

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

(Jude 1:3)

The Contender

1973 50TH ANNIVERSARY 2023

Apostolic Faith Tabernacle

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

(Rev 3:8)

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The Newsletter of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, Maysville, KY

www.aftcmaysvilleky.com

Putting On a Front

Work began on the front of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle on Friday, August 21, 2020 when Pastor Osman and Brother Bob Thompson removed the cement block from the columns in front of the church.

When the work was completed on the front of the building, all reminders that 1684 US68 was previously a lumber company was gone. With the steel beams exposed, and the remaining block pressure washed, the front of the building was made ready for this phase of the remodeling project to begin.



See Front, page 8

History Made at 1684 US 68

On Sunday, September 6, 2020, history was made at 1684 US 68 in Maysville when four souls were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of their sins. The first person to be baptized at this church location was Brother Chase Blankenship then followed by Brother Nick Bell. Brother Owen McKenny was next, followed by Sister Leah Crank. Several family members came to Sunday School to witness the baptism which took place following the Sunday morning service.

We are praying and believing God that more history will be made when these souls and others seeking God will soon receive the precious gift of Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:38 plan of salvation.

We are very excited about what the Lord is doing and going to do at Apostolic Faith Tabernacle in Maysville, Kentucky.



L-R, in the order in which they were baptized: Chase Blankenship, Nick Bell, Owen McKenny, and Leah Crank.

Youth Service at Apostolic Faith Tabernacle Bro. Devin Blythe (AFT Youth Leader)

On Saturday, September 19th, 2020, the youth of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle gathered for youth service. Starting prayer at 3:30, ages 5 and up prayed and worshipped God like the church was full. This was the first of many youth services at the new church. Bro. Dalton Osman started the service leading songs and Bro. Drew Osman, Bro. Jimmy McKinney, Sis. Cheyenne Blythe and myself helped him out on the music. Sis. Haley and Sis. Kaitlyn Dennis sang a special as did Sis. Daisy Blythe with Sis. Tori Wilson. Bro. Kyle Keith did a great job leading testimony service and Bro. Andre Warner left a great word of encouragement. Bro. Drew Osman preached an awesome message entitled "In the Last

Days". We had a tremendous altar service with several young people seeking the Holy Ghost. Thanks to all who made this possible.



Photos of youth Service provided by Brother Drew Osman
Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; (Eccl. 12:1)

Youth Rally in Wheelersburg, Ohio

Saturday, August 22, 2020 A youth Rally was held at Truth Tabernacle in Wheelersburg, Ohio (Brother Robert Davis, pastor) today. It was great to get to visit another church again and God blessed the service tremendously!

Brother Drew Osman preached a message entitled, People of Obedience.

God came into the service in a great way. You could feel God's anointing and the service ended with an alter call which

God also greatly blessed. Several youth and others from Apostolic Faith Tabernacle attended the service.



A Double Blessing

Sun Oct. 2020 As work continued on the front of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, our church received a double blessing: Brother Nathan Golden, owner of Golden Painting of Indianapolis, IN, not only did a tremendous job painting the front of the church building, he also preached a couple of great messages the following Sunday morning and Sunday evening.

Sunday morning Brother Golden preached a great message entitled, **“What Level Are You On?”** The message challenged the congregation to move up in God.

Sunday evening Brother Golden preached a message entitled, **“It's never too Late for Your Miracle.”** Thank God for young men who have answered the call of God on their lives.

Choices

People often feel that a decision or choice that they make affects them and them alone. “My choices don't affect anyone but me,” is often the cry when someone is about to make a decision or choice of any significance. Below is proof that a decision you make today, whether it be good or bad, can affect people for many years and generations to come.

