December, 1977

Full Gospel Business Men's Voice

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men."
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""We've Already had our Christmas!"

by CADET A.B. "BUN" STUBBS
The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina

THE DATE was Friday, December 21, 1974. I was sitting in my hometown airport in Cheraw, South Carolina when a friend, Kimsey C. Eskridge approached and asked if I would like to fly with him and two others to Georgia. Inasmuch as I had just received my student's license and was eager to fly, I agreed. I was seventeen years old at the time.

The next morning bright and early the three of us—Eskridge, Larry Gaddy and I—met at the airport to await the arrival of Randy Lee from Munroe. Randy was the pilot for Mr. Eskridge's firm. We were shortly informed, however, that he could not land at Cheraw due to intense ground fog and that we were to drive to Florence, S. C. and meet him there.

Upon our arrival at the Florence Airport we found Randy waiting with a rented Cessna 310 and climbed aboard for what we considered would be a relatively uneventful flight to Georgia. We were only partially correct in our thinking.

The flight itself did prove to be un-
eventful, but as our plane approached the landing field at Fulton County Airport, I felt what seemed to be turbulence. Imagine our surprise and horror, however, when after dropping below the fog we saw that we were headed straight for a clump of trees! Evidently a faulty instrument panel had given our pilot an incorrect reading and we were nearer the ground than he had believed.

"Oh, my God!" Randy cried. He cut the power and pulled the plane's nose up, but it was too late. The Cessna clipped through the trees for some sixty yards at about eighty-five miles an hour—during which the wings were sheared off just beside the twin engines—and we landed upside down! The shearing off of the wings with their fuel tanks probably prevented an explosion.

Breaking the window on the co-pilot's side, we crawled out to survey the scene. The pine and oak trees through which we crashed had crumpled practically the entire airplane, except where we had been sitting! The two unoc-
"The wings were sheared off just beside the twin engines—and we landed upside down"

Illustrated from a photograph of the actual crash scene.

cupied rear seats in the six-seater were completely crushed. I don’t believe anyone sitting in them could have possibly survived.

We were some three and a half miles from the airport. If this had to happen, I thought, it was the “perfect” place for it! Some fifty feet behind us were homes and a half mile ahead of us was the Six Flags amusement park and another housing development.

Without a shadow of doubt, our escape from death or serious injury was a veritable Christmas miracle! The Lord, the Son of God—the Word that was made flesh and came down from heaven to dwell among us that first Christmas Eve—was riding with us in that plane! The Gift of God’s Love!

Furthermore, we had been diverted from landing at the Peachtree-DeKalb Airport as we had planned because of the inclement weather, and learned later that about an hour after our crash another plane coming in for a landing at Peachtree hit a power line and exploded in mid-air, killing the two occupants. That could well have been our fate.

Some fifteen yards from our crash site was a secondary road. There we stopped a car and the occupants went for help. Within thirty minutes of the crash we were all in Atlanta West Hospital, where it was ascertained that Gaddy had suffered a fractured sternum
and a separated shoulder, Eskridge had received cuts and bruises, Lee had received a severe head injury, and I had suffered a fractured sternum, a sprained back, and bruises. Lee and I were listed as "critical" and placed in intensive care units over the weekend, and Eskridge was taken to Atlanta Baptist Hospital for further checking of a head injury. We were released in time to observe Christmas at home with our families.

I believe that if I had not had a strong faith in God and had not previously committed my life to Jesus Christ and His service, I would not have lived to tell this miraculous story. I am now in college at "The Citadel" in Charleston, South Carolina, a living witness to God's protective power. My favorite text these days is Psalm 23:4, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

That Christmas I received a package, the tag of which read: "TO BUN from GOD." Inside was a picture of the plane crash from which the Lord spared our lives.

As my father, Bernard Stubbs, told the reporter from the Cheraw Chronicle who came to our home on Christmas Eve morning, Monday, December 24: "We've already had our Christmas! The safety of our son will make this the nicest Christmas we have ever had!"
At the age of twenty-six I thought I had everything I wanted or needed. I had my own business, was self sufficient and prosperous in my own eyes, and really believed I was happy. The need for God in my life never entered my mind.

My early years prior to this were rather stormy ones. As a young boy I began to drink and soon ran into trouble with the police. At fifteen I was arrested for larceny and placed in a juvenile home in Atlanta, Georgia. That was the beginning of a series of arrests all through my teen years. Because of my incorrigibility, I was given special permission to quit school. Teachers found me impossible to control.

My parents enrolled me in a trade and vocational school in Clarkesville, Georgia, learning body and fender repair. I liked it very much and was doing well, making all A's, when my propensity for keeping bad company got me into trouble again and I was arrested for larceny and automatically dismissed from school. Returning home, I started helping my dad in the construction business, working heavy equipment.

At seventeen I married Linda, a fifteen-year-old girl I had been dating. Since many of our friends were getting married, we thought we should also. From then on we tried to keep up with our friends in other ways too, such as purchasing larger cars, building larger homes, and drinking and partying. As

Since that eventful Christmas Eve of 1972, I no longer dread...
the years rolled by I made Linda’s life increasingly miserable with my drinking, my profanity, and my staying out nights with other women. To make matters worse, her father was one of my drinking buddies.

During this time several preachers visited me, but to the best of my recollection none told me about Jesus. They invited me to church, but did not invite me to accept Jesus as my personal Saviour. I only responded to their invitations with insults.

