



# The Sharon Star

## Now Is The Time

By A. York

I remember so well in the thirties when things were hard - people may think things are now, but actually they're really not in the natural. Sure, some of the people are having a struggle, but in those days the Spirit of God seemed to move so sovereignly. I remember so well when my father led the little church in the schoolhouse in singing this hymn.

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!  
Redeemed by the blood of the lamb;  
Redeemed thru His infinite mercy -  
His child, and forever, I am.  
(That's a total commitment, a total commitment.)

Chorus: Redeemed, redeemed,  
Redeemed by the blood of the lamb;  
Redeemed, redeemed, His child, and  
forever, I am.

Redeemed and so happy in Jesus,  
No language my rapture can tell;  
I know that the light of His presence  
With me doth continually dwell.

I think of my blessed Redeemer,  
I think of Him all the day long;  
I sing, for I cannot be silent,  
His love is the theme of my song.

I know I shall see in His beauty,  
The king in whose law I delight,  
Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps,  
And giveth me song in the night.

I Corinthians 2:5, "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men,

but in the power of God." This is holy purpose for which God speaks to you, the holy purpose for which He has imparted His spirit to you and to me.

I Corinthians 2:6, "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought." We hear a great deal about the rulers of this age and their philosophies. In my lifetime, I suppose, the most predominant sought-after profession has grown from the place of counsel with the godly ministry, to where man has changed over to professional psychiatry; They get all kinds of degrees to learn the wisdom of this age, but the scripture says that wisdom is coming to nothing. Spiritual ministries are wonderful, they edify me, they edify you, they contribute to every part. As I hold this part of my human body up before you this morning, you see one particular finger that is raised above the rest, and you also see that finger wiggling. Let me ask you the question, "Does the finger wiggle all on its own?" No! There are parts that are joined to that finger that make it what it is. We realize that unless it was joined by the various other parts to the body, it couldn't function. It may however, in conjunction with the thumb, pick up this book and bring it within the range of my eyes, - by that which every part of the body supplies. We may be a very small part in the body, but every part is necessary.

Now, I'd like to read some scriptures with that in mind, and also to point out in the scriptures that we don't have yesterday and we don't have tomorrow, but we have NOW. In this portion you will notice what we have. I Corinthians 2:7,8 "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, (even) the hidden (wisdom), which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known (it), they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." The head of the body. All of the problems in the world are either solved or exacerbate themselves upon the acceptance of Jesus, or the rejection of Him. I want you to think about that. The Jews rejected Christ, and He wept. He wept and said, "If you had only known the hour of your visitation." When he came to them in Jerusalem it could have been different, but they rejected Him. They rejected Him; they are under the judgment of God for rejecting His gift; that nation that He had chosen and who was His own, that very nation. In contrast, see what He said to those who

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didn't reject Him, but accepted Him, He gave the power to become the children of God. That power is administered through the Holy Spirit, by the Lord of glory, and it is written; I Corinthians 2:9, 10 "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the Heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deeper things of God."

Our communication, our life, everything that we know and have learned that is spiritual comes directly through the various ministries of the Body, by the Holy Spirit. I Corinthians 2:11,12 "For what man knows the things of man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. NOW we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God," referring to the heavenly knowledge, that I mentioned earlier. I Corinthians 2:13 "These things which we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Spirit teaches comparing spiritual things with spiritual." When is it? What is the first word in the twelfth verse? What is it? NOW. Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but NOW. Amen? Now! Now is the time to receive the grace of God, now is the time to believe, now is the time to make change. God will meet us and do His part if we do our part. Amen? He always does. Now.

I Corinthians 2:14, 15, 16 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know (them), because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." In the Phillips translation it says, "But the unspiritual man simply cannot accept the matters which the Spirit deals with - they just don't make sense to him. After all, you must be spiritual to see spiritual things. The spiritual man, on the other hand, has an insight into the meaning of everything, though his insight may baffle the man of the world. This is because the spiritual man is sharing in God's wisdom. Who hath

known the mind of the Lord, that he should instruct him? Nevertheless, we who are spiritual have the very thoughts of Christ!", because we have received the Spirit.