**The two families listed below have the longest line of direct descendants of George Osman. There are many more descendants of George Osman who have lived and are living for God as a result of him making a choice to live for God many years ago.*

1. George Osman*

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| 2. Brother Orval Osman (Brother George Osman's son) | 2. Sister Chloe Osman (Eades) (Brother George Osman's daughter) |
| 3. Elder William Osman , The founder of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, in Maysville, KY. | 3. Sister Maxine Eades (Blythe) |
| 4. Pastor Randy Osman , current pastor of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle in Maysville, KY | 4. Brother Paul Blythe |
| 5. Brother Drew Osman | 5. Brother Jonathan Blythe |
| 6. Tucker Osman | 6. Brother Devin Blythe |
| | 7. Paityn Blythe |

Because one man made a conscious decision to live for God, six and seven generations have lived, and are living, for God and are enjoying this great Apostolic Truth.

We Are the Bride of Christ

Wednesday, March 16, 2022, Brother Michael Putman of Gilmer, Texas, preached a tremendous message tonight entitled, **Always a Bridesmaid but Never a Bride**. He told us that we are Christ's bride and as such God wants to do so much more for us. He also let us know that it's the bride that Jesus will take with Him when He returns. It is His Bride that He will catch away when He returns in the clouds.

Always be content with what you have but never with what you are.

You've Got to Be Kidding!

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones. (Proverbs 17:22)

The Cost of Love

One day an angel appeared to Adam. The angel said, "Adam, I've got great news. God is going to create something wonderful for you." Adam said, "Oh, what is it?"

The angel said, "It's not an 'it,' it's a 'she.'" God is going to make something called a woman." Adam said, "Go on."

The angel continued, "This is going to be wonderful. This woman will be made to be a lot like you physically, only much more beautiful. She will live to serve you at all times. When you are tired, she'll give you a massage. When you are hungry, she'll feed you. She'll come and bow down to you in the morning and when you return from working in the garden in the evening. "In addition," the angel continued, "she will never argue with you or complain. She won't nag you or talk back to you either. For every command you give her, she'll simply reply, "yes master." She'll clean your house, and tend to your every desire."

Adam had a sparkle in his eye and said with excitement, "Wow, that sounds amazing. I'd really like to have something like that. But what's it going to cost me?" The angel said, "Well Adam, it's going to cost you your right arm, and a leg."

Adam thought about it for a while, and then replied, "What can I get for a rib?" The rest is history

It's Getting Late

Q. At what time of day was Adam created?

A. A little before Eve.

Help Lord

Dear Lord,

So far today I've done alright. I haven't gossiped. I haven't lost my temper. I haven't been greedy, grumpy, selfish, over indulgent or told anyone to mind their own business and to stay out of mine. I am really glad about that!

But in a few minutes I'm going to get out of bed and I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Thank you in advance.

Amen!

Divine Advice

A businessman was in a great deal of trouble. His business was failing and he had put everything he had into the business. He owed everybody. It was so bad he was even contemplating suicide. As a last resort he went to a pastor and poured out his story of tears and woe.

When he had finished, the pastor said, "Here's what I want you to do, put a beach chair and your Bible in your car and drive down to the beach. Take the beach chair and the Bible to the water's edge, sit down in the beach chair, and put the Bible in your lap. Open the Bible; the wind will rifle the pages, but finally the open Bible will come to rest on a page. Look down at the page and read the first thing you see. That will be your answer, that will tell you What to do."

A year later the businessman went back to the pastor and brought his wife and children with him. The man was in a new custom-tailored suit, his wife in a mink coat, the children shining. The businessman pulled an envelope stuffed with money out of his pocket and gave it to the pastor as a donation in thanks for his advice.

The pastor recognized the benefactor, and was curious.

"You did as I suggested?" he asked.

"Absolutely," replied the businessman.

"You went to the beach?"

"Absolutely."

"You sat in a beach chair with the Bible in your lap?"

"Absolutely."

"You let the pages rifle until they stopped?"

"Absolutely."

"And what were the first words you saw?"

"Chapter 11."