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 1972, as was my custom, I spent all day calling on my customers, during which we shared a few drinks and I would give them a fifth of liquor and get one back in return.

Coming home after dark, I found that Linda’s parents had already arrived from Chattanooga to spend Christmas with us. I brought five fifths of liquor into the house, so drunk I could hardly walk, and got my father-in-law, Jim, off to the side to tell him that I could now fix him up with a certain lady in which he had previously been interested. I also offered him a drink. To my surprise he just smiled and said that he wasn’t interested.

Because of the lateness of the hour, Linda asked me to go to a local restaurant for some take-out food. When Jim and I got in the car I asked him when did he get too good to drink my liquor and to go out with my women. “I didn’t know how I was going to share something with you,” he replied with a smile, “but I guess now is as good a time as any.” He went on to tell me that he had been on a drunk for several days, miserable and suffering from the D.T.’s. He was alone at the time and it was Sunday. As he started to walk across the room toward the kitchen to get a beer,
“something” made him turn the television set on (ordinarily, a person with the D.T.’s cannot tolerate noise). Rex Hubbard, pastor of the Cathedral of Tomorrow in Akron, Ohio was just concluding his message by saying that if anyone watching the program was not satisfied with his life, he could start over by kneeling down now and asking God to come into his heart. Jim did so—and instantly realized when he finished praying that he was completely sober and the D.T.’s were gone. He had been saved at the age of nine and now he was clean again, delivered from his sins. He went to the kitchen and poured out all his beer.

As Jim told me all that had happened to him I began to cry. When he finished talking, I too was completely delivered of alcoholism but didn’t know it for sure at that time. Although not fully understanding what had happened to me, I went into the restaurant and called Linda. “Honey, I don’t know what has happened to me, but something has, and things are going to be different now.” She answered very unexcitedly, “Yeah, I’ve heard that before.”

I liked what I was feeling, clean and different inside. When we came back home with the food I put the five fifths of liquor away, thinking that I just might want it later. After all, this feeling might not last. However, I did not want a drink nor did I feel like cursing anymore. God had also cleaned up my mouth.

Prior to retiring that night, Jim wanted to know if we would mind if he prayed. Although it was a little embarrassing to me, I told him to go ahead. His prayer was that Jesus might be allowed to come into the hearts of everyone there, and tears began to flow freely. God was beginning a cleaning out process in our lives. Linda did not then let Jesus into her heart, but later, when I hung my shirt and trousers on the bedpost upstairs in our room we nudged each other simultaneously and pointed, for there on the wall was a profile silhouette of Jesus, cast by shadows from the light of the beautiful full moon upon my clothes! We have never been able to duplicate that phenomenon since. We just looked at it and cried. I believe it was in that moment that Linda really began to open her heart to Jesus.

The next day was Christmas, and it was the happiest time of my life. After Linda’s parents returned home, we drove all the way down to South Georgia to see my grandparents and tell them the good news, alternately laughing and crying as we drove, and still not understanding what was happening to me.

I had made the statement that I would never go to church, but the next Sunday I could hardly wait to get to the one in our area that I had seen and thought was so pretty. It was Hickory Flat United Methodist Church, whose pastor at that time was Rev. Dean Kring. We arrived long before Sunday school was to begin, and had to wait. After that we attended every service. Linda admitted later that she was ready to quit after a few services but didn’t because she was so delighted with the change that had occurred in my life.
Unknown to us, Linda's father had claimed all of his family for the Lord and was praying for Linda's conversion. About two months later I walked down the aisle of that little church with my wife and knelt with her at the altar rail as she openly confessed Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour and publicly accepted Him into her heart.

After that Linda and I acquired an insatiable hunger for God's Word and for a closer walk with our Lord. Because of this, we became more aware of the

It was Christmas Eve... and on the wall shadows cast a striking profile

glowing face of our church's red-headed pianist, Willie Jean Bailey, who smiled all the time and seemed to possess "something" that was different. Ultimately, through personal fellowship with Willie Jean, Linda received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The change in her was so noticeable, it was as if she had been born again, again!

Oddly enough, rather than rejoicing with her over this turn of events, I resented it, jealous in that having accepted Jesus first, I naturally thought that I should also have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit first.

In discussing my feelings with Jim one day, he reminded me that jealousy was of Satan and that if we rebuked him he would flee. We were so excited with our new lives that it never occurred to us to doubt this Scriptural admonition, and as Jim laid his hands on me and rebuked Satan in the name of Jesus, the jealousy did flee!

A few nights later Linda sort of tricked me into going to a charismatic prayer meeting with her at the home of a friend. During the course of the evening I was somehow steered to a chair in the middle of the room, and several people began praying for me to receive the Baptism. I rebelled because I guess I either wasn't ready or didn't quite understand. Therefore, I didn't gain any pleasure or blessing out of the meeting.

Upon our arrival home that evening, Linda asked me very sweetly if she could pray for me. I simply couldn't refuse her because she asked me in such love. When we knelt to pray she asked God to fill me with His Holy Spirit. I didn't feel anything at the time and we went on to bed. The next morning as I was shaving while getting ready for church, I was praising the Lord in song when I suddenly realized that I was singing in a language I did not know, filled with His Spirit.

Many things have happened to me since that time. I am learning constantly and God is moving in my life in a very real way. I have been privileged to give my testimony in various churches, and countless blessings have come to me from my jail ministry. I am also enabled to serve my Lord as secretary-treasurer of the new Full Gospel Business Men's chapter in Canton, Georgia.