I Corinthians the twelfth chapter, "Now...", there's that word. When is that? When is now? He says, NOW! I Corinthians 12:1, "Now concerning spiritual (gifts), brethren, I would not have you ignorant." Or as another translation put it "uninformed". I Corinthians 12: 2, 3 "Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and (that) no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." Oh, how mighty the Holy Spirit is! I Corinthians 12: 4, "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." See that picture? All the various parts that are in the rest of the body gives it the ability to do what it does and gives it instructions and so on, because it is joined in that diversity, glory to God, to the whole body. Even now in this diversity it is the same spirit. He said in I Corinthians 12:5, 6 "And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all." As one of the other translations puts it, "everything in everybody." I Corinthians 12:7, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal." Glory to God! Every part of the human body that assists that finger in functioning in its particular place, does it for the good of all. My feet are able to take me over there so that I can pick something up; then they bring me back here. This is because there are all those working members in diverse parts of the body. So it is in the Spirit. There are many things going on that you and I can't define and don't really understand. But if we walk in the Spirit, if we wait on God, they will happen and God will reward us for walking in the Spirit. Amen? When? Now! That's it. Now! It's so easy to live in the past or in the future, but when do we believe? Now!

I Corinthians 12:8-11, "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the

same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another (divers) kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." Wonderful! Amen? As He wills, as He wills!

"For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free - and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body?" I don't have the ability to pick this book up with my foot. I suppose my foot could pout and say, "I don't want to belong because I can't do what the hand does, I can't write, I can't do a lot of things." Does that make it any less a part of the body? For the foot can bear the whole weight of the body and traverse it to various locations with skill and dexterity, bringing with it all the other parts that it is joined too.

Likewise if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? You can imagine how a person would look rather different if he was a big ear. Just a big ear. If he was a big ear, then all he could get was the sound, but he wouldn't have all of those other parts to tell him what the sound was. Do you understand what I'm saying? Truly we need one another! How the Holy Spirit so perfectly designed the body, illustrating the Body of Christ so beautifully. I was thinking of this after one of the Brethren ministered by the Spirit, on that which is first natural afterwards that which is spiritual, explaining how the human body serves as a wonderful, wonderful illustration of these glorious spiritual truths. Hallelujah.

"But now," - was that yesterday? is that tomorrow? - What is it? Now! That's right. Now! Glory to God! "...now God has set the members, each one of

them, in the body, just as He pleased." Glory to God! You're here now, as He pleased. It is His good pleasure to give you the kingdom. His grace is multiplied to you day by day, and He became the example. He endured the cross, despising the shame. Whatever our difficulties may be in overcoming, He will help us, glory to God, to be in the body that He called us to, Now.

"And if they were all one member, where would the body be." It just wouldn't exist. Many religious systems aren't built on that premise; they all fail because they are earthly man-made structures; they are not patterned according to God's pattern, according to the pattern of the body. "But...", here's that word again, "...NOW indeed there are many members", glory to God, but one body. Was that yesterday? Is that tomorrow? You know there are a lot of natural arguments in theology, but God is without beginning of days or end of life, and

so eternity is still best described by that every present flow of God being NOW. One of the brethren explained about eternal saying it was God in the present. He was quoting from a ministry of years ago, and I thought of that as I read this scripture over again, seeing all these "nows". Now there are many members in one body.

"And the eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you;' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.'" "No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honourable," (notice - which WE think are less honourable), "on these we bestow greater honour; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honour to that part which lacks it..." God did it. Just

look at your own human body, and say, God did it. As a member of that spiritual body, what you are, God did that. As we flow with the Spirit, God will transform; God will reconcile; God, as the brethren have said, was completely satisfied with Cavalry. Jesus is the One, the One that fulfils all our needs. "...greater honour to that part of which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another." Hallelujah. "and if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honoured, all the members rejoice with it." Did you know that there were so many NOW's in the Bible? "Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the Church:" and he goes on. Today may the Holy Spirit help us to respond to His moving; may He help us to realize that it's NOW. Glory to God. God bless you.

# Walking In Our Calling

By Mervin Sundbo

In each of our young people's gatherings, for several years, we've had a theme that we endeavor to follow and this year it has to do with walking with God. The scripture found in Revelation 17<sup>14</sup> says, "These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful." It is the latter part of that verse that has been vividly and artistically displayed as a banner on the dining hall wall, and it says, "**They that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful.**" Please keep this verse in mind as I endeavor to minister about our walk with God and walking in our calling.