It's Only a Game

Q. Where is baseball mentioned in the bible?

A. Genesis 1:1-In the big inning

- Genesis 3:6- Eve stole first and Adam stole second

- Genesis 24:15-Rebekah went to the well with a "pitcher"

- Exodus 4:4 "And he put out his hand, and caught it"

- Numbers 11:32 "Ten homers"

- Proverbs 18:10 "The righteous run into it, and is safe"

- Ezekiel 36:12 "Yea, I will cause men to walk"

Looking Back

The testimony of Sister Raedeana Eyer

On Saturday, December 23, 1995, over twenty-seven years ago, around 9:15 pm, this was the story of a 16 year old girl going about her evening with her parents. I am not sharing a sad story but a story of miracles and a testimony to the power of God. That girl was me. Some may know and others may have never heard, while others may have forgotten.

We were stopped approximately two miles from my home waiting to make a left turn. My parents and I were rear ended by a drunk driver driving at an estimated speed of 110 miles per hour. I was in the back seat of the driver's side of this Lincoln Continental.

I was airlifted to the University of Cincinnati. I spent the next couple of weeks in ICU there and the next four months in a hospital bed in the living room of our home. I had a crushed pelvis and multiple jaw fractures. I was on a ventilator for several days while the neck and facial swelling stabilized. I am thankful that my parents were ok with minor injuries.

But for the grace of God my story could have been so different. I am grateful for every miracle, surgeon, nurse, pastor, friend, and family who helped me so many years ago.

I was able to graduate with my class, marry, have two beautiful babies, and work in OR for twenty

years. I am able to do everything in life as though the accident never happened.

The entire story is too long for me to share here but I am willing to share with anyone who inquires. This is the story of my life and it has changed me forever to be more compassionate toward others.

Every action we take impacts someone else. Good or bad we will have to take responsibility for our actions. I feel the impact of a drunk driver everyday in the form of arthritis, however forgiveness allows me to live without bitterness. I am sure that he remembers my face on this day also.

I have no sad story to tell, just remembering how good God has been to me on the anniversary of this day, December 23, 1995.

UPDATE

Sister Raedeana has since had another back surgery as a result of this accident. She had a cracked vertebrae which caused a slipped and bulging disc. And excruciating pain. Doctors performed the surgery on May 24, 2022. She is making a complete recovery and the pain is gone. Another miracle is that upon examination they found out that she has no arthritis. Thank God for the miracle of healing!



Editors note:

The photo of the car was taken after the accident scene was cleaned up and the auto was taken to a nearby garage. Other than the door placed in the back seat, the rear-end of the car appears as it was immediately after the accident.



Sister Raedeana Womacks on a life support ventilator following her car accident on Saturday, December 23, 1995

NOTE

On Wednesday, November 30, 2022, Sister Raedeana was released from the surgery on she had on May 24, 2022 with no physical limitations. Once again, another testimony to the healing power of God!

To God be the Glory!

Coming to church is not about us, it's about Him and when we make it about Him, He will make it about us.

Forty-four Years of Faithful Singing

After forty-four years Brother Paul Blythe is stepping down as official song leader of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle. For forty-four years our church was blessed with a song leader who not only has an excellent singing voice but one who was also anointed for each service.

Oftentimes Brother Blythe's leading song service would determine the course and direction of the entire service. He always took the task of leading song service very seriously.

We still look forward to hearing Brother Blythe lead song service on Sunday morning and singing in the church quartet with Brother Ray Womacks, Brother Jeff Osman and Pastor Randy Osman.

In appreciation for his many years of faithful service leading the congregation in song and worship, Brother Blythe was presented a golden microphone and a one hun-

dred dollar gift card to El Coyote restaurant in Cincinnati.

Thank you Brother Blythe for your many years of faithful service .



Brother Paul Blythe and the golden microphone he received in recognition of his many years as church song leader. *IN APPRECIATION TO PAUL BLYTHE 44 YEARS SONG LEADER APOSTOLIC FAITH TABERNACLE* are the words inscribed on the base of the golden microphone.