Now I know what 2 Corinthians 5:17 means, for thank God, I am a "new creature" in Him. Praise the Lord!
Dateline: World Report

Second European Conference
a Dynamic Outpouring
of God's Holy Spirit

DEMOS SHAKARIAN reported on his return from the Second European Continental Conference that the four-convention series was the "most dynamic and explosive outpouring of God's Holy Spirit I've yet witnessed in Europe."

Demos further described the mood of this unusual conference: "Everyone was set on fire for God and European men saw these conferences as a new beginning for unprecedented witness for Jesus Christ to Europe from Europe."

This Second European Conference was a unique series of meetings held consecutively in Brussels, Belgium, September 13; Glasgow, Scotland, September 16; London, England, September 19 and Paris, France, September 23, 24.
Each conference was attended by 600–700 people, and the Glasgow and Brussels conferences raised the funds for their budget the very first day of their meeting.

"There was a powerful anointing in every meeting and the messages spoke particularly to the hearts of the European men," Demos reported.

As a direct result of these meetings, twelve or more new chapters will be started in Scotland and at least ten in France with many more scattered throughout Europe. To date—prior to and since the first European Conference last year—200 chapters have been chartered and many more are in application for membership.

This represents a present membership in Europe of several thousands of people representing forty-three countries. VOICE magazine and other Fellowship publications now appear in ten languages.

The United States delegation numbered over thirty people, including key members Demos and Rose Shakarian; Executive Vice Presidents Blaine Amburgy and Norman Norwood; International Director Don Ostrom; and Bob Harrison, Southern California auto dealer. Many U.S. delegates were accompanied by their wives, and some took their families to the European Conference.

Among the convention speakers were Demos Shakarian, Founder/President of FGBMFI; Fenton Jones, London insurance executive and chairman of the London Conference; Fred Ladenius, editor of European editions of VOICE magazine; and John Wright, merchant banker and chapter president in Preston, England.

Convention co-chairman were Fred Ladenius, Steve Lightle (European Chapter Coordinator, Brussels office) and Blaine Amburgy.
OTHER AND I were on a trip to New Orleans, Louisiana, where she was to have tests made by a physician in a private clinic there. Upon arriving at 10:00 p.m. we were met at the airport by a man named Jack, who had recently experienced conversion to Jesus Christ. He was excited about it and we immediately became engaged in a lively conversation as we got in his car and headed for the clinic.

Jack was new to the city of New Orleans and knew only one route between the airport and clinic. Because of our conversation we missed the turn he should have taken, and thus began to drive around the city trying to find our way. The clinic is relatively small and not well known about twenty miles out of the city. Therefore, although we even asked directions from a taxi driver and a policeman we could not find anyone at that hour of the night who knew of the location of the clinic.

After riding for some two hours in and around the city of New Orleans, we found ourselves on an expressway. Sensing the anointing of the Holy Spirit, I said, “Jack, the Lord can lead us to where we want to go!” Jack and my mother agreed.

I was led to extend my right arm to the front. We were approaching a “Y” in the road and without any effort on my part my hand moved to the left. I said, “Jack, take the left.” We turned into the left lane of the expressway. As we continued, and with my arm still extended, my hand moved to the left again and I advised Jack to turn in that direction, but he replied, “There’s no way to turn, there is a dividing rail between lanes.”

Just then a gap appeared where the railing was missing and Jack turned left into the lane heading in the opposite direction. Continuing on, we approached another “Y” in the road. My hand moved right, and I said, “Jack, take a right.” We entered the right lane and drove for about one-fourth mile when suddenly Jack said, “Jim, you can sit back and relax: I recognize where we are and we’ll be there very soon.”

We arrived at the clinic a short time later, having been literally guided to our destination by the Holy Spirit!
I was born in Japan. My family religion was Buddhism, but though I received its share of influence in a cultural-traditional sense, I considered myself somewhat of an agnostic. Because my family placed a great importance in intellectual achievements—my father was a medical doctor and my brother is a professor of physics and mathematics—I was too “sophisticated” for religion.

I came to the United States under a foreign students' scholarship program and lived in a dormitory where I met a number of Christian girls who invited me to their churches. The different denominations and doctrines confused me, however, and I decided not to attend any of them.

Jerry Hormann was among the men who dated me at college and a year after we met we were married by a Baptist minister. I went on to get a master’s degree in mathematics and then worked toward a PhD while employed as a mathematician at the Westinghouse Research Laboratories. We came to California later where I worked as a senior research scientist and began publishing articles in scientific journals in the fields of computer science, artificial intelligence, management science, on-line planning and problem solving, simulation and computer graphics. Since then my biographical data has been appearing in Who’s Who in the United States, Who’s Who in the West, Who’s Who of American Women, Who’s Who in Computers, The World Who’s Who of Women, and the international Two Thousand Women of Achievement. Twice I was asked to

This is the story of a Japanese Buddhist who literally experienced a million dollar financial miracle, of how he was subsequently saved and healed through the prayers and letters of his once agnostic “niece”—and of VOICE magazine’s pivotal role in the battle between darkness and light!
participate in NATO conferences (Scientific Affairs Division), one of which I was able to accept. In the midst of all these, I was miserable and somehow knew that I couldn’t use my credentials to come before God.

During this time Jerry was also advancing in the insurance business. Although we both were considered “successful” in our fields, our home life became empty and we were drifting apart. We both knew we needed something more than money and prestige for our happiness and fulfillment, but we really didn’t know what it was that we needed.