It may seem that the word "walk" is one that does not require definition. I think we all have a notion of what the word means, yet I am going to spend a bit of time defining it as I introduce what I want to minister to you this morning. When we think of this word, it brings up an image of doing something. It is a verb and therefore action

and progression are involved in the definition. When we walk we progress from one place to another. We walk downtown, we walk to see a friend or we walk for exercise. Normally we walk because we have a goal in mind; we're going toward a destination. Yes, we could walk aimlessly, but I don't think that in the natural we do much aimless walking. Even when we are walking for exercise, we have a goal in mind. Maybe, in this case, the destination isn't as important as the process of getting in good physical condition. However, in most instances, we set out with an objective and we continue walking until our goal is reached. We don't stop half way there. Going part of the way or being distracted will result in an incomplete journey.

On occasion there will be challenges that we will meet along the way and sometimes the obstacles are quite formidable, such as a roadblock or a detour. But we know when we take a detour that we will always find our way back to the main road if we follow the directions on the highway signs. The

challenges that come our way should not deter us from completing the journey. The destination is too important to be stymied by the challenges that we confront along the way. In retrospect the obstacles will pale in comparison to the joy and satisfaction of arriving at the predetermined destination.

In the realm of the spirit, we must not grow faint along the way just because we meet adversity. The valley is not our destination. Have you ever had any valley experiences, times when things seemed to be really tough and you wondered if you could go on? Doubts may have flooded in upon you and the valley journey appeared overwhelming. **It's not our destination, but a necessary experience in our travels.** You see it is in the valley that we are tested and tried. It is here where the real growth takes place. When you look at the natural valley you see the lush green growth, whereas on the mountaintop you see sparsity of vegetation. But let us always remember that it is only from the top of the mountain that we can see the splendor of the

view and this is the place that symbolizes victory in the realm of the Spirit. This is our permanent dwelling place. Hallelujah!

In Proverbs 24:10 we read, "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small." If we grow weak in the day of trouble and anxiety we have little strength. Our strength is always small, but I know someone whose strength is not small. As one of the brethren has said, we want to be associated with eternity through the one that is eternal. He is strong. Paul said in Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." That is quite a statement, "I can do all things through Christ." We must not faint or grow weary in times of adversity for He will never leave or forsake us. He is always there in the tough times as well as the good times. We can be assured of struggles and challenges in our walk with God; that is a given. We can count on it because the scriptures declare it. Let us refer to 1 Peter 4:12, "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you." We all know a little bit about physical fire because inadvertently we have gotten too close to it and the result has been a burn. The "fiery trial" spoken of here in 1 Peter is not pleasant to the flesh. It's fiery! It will test you and try you; but don't feel "as though some strange thing happened to you;" rather think of it as that which God has sent to make you strong. God is going to send a valley our way from time to time in order that we might grow into maturity.

The refining process will not be pleasant to the flesh, but it will accomplish the purpose of purging the dross out of us that is the cause of our imperfections. We all have some flaws. God wants to purge them out. He brings them to our attention because He wants us to do something about them and He is able if we are willing. Isaiah 1:19 says, "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land." This is speaking to us today just as much as it is spoke to natural Israel so long ago. The land that He holds out to us today flows with milk and honey and all

manner of good spiritual food, but **"we must be willing and obedient."** In Zechariah 13:8-9 we read more about the refining process, "And it shall come to pass in all the land," says the Lord, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, but one-third shall be left in it: I will bring the one-third through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; and each one will say, the Lord is my God." What a promise! "I will bring the one-third through the fire." They shall not perish in the fire. Hallelujah! God has promised to be with us in the midst of the fiery trial and tribulation, as we see in Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you" (NKJV).