Don't Take it For Granted

By Tim Dever

I have been attending my church since I was eleven years old. I call it *my* church because I feel that God meets with me personally each time I attend and has done so since I was a child.

No one made me go to church, in fact my parents did not attend church on a regular basis. Going to church was my choice and mine alone. This freedom I possessed; this freedom of religion was something that I would always have simply because I lived in the good old USA.

There would be nothing to keep me from attending my church, my place of worship, my place of refuge. I remember missionaries coming by my church and telling how their congregations in other countries would have to meet in secret due to fear of the government infiltrating their services, often with severe and dire consequences. But that was far off in another country, God bless the USA.

Then the unthinkable happened! Due to a worldwide pandemic, churches were declared non-essential businesses and ordered to shut down. I was no longer free to attend the church of my choice. What! After forty-four years of taking for granted the fact that I would always have *my* church available to me, I was suddenly unable to attend church. Video church conferencing was "better than nothing" but it was not a substitute for being in an actual place of worship! What I had taken for granted for so many years was suddenly jerked out from under my feet. I remember sitting at home on church nights desper-

ately longing for something that I had taken for granted just days before.

The first service back on church property was a drive-in service. My pastor preached from a trailer hooked to the back of a pickup truck. Just being on church property again was very exciting but still it was no match for being in a real, in house service! Horn blowing was no match for yelling amen while the preacher was preaching, nor was spraying windshield washer fluid on your windshield comparable to having real tears of thankfulness flowing down your face in an actual in-house service.

When we were first allowed to have in house services again, social distancing mandated that only a few members of the congregation could attend at a time. Oh, how I longed to be in every service!

Finally, the day came when the entire congregation could attend services again. Oh, the joy that filled my heart!

Things have changed since those fateful months in early 2020 when I spent my church service times at home longing to be in church. Yes, it often seems like a long time ago, but when I attend a church service now, I realize that at the demand of a government official it can be taken away in a moment's time!

Now I sing with a renewed sense of awe and appreciation, the words, ***"I think I'll praise the Lord while I have the chance, for I may not have the chance anymore."***

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HELL: TRUTH SEEN TOO LATE, DUTY THAT WAS NEGLECTED IN ITS SEASON

Musical Moments



The church musician featured in this issue is Brother Jonathan Blythe of Manchester, Ohio. He is the church pianist and has been playing the piano since his early teens.

When and why did you start playing music?

I was in my early teens when I felt the Lord dealing with me musically, so I bought a piano and started teaching myself to play by ear. I took piano lessons for a while to learn to play by note but decided ultimately to teach myself.

Why did you choose the piano and was it your first instrument of choice?

Yes, the piano was my first instrument of choice because my grandmother had an upright piano and she helped me out a lot.

What was the first song or tune that you learned on the piano?

The first song I learned was Amazing Grace. Once again, my grandmother helped me out on that song.

How does playing with other people affect the way you play? Does it affect your style?

Absolutely. It depends on who you are playing with and how good they are makes a difference in how much you do. For example, we have a lot of good musicians so sometimes I can do the main part and let others do the fill-in.

Do you have family members who play or have played musical instruments?

As I mentioned earlier my grandmother played the piano and organ, A lot of people didn't know that my grandfather Elwood, played the guitar. He could sit down with a flat top guitar and really play. My uncle Robert was a very good guitar player, and a lot of people don't know this either, but my Aunt Angie was very good on the piano and keyboard, though she didn't pursue it. My brother David plays the drums, and my two boys, Devin and Deron plays the piano and drums respectively. So yes, God has blessed my family with musical talent.

Do you have a musician, famous or not who inspires or inspired you?

When I was young, when it came to an Apostolic musician, I really admired Steve Pixler. He was coming around our church about the time I started playing the piano. In fact, he was one of the reasons I decided to pursue the piano and keyboard as opposed to the drums or guitar.