Partly because of the restlessness I felt and also from curiosity, I began studying ESP, the science of mind, etc., and became aware of my mental-spiritual realm which seemed to function beyond my physical senses and intellectual thought processes. I considered myself to be on the verge of an important discovery, but each time I reached out to what I thought was the answer, it proved to be a disappointment. This kind of frustration continued for more than ten years.

Then one day in 1969 I read a book that explained God’s plan of salvation, not by self effort but through Jesus Christ; and that everything He promised can become reality in my life if I accept Him. My initial reaction was, “Only the ignorant and the superstitious—and probably the desperate—would buy that sort of thing because it is too simple and too good to be true.” But I found myself going back to the book with the nagging question, “What if this book contains some truth?” Jerry and I discussed the subject, then decided to read other Christian literature and listen to Christian radio and TV programs.

One Sunday morning in 1970, as we were taking a drive, I turned the car radio on quite “by chance” to the
broadcast emanating from Christ Church in Los Angeles. We heard the pastor, Rev. John Hinkle, deliver a moving sermon on the love of God and what Jesus did for us, and we made it a point to listen to him every Sunday from then on. Although we didn’t attend the church until much later, our resistance was gradually diminishing and our hunger increased. Jesus was knocking at the door of my heart, but despite my emptiness I continued to resist Him because of my pride and self-sufficiency.

Around Christmas 1971, we “somehow” began receiving the Full Gospel Business Men’s VOICE magazine. God’s timing was perfect, for we were then eager to read every issue from cover to cover. Each testimony in the magazine described the total fulfillment in Jesus with joy and peace unspeakable. The feeling that “I must be missing out on something vitally important” became stronger.

Then came the March 1972 issue of VOICE which featured George Otis, Dr. Douglas Roberts and Rev. John Hinkle. These were not “religious fanatics” but three highly intelligent, successful and respected men, all talking about knowing God in a very personal way. I finally said to myself, “Even supposing such descriptions might have been exaggerated because of emotionalism, and supposing only ten percent of the whole thing is true, I would want that ten percent.”

God’s Holy Spirit was dealing with Jerry also because he and I came to the same conclusion at the same time. Consequently we asked Jesus to come into our hearts and made Him our Lord and Saviour on March 30, 1972 at Christ Church. Rev. Hinkle prayed for us that we might also receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which we did at that time by faith.

Desiring all that God had for us, we
And in my living conditions. Jerry and I agreed to send him a certain sum of money every month, a promise which relieved him from the despair. We sent the money every month for the next six years. At that time I, still an agnostic, thought the promise would have to be for an indefinite duration—as long as he lived.

In January 1973, while praying for Ikumaro, I received a definite prompting from the Holy Spirit to write a very unusual letter to him. Here is part of what I wrote:

"Every word of this letter is anointed by God in the name of Jesus, so read it carefully and then place the letter in your pillowcase and sleep on it. God will touch your heart and He will help you release your deep hurt and bitterness. Just be willing to forgive. God will help you forgive those people who cheated you and He will set you free. Start blessing those people instead of hating them. Only then can you allow

"Your mother cried hysterically,

stronger feelings and physical sensations. He said that a kind of pressure and tingling started at the top of his head and the middle of his forehead, then spread to the rest of his body. Hearing him describe it, I became envious but then reminded myself that the Lord deals with each of us uniquely.

After we were born again I became very concerned about the spiritual welfare of Ikumaro Koketsu, a man whom I have called "uncle" for so long that I consider him my real uncle, and whom we had visited in Japan in 1967. He had been a millionaire until 1960 when a trusted friend involved him in a deceptive business scheme and caused him to lose most of his money. My uncle was so shocked and embittered that he became ill. Every part of his body seemed affected, causing him to suffer from diabetes, kidney infection, high blood pressure, numbness of limbs, fainting spells, bursitis, skin rash and eruptions, and insomnia. Because of having to
God's healing power to flow through you. God will heal your mind, body, soul and your finances."

Shortly after this a reply came from my uncle. The following is an excerpt of his letter:

"I read your letter over and over. Toward evening I noticed that the heavy feelings I have had for so many years were being lifted, and I said, 'Yes, I am willing to forgive.' I placed your letter in the pillowcase as you told me to exchanged, he told me not to write about Jesus any more, saying that I was a disgrace to my family and to the whole Japanese race for forsaking the family religion. (Buddhism is basically ancestor worship, so renouncing Buddhism implies renouncing all my Japanese ancestors.) He even wrote, "I talked to your mother about your religion and she cried hysterically, saying her daughter is dead. If anything happens to her, you would be responsible."

do and went to bed that night.

"The following morning, I woke up wonderfully refreshed, realizing that I slept many hours straight for the first time in many years. While I was having my breakfast that morning a man came to the door. It was the man who cheated me ten years ago. He promised to pay me back the money I lost in several installments and his first check made out to me was for $60,000!"

From this time in 1973 until 1975 I continued writing to Ikumaro about the Lord. Even though there had been a million dollar miracle in his life his resistance to Jesus was unbelievably strong. Only those who understand Buddhism can grasp the tremendous block created by a long-standing satanic influence. He said there was an inner voice that kept whispering to him, "If you accept Jesus it will be the end of your life—there will be no chance for a next incarnation."

Finally, after many letters had been

If I myself could come to you, I would be prepared to commit hara-kiri before you to show to the world what you have done."

Jerry and I took the authority over satanic forces influencing my uncle, claimed his deliverance, agreed on his salvation and committed the entire matter to our heavenly Father. I then wrote to him, "I will not mention Jesus' name again—in fact, I won't need to; I have released you into God's hands. From now on, the matter is between you and God."

