New Ellenton, SC



I greet all of my brothers and sisters in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I felt inspired of the Lord to write to the Church with all fear and humility of mind, heart and spirit and great love for you and for the Church.

With the closing of the 105th International Assembly, held September 3rd – 5th this past month, I came away with a greater determination and desire to do more in supporting financially, the Headquarters and its many needs, and to encourage all of us to do the same.

You may feel as I did, prior to the Assembly, by saying, “I am already doing all that I can.” I now believe that if each of us will begin to take another look at the possibility of doing more for God’s house, I believe we can do more, Amen? Perhaps, like myself, your budget is tightly stretched, but if we do this in unity and in love, God **can** and **will** show up to do the impossible when we do the possible!

Our God owns all that we have anyway and we are simply stewards over what he gives us. He looks at our cheerful giving and expands it even more, that His house is without want and need each time the bills come due. Let’s get busy and be co-workers with God. We can do it, children, if our attitude is in line with His. We can build the Lord’s house together. Amen! The theme of the Assembly agrees that His house is just as important as ours. *Haggai 2: 3 -4.*

A thank you to Sister Colon and her children is in order for being in charge of the VLB Program this year. A great song called “Do Something” sparked a new ember in our attitude about doing something for Jesus. No matter how small or how great our efforts are, they never go unnoticed by Him. Thank you, Sister Colon, for that inspiring song. The words resonated in us in a lasting way.

Deuteronomy chapter 28 sends us a clear message of blessing or cursing. God says, “... if you will then I will.” This tells us that He is waiting to see what we will do before He pours our blessings out on us. Let’s make a move for Him and just watch what He does! This is a faith program and based on this one thing- He will expand and bless it. The youth of our churches can support headquarters greatly because of their creative talents and abilities and a desire to “do something.” Let’s **ALL** make a sincere effort to do something. How about it Church of God!

Grab a jar and start throwing in your dollars and loose change. October World Missions is here also. After giving our tip to our best waitress for that great meal, toss a “tip” in the jar for the Lord’s work. Amen? I think we may be surprised at how fast these things add up. Let’s give it a try and see! These are a few suggestions. If you want to send in some really great suggestions of your own, you can and they will be printed in The Banner of Truth.

I have begun to put dollars in a drawer and will add to it as the Lord blesses me to do it. That may sound pitiful, but I’m on board and want to “do something.” Let’s **ALL** get involved. It’s a real hardship when only a few are carrying the weight. This is the time for us to “pull, pull, pull altogether.”

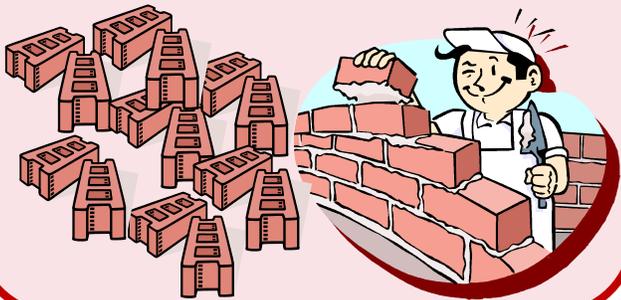
Children, please receive this letter with the love with which it is being conveyed to you. May our God have honor and respect with our labor for Him. God Bless You and give you His peace. Thank you.



SPECIAL THANKS...

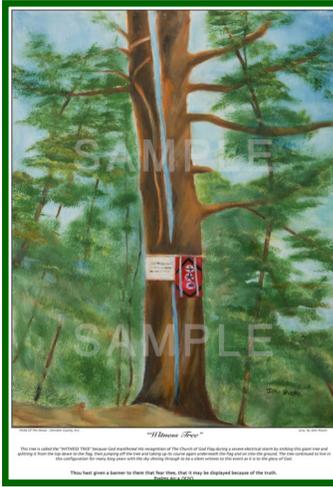
To "ALL" who are Participating in the **Brick Plan**. Whether it be: \$1.00 \$5.00 \$10.00 etc., or **\$50.00** each month, for Headquarters expense.

YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!



"The Witness Tree"

Have you purchased your "Witness Tree" 11x14 print? It is our prayer that these pictures will soon hang in all our homes as a witness of the Glory of God. They are available for a donation of only \$25.00 plus postage.



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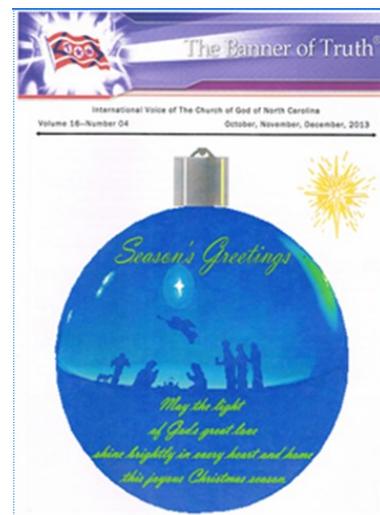
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