If I remember correctly, he could play any style

Absolutely. I just loved his different styles. As far as an Apostolic person was concerned it was Steve Pixler but as far as a famous piano player, Anthony Burger (with the

Kingsmen) was someone I looked up to. He was an awesome piano player.

Is there anyone that you would love to sit down and collaborate with at the piano or keyboard? Someone to "tickle the ivories with", so to speak?

I think so. A person I would love to sit down with is Gordon Mote. In the last few years, he has become someone I really marvel at.

You mentioned in the beginning of this interview that you took piano lessons for a while. Who was your teacher?

John Ziegler was my music teacher in the beginning. I took piano lessons for almost a year in John's basement. The lessons got me familiar with the keyboard and when I got familiar with the keyboard, I realized that playing by note wasn't what I wanted so I went back to teaching myself to play by ear.

What are your favorite musical memories at the home church?

Getting to play at our anniversary services.

Also, playing at Elder Osman's funeral. It was such a great honor for me to be able to play at Elder Osman's funeral.

What are some of your favorite events that you have played away from the home church?

Without question, Western Kentucky Youth Conference

I would never notice, but do you ever make mistakes?

Yes, and it seems to be getting more frequent as I get older, and it bothers me because I want everything to be perfect. Since no one is perfect I look to mistakes as something to keep you humble.

If you make a mistake, do you keep on playing?

Yes, you have to keep on playing.

Do you still get nervous playing at or away from your home church?

A little, but not as much as I used to when I was younger and less experienced. I don't get too nervous anymore. The two places I still get nervous are weddings and funerals. At funerals and weddings, its so quiet if you make a mistake, you have a harder time covering it up.

Do you practice? If yes, how often and for how long do you practice?

Yes, and if you count new songs we are learning, there are at least three or four hours a week of practice. Most

(See moments page 7)

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Every man is free to choose but he is not free to choose the consequence of his choice.

(Moments from page 6)

weeks I am working on something. Most of the time I am practicing new stuff such as practicing with a singer, or working on a new choir song, something like that. I do practice old stuff usually just for the fun of it but I am usually practicing new stuff, something we are learning

One of my favorite songs is "Take Me Back". Would you please tell the readers what inspired you to write that song?

The song *Take Me Back* was inspired by a message Elder Jonathan Alvear preached by the same name. I listened to the message and the next night God gave me the lyrics and the music. Both the lyrics and the music came to me at the same time and that is unusual because usually when someone writes a song, they get the lyrics and then they have to work on the music.

What advice would you give to a young person who is just beginning to learn to play the piano or any instrument?

You must be sold out to it. Give it everything you've got, and God will reward your effort. There will be a lot of frustration along the way but you just have to gut it out.

Any final comments?

I absolutely love playing with our group of musicians at Apostolic Faith Tabernacle. We have a great group of musicians. We have some very talented people, the musicians in our church. Thank God for the group of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle's musicians. For a church our size, we have a tremendous talent of musicians and singers. It's unbelievable how blessed we are. It is amazing for a church this size to be blessed with such music and singing, and it has been this way from almost the beginning. All through the years Apostolic Faith Tabernacle has been blessed with great singers and great musicians.

Thank you for your time τ



Living the Dream

The Testimony of Brother Jeff Blythe

I guess I will call my story *The Dream*. Church was always a part of my life. I knew the right way because my mom made sure of it. I am so thankful for that!

The older I got it really started bothering me about not being saved. One of the things that really bothered me was the fact that this world is so out of control. I could see what was coming upon this world, but I was too afraid to do anything about it.

As I was walking my dog one day, I asked God why I was so afraid. I decided to ask my brother Paul why I was afraid of God. What would you know as we were walking home Paul and his wife Connie stopped by to talk to me. I did not realize it at the time, but God had sent them to me.

So, time went on and my wife started going to church. I went with her a couple of times, but nothing happened. It became almost unbearable, being lost and worrying about it.