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego faced a severe trial. It is good to read this account in scripture once in a while, especially when we think things are really tough and our world is caving in upon us. King Nebuchadnezzar instructed these three young Hebrew men to either bow down to the golden image or be thrown into the burning fiery furnace. So these young men had a decision to make. They were well aware that if they chose the fire there was certain death awaiting them. Looking strictly from the natural perspective, there was no possible way they could go through kind of fire that had been stoked up there and come out the other side alive. It was an inferno. But notice their response to the king in Daniel 3:17-18, "If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up." They made a choice and now they must face the fire. This was when the drama, on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon, really began to unfold. The forces of evil clashed with the forces of good as

we see happen many, many times in the scriptures and this was one of those times. The king commanded that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than it was usually heated. Let's make no mistake about the magnitude of this fire. It's not just a little bonfire; this is an inferno. Then he commanded that the three men be bound and thrown into the fire. For this task, he chose his strongest soldiers and they did as they were instructed. The fire was so hot that the executioners perished from the heat. So the drama continued to unfold. Soon the king looked into the furnace and said, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God" (Daniel 3:25). The Son of God was in the fire with them. Hallelujah! Think about it. Is there any problem too great that He cannot be right by your side in the midst of it? We should never doubt the liberating power of God. Not only were there four men in the fire but also they were loose in the fire. They had been thrown in bound and all the fire had done was to set them free from the bonds that held them captive. Oh, He comes to set men and women free. Free from sickness and death, free from enslaving habits, and free from all the bondages known to the human condition. So, what men had meant for evil God had turned into good. The three men came out of the fire and their condition is described in Daniel 3:27, "And they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them." **That is God.**

Circumstances are sent to try us. Someone once said, "It is not so much what happens to us that matters, but it's how we respond to what happens to us that matters." God is looking at how we are going to react to the obstacles He sets in our pathway. Adversity cannot be avoided. It either knocks us flat or it makes us strong. If taken in the right attitude, it builds into us what nothing else can. That which God sends our way is designed for our growth. Even Jesus had to learn obedience as we see in Hebrews 5:8-9, "Though He was a



Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him." What is it that He wants to accomplish in us? He wants to perfect us; He wants us to mature even "to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

He is the God of circumstance. There is no circumstance that we could ever face that He isn't thoroughly familiar with. It is evident that even during times of severe testing and trial there is a way to stay on the path that leads to life. In Isaiah 30:20-21 we read, "And though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers. Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'this is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left." Another scripture that assures us that God will be with us through the tough times is found in 1 Cor. 10:13, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but **God is faithful**, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

The scriptures are very clear regarding the spiritual position of those who chose, for one reason or another, to turn back rather than press on to the fulfillment of their calling. I have chosen two such scriptures. The first is found in Hebrews 10:38-39, "Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who draw back to perdition (destruction), but of those who believe to the saving of the soul." And the second is found in Luke 9:62, But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." God does not want us to turn back. He does not want us to get only part of the journey complete and then say, "We can't go on because we've become distracted or disgruntled or the obstacles are too great." He says to us today, "I will be with you; walk on in

the path in which I have established your feet and turn not to the left or to the right." 1 John 4:4 says, "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

The valley is not a permanent place. God is leading us through the valley, with all of its difficult experiences, to the mountain top. There we will not only view the promised land, like Moses did, but we will be allowed to enter the land if we are willing and obedient. However, Isaiah 1:20 warns us of the consequences of rebellion in these words, "But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword." Simply put, obedience will result in victory, whereas rebellion will result in defeat. I am reminded of a couple of choruses that assure us that God is leading us on to victory. The lines of the first are:

God is moving us on; He is leading the way.

It's a way we have never gone before. There are mountains to climb; there are valleys to cross,

But before us we see an open door.

The other chorus that expresses the same message is as follows:

God is leading us on to a fullness in Him,

Through a door that stands open;

It remains that we must enter in.

Jesus said I am the door to the kingdom,

To enter you must seek my face.

I am the way, the truth and the life;

The door to the holy place.

Christ is the door. He is "the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). Walking with the Lord in the light of our calling is the most important decision that we make. What you choose as a vocation and whom you choose as your mate are important decisions, but they are all part of walking in the light of your calling. God wants to be part of all of our decisions. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matt. 6:33). The scriptures say that we are chosen generation. Someone prophesied, "Do you know that are

called and chosen? 1 Peter 2:9 says, "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who **called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.**" He has taken us out of the gross darkness of our minds and hearts and into the splendor of His light for "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5).