Not more than two months later Ikumaro wrote and told me that he had prayed the sinner's prayer—a prayer I had sent to him many months earlier. He said that all of a sudden he understood the substitutionary suffering and death of Jesus for him personally. He then reread my earlier letters of the past two and a half years, and wondered why he had resisted Jesus for so long. The work of the Holy Spirit is sure when
we give Him the right of way!

Since then my uncle has received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and now at seventy-three he is taking Bible correspondence courses.

There have been many miracles in Ikumaro Koketsu’s life since he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. He is now free of a diabetic condition, kidney trouble, bursitis, high blood pressure, chronic skin condition, dizziness and a flattened blood vessel on his hip which made it painful for him to walk. He now enjoys a long walk each day. He is also free from resentment and anger toward many people who wronged him in the past. He witnesses to everyone he meets, including his own doctors, all of whom are amazed at his healing.

My uncle regained his wealth, and we call it a million dollar miracle. But a far greater miracle is that he has found Jesus Christ as his Saviour, Baptizer and Healer, and is now looking forward to spending eternity in His presence. ■

SIX SCRIPTURAL STEPS TO SALVATION

Men still cry, “What must I do to be saved?” The Bible provides a clear answer.

1. **ACKNOWLEDGE:** “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).

2. **REPEND:** “Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3. **CONFESS:** “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Romans 10:9).

4. **FORSAKE:** “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord... for he will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 55:7).

5. **BELIEVE:** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16).

6. **RECEIVE:** “He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” (John 1:11,12).

**Why not make your eternal decision right now:** “I am convinced by God’s Word that I am a lost sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died for sinners and shed His blood to put away my sins. I NOW receive Him as my personal Lord and Saviour and will by His help, confess Him before men.”

When you have made this greatest of all decisions, please let us know so that we may send you a booklet, NOW THAT YOU’VE RECEIVED CHRIST.

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YOU HAVE been suspended.” The words echoed in my mind as I re-read the letter just received from the University of California at Berkeley. I was enrolled as a freshman and had completed two quarters with a B average when I hit a police officer in a campus riot, was charged with felonious assault, and promptly suspended by the university.

My mind was flooded with remembrances of my childhood in Grand Island, Nebraska. My parents had sacrificed to give me twelve years of parochial education in Catholic schools. I graduated second in my class, never missing the honor roll, and it was my mother’s dream that I should receive a college education, although it meant a hardship for them.

Although brought up in a strict Catholic faith, at the age of sixteen I bought a car and began running with a crowd that smoked, drank and chased girls. I completely rejected my upbringing in the Catholic Church, even to the point of arguing in religion class that there was no God. I rebelled against my parents and against God.

Surprisingly, I maintained a high scholastic average. After completing my junior year, I was given an opportunity for six weeks during the summer to study in Andover, Massachusetts at an exclusive boy’s academy. I accepted, not to further my education but in the knowledge that I would find hippies and drugs there. When I returned home at the end of the six weeks, I brought with me drugs and the knowledge of how to use them and where to obtain more.

During my senior year of high school I smoked marijuana as often as possible. In looking for a college to attend, I wanted to get as far from home as possible. After being accepted by several universities, I chose the Berkeley campus of the University of California. Once there, I proceeded to get involved as deeply as possible, using every drug obtainable including hash, LSD, mescaline and speed, and even...
OURS WAS a staunch Roman Catholic home. In raising our four children my wife and I agreed to send them to Catholic schools to further enhance a strong Christian influence in their lives. I believe that the Catholic parochial education my children received was the finest, most disciplined, Christian oriented teaching in America. We wanted our only son David to have a college education and he chose the University of California at Berkeley.

In March of his first year at Berkeley I received a phone call from David stating that he had been in a campus riot, arrested and charged with a felony for hitting a policeman with a rock. I lost my temper and told him he would get no help from me.

My bitterness and anger then was directed toward God, and at night I would pray and ask why He had allowed this to happen to me. Didn’t I tithe? Didn’t I go to church each Wednesday morning at 5:00 o’clock to pray and meditate for an hour? Didn’t I go to Mass regularly?

My anger finally led to a decision to quit attending Mass. But three days after I had talked with our son, God filled my heart with compassion, and following a discussion with my wife concerning what we might do to help him, it was decided that we would drive to Berkeley and show our parental love if nothing else.

The first night there ended in a heated argument over Christianity versus atheism. After consulting with a lawyer and visiting with a sister who lived near the area we returned to our home in Grand Island, Nebraska.

The following week I told a friend about the trouble our son was in, complaining that God really didn’t hear my prayers and that I intended to leave the Catholic Church. He told me what I needed was the power of the Holy Spirit and invited me to a Catholic charismatic prayer meeting. After some discussion he admitted that some members of the group prayed in an unknown tongue. “How strange for Catholics to
tually began selling them.

During my student days I grew increasingly active in the anti-war movement, participating in marches and demonstrations and finally becoming involved in the aforementioned riot. My ungodly living had at last caught up with me. My dreams and the dreams of my parents were shattered as my brief stay at college was ended abruptly. I had no choice but to return home.

There is a striking parallel between my life and the story of The Prodigal Son. I too had taken everything my parents had to offer, left for the far country and squandered all that I had—my money, my life, my intelligence and my college education. And now I was returning home, a long-haired hippie bound by all manner of evil. My father and I were not immediately reconciled, but within nine months after my return I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, and through the power of the Holy Spirit was accordingly reconciled with both my father and my Lord.