Then on Sunday January 24th, 2021, as I was taking an online class for work God called me and said "Today's the day. Get your boots on you're going to church."

I thought, you know I am tired of all of this; I am going to go. The devil fought me every step of the way. The devil said stop but God said go and go I did.

When I got to the church I went in and went straight to the front and sat on the front row. My sister Angie wanted to know if I wanted to sit with my dad. I said no because I was such a mess, so she sat with me.

Sister Scott started playing the organ and that was when I went to the altar. Sixty years of bad things came out on the altar that day. When I stood up pastor Robert Davis was standing in front of me. He told me that I needed to pray and in a matter of minutes God filled me with the Holy Ghost. I felt so much better and when my father told me he was so proud of me and that he loved me, I felt even better.

I've been told that my mom testified before she passed away and told about a dream she had about me coming to church. She described in her dream how it would happen and that's exactly the way it happened.

If it were not for my mother praying for me there's no way I would have made it through this life. Anyone who knows me knows that is a true statement.

I try to thank God every day for a family that believes in Him. I thank God for a mother's dream, a dream that came true.

I Love you all,

Brother Jeff Blythe



"THIS STONE"

Brother Keegan Cornwell

Matthew 7:24-27 Acts 4:10-11

When Peter was questioned by the religious leaders of his day by what name the healing in Acts chapter 3 took place, he stood up with boldness and declared that it was by the name of Jesus that the blind man was healed and walked. He declared the name of Jesus to the religious community, the builders of that day. Peter declared this Jesus to the very people that had Jesus beaten and crucified. The very stone that they rejected. Peter declared that this same Jesus that they crucified was by whose power this lame man was healed. Peter went on to declare that the stone that they as the religious leaders of their day rejected and set aside, the stone that didn't matter to them, had become the chief cornerstone.

The power by which the lame man was healed was prophesied about in (*Psalms 118:22-23*) ***The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.***

The builders, the religious leaders of that day, rejected the stone, but they didn't realize that there was no other name under heaven whereby men must be saved! (*Acts 4:12*). Peter had a revelation from Jesus Christ Himself! In *Acts 4:13*, it was acknowledged that Peter and John had been with Jesus. Peter walked with Jesus, he talked with Jesus, he heard Jesus' teachings. Peter had a divine revelation of who Jesus was. Peter also had the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

The greatest compliment a person could receive in this world is to be identified as a follower of Jesus, one who identifies as one who has the revelation of the Mighty God in Jesus because the Truth of the ages has been revealed to us.

A short time ago our pastor preached a message entitled, ***THE MYSTERY REVEALED***. Thank God for such a revelation!

The revelation of the mighty God in Christ is the foundation upon which the New Testament church is built. The church was built by Jesus Christ based on the revelation that Peter had that Jesus Christ was the almighty God manifested in the flesh. (Matthew 16:13-19). Apostolic power and authority come from the revelation of the mighty God in Christ Jesus. It is very important

that we have the answer inside of us concerning this marvelous revelation. This revelation is not just the pastor's and ministry's responsibility. The power that saved us is based upon this revelation! Our healing comes in that name, because of the revelation!

It is very important that we have an answer for who Jesus is in this hour! The power that saved you from your sins is based upon this revelation. The keys to the kingdom were given to Peter because of the revelation he had in Matthew 16:13-19, ***And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*** The rock was the revelation that Peter had of the Mighty God in Christ Jesus. Peter had a revelation of what was prophesied by prophets of old.

Jesus was more than just a good man and a good teacher. He was The Almighty God manifested in the flesh! Something divine was happening that day when the lame man was healed, and a lot of people missed it! The message of Jesus being the chief cornerstone, the most important stone in the building, was preached to the builders that day and they missed it.

Jesus was God manifested in the flesh. If there was no manifestation, then our religion and salvation are in vain.

In Isaiah 9:6 Isaiah would write about a coming savior; ***For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*** Jesus Christ was the child whose name would be called the mighty God.