"You are a chosen generation." We are encouraged in 2 Peter 1:10 "to make our calling and election sure." Remember, I asked you to keep in mind the scripture about being called, chosen and faithful. We may use the words "called and chosen" quite often, but forget the other word "faithful" that is included at the end of this scripture. It is a very important word. God has many callings and always has a purpose in what He calls men and women to. God doesn't do things haphazardly.

At one of the Sharon Scripture Studies many years ago, one of the brethren explained that there have been many who have embraced salvation, are satisfied with that experience, and go no further. Others seek deeper experiences of sanctification such as water baptism and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Yet there will be others who will desire to become a gifted people and through the exercise of those gifts, a fruitful people. Finally, there will be a calling out of those who desire the maturity of sonship. Many have chosen, for one reason or another, to stop somewhere along the way. God does not want us to stop where we are. He wants us to go on to the fullness of our inheritance. We often refer to those who desire maturity as the remnant (a small remaining number). From what we read in the scriptures, it seems that God was more interested in working with small groups than He was with the multitude. Nevertheless, we know that His ultimate purpose is to restore His creation back into harmony with His divine will. This truth is revealed in Acts 3:19-21 when Peter, speaking to the people in Solomon's Porch, says: "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the

Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive **until the times of restoration of all things**, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." This restoration will come through those who will be faithful to their calling. Ephesians 4:13 speaks of maturity in the following manner: "Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." Matt. 22:14 says, "For many are called, but few are chosen." Let me refer again to Rev. 17:14, "And those who are with Him (Christ) are called, chosen, and faithful."

Many of our young people have been involved in sports at one level or another. Maybe some have tried out for a team or have been invited to compete for a position at the high school or university levels. In the world of professional sports, athletes are invited to training camp to try out for positions on the team. You could say that they have been called. They then begin to train and perform to the best of their ability, always under the watchful eyes of coaches and evaluators. They all want to make the team, but they know that not everyone will because 50 players on a hockey team or a basketball team are too many. By the end of the camp decisions have been made as to those who have been chosen for the various positions. There are those who must leave and those who will stay. They were all called, but not all were chosen. Now, what is the coach expecting from those who have been chosen? He is expecting commitment and dedication to the team and to the coach. The chosen must prove themselves faithful. Faithfulness is the real test. A player, who has been chosen for his talent, may demonstrate an undesirable attitude, and thus be a detriment to the team. He may show up for the games but finds lots of excuses for not attending practices. He may be unwilling to follow the rules (e.g. curfew) set down by the coach or he may not like the offensive or defensive system that the team is required to follow. In other words, he is

chosen but he is not proving to be faithful. My purpose in using this analogy is to show that it is wonderful to be called and chosen, but a lack of faithfulness can still result in disqualification. It is a sad situation when a talented athlete has everything going for him, but ruins a promising career due to lack of commitment to the team and to the sport.

God is interested in a faithful and dedicated people. He is interested in those who want to go on to possess their inheritance. "But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him" (Heb. 10:38). Lot's wife looked behind her to the burning cities of Sodom and Gomorrah when she had been instructed not to look back. Israel longed for the leeks and garlies of Egypt even though God had provided manna that was sufficient for their physical needs. "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62). We don't want to go back to that which God has taken us out of. We just want to go on to that which He has for us.

To be called and chosen by God for a specific purpose is an honor that we should cherish dearly. Jesus said in John 15:16, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you." The fruit that we should be manifesting day by day, whether in church or out of church, is found in Gal. 5:22-23. This is the fruit of the Spirit and is the same fruit that Jesus manifested when He walked the earth. If we are connected with Him, we are joined to the Eternal and should be displaying the same fruit because we are part of Him. "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27). The indwelling Christ will cause greater and more abundant fruit to be manifest in our lives if we are willing and obedient. We want to attain unto maturity, to be partakers of His divine nature, to come into His likeness and into His image. Praise God.

The promises to the faithful are many and they are explicitly described in the book of Revelation. Jesus overcame the world, the flesh and the devil, He

has given us the same overcoming power as He possessed. Let us read the promises written to the overcomers, to those who will be faithful to their calling.