I was saved as I knelt in my parents’ living room. I had called my sister Rose and asked her to pray that I wouldn’t be drafted into military service. This was the chance she had been waiting for, and she invited me to come over for prayer. Meanwhile, she called some of her friends and they were all waiting when Barb and I arrived. As Rose and the others prayed, I became convicted of my sins and accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of my life. At that, my sisters Rose and Dora and their friends began harmoniously singing in tongues.

The first two years of my Christian life were spent with little spiritual growth. Barb was saved shortly after I, but both of us stubbornly hung onto our bad habits. Finally the Lord sent a dear Christian couple to minister to us. They spent much time telling us how to live a victorious life. We began reading our Bibles daily and the Lord dealt with us through His Word. I was able to quit smoking. Then, convicted about working in a nightclub, where Barb was a waitress and I was the kitchen manager, we both resigned our positions, believing that God had something better for us.

A good job I had lined up did not materialize, but Barb and I made it a matter of serious prayer and in two weeks that job did materialize. As an added bonus, Barb got a good job with the same company. Faith had paid a rich reward.

**VIEWER'S VIEWPOINT**

The FGBMFI GOOD NEWS program on TV last Sunday really blessed my heart. How I appreciate the broadcasting of businessmen's testimonies to show the world that the reality and power of Jesus Christ is not limited to the religious professionals. In fact, it is often missing from the lives of the clergy who have been educated out of it. I would like to see more testimonies from men involved in the rugged construction industry, since my husband, a roofing contractor, watches your show.

*Mrs. J.H., Brooksville, FL*
Almost Prodigal Father
continued from page 21

act in this manner,” I thought, but desiring to find out more about the Holy Spirit I attended one of the prayer sessions. What an odd group of people! They sat in a circle and raised their voices and hands in praise to God, actually singing hymns of thanksgiving for answered prayers. Recalling that this was the way some Pentecostal friends of ours prayed, I wondered, did the freedom that came with Vatican II really allow us to pray like Protestants?

I continued attending these prayer meetings, hungering for the power of the Holy Spirit in my life, and one night asked for prayer. A young priest laid his hands on my head and prayed that God would release the Spirit within me. I expected exciting things to happen, but nothing did. Upon returning home, I determined to study my Bible more diligently, and when I did it was as if scales had been removed from my eyes so that I could understand God’s Word.

The next day, reading the Bible during lunch, I began to cry and a warm feeling came over me, bringing with it a great sense of peace and happiness. It was so noticeable that my wife asked if I had gotten a raise in pay.

This experience caused me to begin praying for our son who was now back in town but because of a poor father-son relationship was living away from home. Six months later I was still praying for him, knowing that God would answer in His own time.

Meanwhile, I had managed to turn off the rest of the family, who thought I had really “gone overboard” on religion. Not only did I attend Mass more devoutly but I continually talked about people who prayed in tongues and gave thanks to God for answered prayer. But I wasn’t alone for long. Shortly after, our oldest daughter Rose returned home from a three-day retreat singing and speaking in tongues. “Dad, now I know what you are talking about,” she exclaimed.

About this time I read a book on fasting and discussed with my wife the possibility of fasting and praying for our son. She agreed and also our daughters Rose and Dora joined us. On the fifth day of the fast our son repented and came back to God, and six weeks later he was baptized with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Later that summer, his wife surrendered her life to Jesus Christ as did my wife and our youngest daughter.

During the second summer of my walk with Jesus a chapter of the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship was founded in Grand Island. I became a charter member and was elected vice president and later president. My son and I share our testimony in chapter meetings across the state at every opportunity. As our family ministers in song, Dave and I tell how the Lord brought us all together by saving us, filling us with His Holy Spirit—and removing the generation gap with His love!
“GOOD NEWS” TV SCHEDULE

UNITED STATES

ALASKA:
Fairbanks, KFAR, Ch. 2, Sat., 5:30 pm
Juneau, KINY, Ch. 8, Sat., 6:00 pm
Ketchikan, KATV, Ch. 2, Tues., 7:30 pm

CALIFORNIA:
Chico, KHSL, Ch. 12, Sun., 7:00 am
Modesto, KLOC, Ch. 19, Sun., 7:00 am
Los Angeles, KLXA, Ch. 40, Tues., 8:30 pm
Sacramento, KTXL, Ch. 40, Sun., 11:30 pm
Salinas, KSBW, Ch. 8, Sun., 12 Midnight
Santa Barbara, Cable, Ch. 2, Thurs., 9:00 pm

COLORADO:
Colorado Springs, Cable, Ch. 3, Fri., 7:00 pm

FLORIDA:
Ft. Lauderdale, WHFT, Ch. 45, Wed., 8:00 pm
Ft. Myers, WEVU, Ch. 26, Sun., 10:30 am
Jacksonville, WTLV, Ch. 12, Sun., 12 Midnight
St. Petersburg, WTVT, Ch. 13, Sun., 7:30 am
Stuart, Cable, Ch. 3, Sun., 9:00 am

GEORGIA:
Atlanta, WHAE, Ch. 46, Mon., 10:30 pm
Brunswick, Cable, Ch. 6, Mon., 8:30 pm
Macon, WMAZ, Ch. 13, Sun., 7:00 am
Tifton, Cable, Ch. 7, Fri., 10:00 pm
West Point, Cable, Ch. 6, Mon., 7:00 pm & Tues., 10:00 am