Isaiah 7:14, Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Who was this child born of a virgin whose name shall be called Emmanuel?

Matthew 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins and verse 23 states ***Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.***

When the lame man was healed and went running and leaping through the temple, prophecy was fulfilled before the people's eyes that day, but the religious leaders missed it.

(Isaiah 35:4-6) Say to them that are of a fearful heart, be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will

See ***THE STONE*** Cont'd on page 10

And Now, a Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Osman

Ezra 4:1-5

“GOD’S PLAN WON’T BE STOPPED”

Purpose: Plan

Frustrate: to break up, violate, to cause to cease

God still has a plan and purpose for the church and the Word of God lets us know that the gates of hell will not prevail against the church. We as individuals can be stopped. If we let the distractions of hell frustrate our purpose, the devil can stop us, if we let him but God’s church will not be stopped. Are we going to let the enemy frustrate our purpose that God has for us? God has a purpose and a plan for the church in Maysville, Kentucky.

Gods plan from the beginning has not been stopped. God will continue to call young men and there will be men preaching this great gospel when Christ returns for the church. There will be a church on the face of this earth and people will still be living for God when the sound of the trumpet goes forth.

God had a plan for the Apostle Paul. His plan was for Paul to take the gospel of the plan of salvation to the gentiles. Everywhere Paul went there was a thorn in the flesh. Everywhere he went there were beatings, there were stoning’s and shipwrecks and everything you can imagine but two-thirds of the New Testament was written by the Apostle Paul. The New Testament church, the

God will continue to call young men and there will be men preaching this great gospel when Christ returns for His church.

Gentile bride is here tonight because God had a plan and Paul would not be distracted. he was determined that he was not going to turn aside because he knew what God had called him to do.

Romans 8:28 lets us know that all things work together for our good if we are the called according to God's purpose, according to His plan. When we pray, we are still to pray, “Lord not my will but your will be done”. When we allow God to work on us, and when we give Him room to do what He does, we will find that it will always work out for our good in the end.

Romans 9:17 “*For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.*” God’s purpose with Pharaoh was to show His (God’s) power to the world when He freed the Children of Israel from four hundred years of bondage.

God’s plan was and is to have a church. God knew that He was going to have a church before He created the earth. Not only was it God’s plan from the beginning to have a church but He knew how he was going to purchase the church from the beginning. (Revelation 13:8)

The question we must ask ourselves as the local church today is, are we going to allow the enemy to distract us and cause him to stop the purpose and plan that God has for Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, the church He has placed here in Maysville, KY.

(THE STONE - from page 9)

come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. Acts chapter 4 lets us know that this happens in the name of Jesus.

Throughout the Old and the New Testaments, the Bible declares Jesus Christ as the mighty God manifested in the flesh. **Malachi 2:10** states that we have one Father as does **Ephesians 4:5, 6** and Jesus Christ was the Father according to **Isaiah 9:6**, once again showing that Jesus Christ was the mighty God, manifested in the flesh.

Colossians 2:9 states that **in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily**. Who is verse 9 speaking of when it says in him...? Verse 6 lets us know that Jesus Christ was the subject of verse 9. Only God can forgive sins, so if Jesus isn’t the mighty God, He has no power to forgive sins. God, loving fallen man had a plan of reconciliation. God knew there was no other way to reconcile sinful flesh to Himself, He robed Himself in flesh and died a death He didn’t have to die to pay a debt he didn’t owe. The Holiness of God demands separation from sinful man. God has a plan of reconciliation for sinful man. (Ephesians 2:12-16)

Substitution is the act of replacing one thing or person with something else. God gave His life for us, so we didn’t have to die. Mankind could not save himself, so God became our sacrifice. A stone is a rock that has been cut for a purpose. Thank God for a rock that is also the chief cornerstone. Jesus is that rock! **What a revelation! The revelation of the ages.**

Optimism does not ignore reality. Optimism sees another reality.