Never be distracted by someone else's calling, but rather remember what He has called you to. He has called you to be an overcomer. Rev. 2:7, "To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." Rev. 2:11, "He who overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death." Rev. 2:17, "To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it." Jesus said in John 6:51, "I am the living bread (manna) which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever." Rev. 2:26, "And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations." Rev. 3:5, "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels." White speaks of purity. "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:53). Rev. 3:12, "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name." Rev. 3:21, "To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne." That speaks of rulership. Rev. 21:7, "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son."

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Gal. 5:25). How much time have we spent living and walking in the Spirit lately? There is more to living in the Spirit than shouting hallelujah, not that there is anything wrong with shouting hallelujah. There is, however, a walk to which He has called us and a path upon which He

has established our feet. The destination is before us. Where we are going we have never been before. We know there will mountains to climb and valleys to cross, but if we are faithful we will arrive at our destination. For His promises are certain to all who believe. Let us believe. Let us be found among the Caleb and Joshua company who refused to be daunted by the size and strength of the enemy. Numbers 14:9, "Only do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection

has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them." Israel's responsibility was to believe that their God was able to give them the victory regardless of how formidable the enemy appeared to natural eyes. Our responsibility is no different today. We, too, must exercise belief that God is able to give us the victory over the enemies that confront us in the spiritual realm. They stand in defiant array and desire to block the entrance to our promised land. But make no mistake about it; the promise to the faithful is en-

trance into sonship.

Rom. 13:14, "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. The flesh shall surely fail but the Spirit gives life. Rom. 8:6, "For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Oh, praise the Lord! I want to be spiritually minded. I want God to take out of me all that is offensive to Him and in its place allow the nature of Christ to grow in me. We are called to a holy calling. Let us walk worthy of that high calling.

## WINKLER LABOUR DAY WEEKEND CAMP

Held at  
Winkler Bible Camp  
Starts Friday, Aug. 31  
evening meal and ends  
after breakfast  
Monday, Sept. 3, 2001.  
**RESERVATIONS  
ARE NECESSARY.**

Please contact:  
**Bob Waldner**  
Box 205  
ALTONA, MB  
R0G 0B0  
(204) 324-5963

## HIDDEN ACRES FELLOWSHIP

SHAKESPEARE, ONTARIO  
Friday, August 31  
5:00 p.m. to  
Monday, September 3, 2001  
1:00 p.m.

Please bring bedding,  
toilet articles,  
musical instruments,  
bibles, swimwear.

Cost will be  
\$20 - 13 years of age & older;  
\$10 - 12 years of age & under;  
or \$50 per family.

**Please send reservations to:**  
Garry Tyler, 350 Douglas Street,  
Stratford, Ontario, N5A 5R3  
or call (519) 271-7185 or  
Kelvin Martin, 14 Dickens Place,  
Stratford, Ontario, N5A 7G1  
or call (519) 273-4581

## PINELOW FALL CAMP FAMILY CAMP

**November 8-11, 2001**

Contact: Daryl Martz  
Fax (604) 795-5365  
E-mail dmartz@berkshire.ca

## PARK VALLEY LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

Held at Ragnar  
Aarrestad's Farm  
**Starts Friday,  
Aug. 31/01 at 5:00 p.m.  
and ends Monday, Sept. 3/01  
at 1:00 p.m.**

Contact: Ragnar Aarrestad  
Box 515,  
Debden, SK,  
S0J 0S0  
Phone (306) 469-4962

## PINELOW SUMMER CAMP

**North of Spokane - August 13 - 19, 2001**

From Spokane, North on Hwy 395 toward Coleville,  
past Loon Lake 3.1 miles or 5 km, turn east  
on Deer Lake North Road 1.7 miles or 2-3/4 km to Pinelow Park.

Adults - \$65.00,  
Children ages 3 - 11 - \$30.00,  
Family Rates with children 19 & Under - \$225.00

**Send reservations to:**

**NOTE: Daryl Martz is taking reservations for Pinelow Camps.**  
Fax: (604) 795-5365 Email: dmartz@berkshire.ca

**(NO PETS)**

**CAMPGROUND REGISTRATION  
STARTS AT 4:00 P.M.  
AUGUST 13, 2001**

Please be advised that our  
**CARIBBEAN CAMP**  
will be held in St. Vincent

**DATE:**

July 29 - August 5, 2001

**LOCATION:**

**Grace and Truth Campsite at  
Layou, St. Vincent**

**CONTACT PERSON**

Cephas Forde  
Camden Park P.O.  
Camden Park  
St. Vincent W.I.