IDAHO:
Boise, KBCI, Ch. 2, Sun., 11:00 am
Twin Falls (Christian Broadcasting), Wed., 8:00 pm

ILLINOIS:
Champaign, WICD, Ch. 15, Sun., 8:00 am
Chicago, WCFC, Ch. 38, Fri., 8:30 pm Tues., 10:00 pm
Decatur, WAND, Ch. 17, Sun., 10:30 am

INDIANA:
Evansville, WEHT, Ch. 25, Sun., 9:00 am
Ft. Wayne, WKJG, Ch. 33, Sun., 9:00 am
South Bend, WHME, Ch. 46, Sat., 10 pm & Sun., 9:30 am

IOWA:
Davenport, WQAD, Ch. 8, Sun., 8:30 am

KANSAS:
Beloit, Ch. 6, Thurs., 6:00 pm
Concordia, Ch. 6, Mon., 6:00 pm
Downs, Ch. 6, Sat., 6:00 pm

KENTUCKY:
Lexington, WTVQ, Ch. 62, Sun., (every 2nd week)

LOUISIANA:
Monroe, KLAA, Ch. 14, Sun., 9:00 am

MAINE:
Bangor, WIVI, Ch. 7, Sat., 7:00 pm

MICHIGAN:
Hancock, WGN, Ch. 4, Mon., 8:30 pm

MINNESOTA:
Alexandria, KCMT, Ch. 7, Sun., 10:00 am
Walker, KNMT, Ch. 12, Sun., 10:00 am

MISSISSIPPI:
Jackson, WAPT, Ch. 16, Mon., 7:00 pm

MISSOURI:
Cape Girardeau, KFVS, Ch. 12, Sat., 1:00 pm
St. Louis, KSDK, Ch. 30, Sat., 11:30 pm

NEBRASKA:
Kearney, KHGI, Ch. 13, Sat., 6:00 pm

NEW JERSEY:
Ramapo-Passaic City, WBTB, Ch. 68, Sat., 10:30 am

NEW MEXICO:
Albuquerque, KGGM, Ch. 13, Sun., 10:00 am

NEW YORK:
New York City, WPIX, Ch. 11, Fri., 1:30 am
Rochester, WROC, Ch. 8, Varied Times
Syracuse, WSYR, Ch. 3, Sun., 7:30 am

NORTH CAROLINA:
Charlotte, WRET, Ch. 36, Sun., 8:00 pm
Greensboro, WFMY, Ch. 2, Sun., 11:00 am
Washington, WITN, Ch. 7, Sun., 11:00 pm
Wilmington, WECT, Ch. 6, Sun., 10:00 am
Raleigh, WRAL, Ch. 5, Sun., 9:30 am
(Note: GOOD NEWS can be seen via cable in areas of North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia that carry WRET, Channel 36, Charlotte, N.C. programming. Please check your local cable station listings.)

OHIO:
Canton, WJAN, Ch. 17, Tues., 8:00 pm & Sun., 11:00 pm
Dayton, WKEF, Ch. 22, Varied Times
Findlay (Kirby), Cable, Ch. 3, Mon., 6:00 pm
Lancaster, WLIO, Ch. 35, Thurs., 9:00 pm
St. Louis, WTVT, Ch. 9, Sun., 12:30 pm
Toledo, WHDO, Ch. 24, Sun., 2:00 pm
Youngstown, WFMJ, Ch. 21, Sun., 11:30 am
OREGON:
Medford, KTVL, Ch. 10, Sun., 9:30 am
Portland, KPTV, Ch. 12, Sun., 11:30 am

PENNSYLVANIA:
Lebanon, WLYH, Ch. 15, Sat., 1:30 pm
York, WSBA, Ch. 43, Sat., 1:30 pm

SOUTH CAROLINA:
Charleston, WCBD, Ch. 3, Sun., 11:00 pm

TENNESSEE:
Chattanooga, WRCB, Ch. 3, Sun., 11:00 pm
Nashville, WZTV, Ch. 17, Sun., 8:30 am and Sun., 8:30 pm

TEXAS:
Amarillo, KFDA, Ch. 10, Sun., 10:00 am
El Paso, Cable, Ch. 8, Fri., 7:00 pm
Houston, KHTV, Ch. 39, Sun., 10:30 pm
Midland (Andrews), KMID, Ch. 2, Sun., 9:30 am

VIRGINIA:
Harrisonburg, WHSV, Ch. 3, Sat., 6:30 pm
Lynchburg, WLVA, Ch. 13, Sun., 11:30 am
Norfolk (Portsmouth), WYAH, Ch. 27, Sun., 2:30 pm

WASHINGTON:
Seattle, KSTW, Ch. 11, Sun., 9:00 am
Spokane, Cable, Ch. 9, Tues., 9:00 pm and Fri., 6:30 pm
Spokane, KHQ, Ch. 6, Varied Times
Yakima, KIMA, Ch. 29, Sat., Varied Times

WISCONSIN:
Green Bay, WBAY, Ch. 2, Sun., 8:00 am
Milwaukee, WITV, Ch. 18, Sun., 10:00 pm

ALBERTA:
Edmonton, CITV, Ch. 13, Sun., 9:00 am

BRITISH COLUMBIA:
Kelowna, CHBC, Ch. 2, Sun., 11:30 pm
Vancouver, CHAN, Ch. 8, Sun., 12 Noon
CHAN-TV, Ch. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13,
Sun. 12 noon or 43 stations. (Check for channel
featuring program in your area.)
CHBC/CFJC-TV, Ch. 2-13, 72 (55 stations) Sun.
11:30 p.m. (Check for channel featuring program in
your area.)