Tel: 784-457-7272

## CALLED HOME

**Doreen Jeffrey**  
The Church at Questelles  
St. Vincent, W.I.  
Oct. 2, 2000  
...

**Birdie "Mom" Sharpe**  
High Point, NC  
Dec. 3, 2000  
...

**Beatrice Tozier**  
Cotton, MN  
Dec. 11, 2000

**Benson Oloo**  
Nyakwere, Kenya  
Dec. 20, 2000  
...

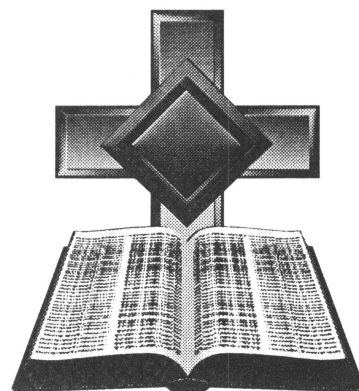
**Albert Schmidtke**  
Biggar, SK  
Dec. 20, 2000  
...

**Helen Schmidtke**  
Biggar, SK  
Dec. 27, 2000

**Leslie Tausendfrende (Elder)**  
Devlin, ON  
March 28, 2001  
...

**Linda Plett**  
Abbotsford, BC  
April 10, 2001

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## DATES OF IMPORTANCE

Feast North Battleford ..... April 12, 13, 14, 15, 2001  
Illinois Gathering (King's House) ..... May 4, 5, 6 2001  
Camp North Battleford ..... July 1 - 8, 2001  
North Carolina Camp, Salisbury, NC ..... July 29 - August 5, 2001  
St. Vincent, West Indies Camp ..... July 29 - August 5, 2001  
Pinelow Summer Family Camp ..... August 13-19, 2001  
Young Peoples - Hidden Acres, ON ..... Aug. 31 - Sept. 3, 2001  
Young Peoples - Park Valley, SK ..... Aug. 31 - Sept. 3, 2001  
Family Camp - Winkler, MB ..... Aug. 31 - Sept. 3, 2001  
Pinelow Fall Family Camp ..... Nov. 8 - 11, 2001

## NORTH CAROLINA CAMP MEETING

July 29 - August 5, 2001

Catawba College, Salisbury, NC

Catawba College, site of the camp, is located in the town of Salisbury, NC, about 40 miles from either Charlotte and High Point via Interstate Hwy 85. The campus is about 3 miles west of Interstate 85 at Exit 76 on West Innes Street (Hwy. 601) and can also be reached from the west and Interstate 40 via Hwy 601 or Hwy 70.

You may bring linens (single bed), towels, & pillows, or these can be rented at the camp for \$5 per set.

Check-in time begins at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 29. Meals will be served in the college dining hall beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 29, followed by the first meeting at 7:30 p.m. The camp will conclude with the noon meal on Sunday, August 5.

Buildings are air conditioned. Swimming pool, gym, and other recreational facilities are available.

### CHARGES FOR ROOM & BOARD:

Age 0 - 3 - No charge

Age 3 - 6 - \$55.00 per week or \$11.00 per day

Age 7 - Adult - \$80.00 per week or \$16.00 per day

### SEND RESERVATIONS TO:

Global Missions Regional Camp

c/o Mrs. Anita Love

112 Queensbury Rd.,

Winston Salem, NC 27104

or call: Anita Love - 336-765-9271 or E-mail <ASLOVE1@aol.com>

Flight arrangements may be made to Charlotte, NC. If you need transportation from the airport, call Kim Kaufman at 704-583-0651 or e-mail him at <kimkaufman@mindspring.com>.

Those preferring to fly into Greensboro may contact Dave Heath for transportation from the airport. Phone 336-852-9016 or e-mail <DDPack@aol.com>.

**Sharon Children's Homes and Schools**  
Box 878, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada, S9A 2Z3

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