ONTARIO:
Sault Ste. Marie, CJIC, Ch. 2, Sun., 9:30 am
Thunder Bay, CHFD, Ch. 4, Sun., 2:00 pm

SASKATCHEWAN:
Regina, CKCK, Ch. 2, Sun.
Saskatoon, CFQC, Ch. 8, Sun., 11:00 am
Stramaer, Ch. 3, Sun., 11:00 am

Battleford, Ch. 6, Sun., 11:00 am
Star City, Ch. 2, Sun., 11:00 am
Lloydminster, CKSA, Thurs., 9:30 pm & Sat., 6 pm
Prince Albert, CKBI, Sat., 9:30 pm & Sun. 4 pm

AUSTRALIA
Sydney, NSW, TCN-9, Sun., 7:00 am

FGBMF1 RADIO LOG

Los Angeles, CA, KFSG, 96.3, 9:00 pm, Sat.
Los Angeles, CA, KGER, 1390, 8:30 am, Sat.
Monterrey, MEX, XEG, 1050, 10:00 pm, Sun.
Jasper, AL, WWLB, 1360, 11:15 am, Sat.
Tuscaloosa, AL, WNPT (see local listing for time), Sun.
Fairbanks, AK, KNJ, 1170, 4:30 pm, Sat.
Chico, CA, KPAY, 1060 AM, 95.1 FM, 9:30 pm, Sun.
Lakeport, CA, KBLC, 1270, 8:30 am, Sun.
Alamoso, CO, KSLV, 9:30 pm, Sun.
Denver, CO, KAAT, 1090, 3:30 pm, Thurs.
Merritt Island, FL, WWBC, 10:00 pm, Wed.
Cochran, GA, WVMG, 96.7 FM, 10:00 pm, Wed.
Kailua, HI, KLEI, 9:00 am, Sun.
Cairo, IL, WKRO, 1490, 2:30 pm, Sat.
Rockford, IL, WQFL-FM, 100.9, 11:00 am, Sat.
Ulysses, KS, KULY, 1420, 9:00 am, Sat.
Lexington, KY, WJMM-FM, 100.0, 8:30 am, Sun.
Willmar, MN, KPMO, (see local listing for time), Sun.
St. Louis, MO, KKXN, 4:45 pm, Mon.-Fri.
Syracuse, NY, WYRD, 1540, 12:30 pm, Sat.
Haysville, NC, WKRR, 1320, 11:30 am, Sat.
Wilmington, NC, WPJC, 7:00 pm, Sun.
Columbus, OH, WCVF-FM, 104.9, 2:00 pm, Sat.
Waverly, OH, WIBO, 100.9, 6:30 pm, Sun.
Ponca City, OK, KKLOR, 99.3, 9:00 am, Sun.
Woodward, OK, KSWK-FM, 93.5, 4:00 pm, Wed.
Providencia, RI, WARV, 1590, 10:15 am, Sat.
South Hill, VA, WJWS, 1370, 9:00 am, Sat.
Clarksville, WV, WRGT, 106, 5:30 pm, Fri.
Wheeling, WV, WOMP-AM, 1290, WOMP-FM, 100.5,
11:00 am, Fri.
The Greatest Gift

by DEMOS SHAKARIAN

International President, Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship

As the end of 1977 approaches, I cannot close the book upon it without expressing to every member of the FGBMFI, and to our great VOICE family, my love and deep appreciation for your work, your unselfish giving of both time and means, and most especially for your prayers that have ascended to the throne of God, not only for the Fellowship and its God-given mission, but for strength and wisdom for its leaders. Both Rose and I are so very conscious of the uplifting and sustaining power of your prayers in our behalf for health and strength. May God richly bless you every one!

As our thoughts turn to Christmas, I urge that we plan to celebrate it, not just in a material sense, but with prayer and thanksgiving, remembering the greatest gift ever given since the beginning of time: Jesus Christ our Saviour, the Son of God who came to this earth to purchase our salvation and to give “good gifts unto men.”

Born in Bethlehem, even as the prophets had foretold, His cradle a manger, He was unheralded except by the angelic choir and only the humble shepherds came to that lowly stable to welcome Him. Herod sought to destroy Him in His infancy. As a youth He labored unnoticed in the carpenter shop in Nazareth.

Yet this same Jesus was with the Father from the beginning—before the earth was formed or the stars and planets were flung whirling into space. He was the Messiah promised from the instant sin entered the Garden of Eden. This same Jesus walked the shores of Galilee, trod the Judean hills, performed miracles, opened blind eyes and deaf ears, caused the lame to walk, cleansed the lepers, preached the Gospel of the kingdom, stood before the sealed tomb of Lazarus and commanded: “Lazarus, come forth!”

Who but Almighty God could speak with such authority? He was very God incarnate walking this earth in human form. He suffered hunger, cold, physical weariness, temptation. He labored through the hours of tortured prayer in Gethsemane when the human body that contained His spirit was convulsed
at the thought of the pain, ignominy and death He must suffer. Perspiration as it were drops of blood stood upon His brow as He made the final dedication: "Nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." Though sinless, He endured the stripes, the jeering, the ridicule. He did not resist when they nailed Him to the cross. He only prayed for them!

Because "God so loved the world . . ." He suffered all the pain, the unjust accusations, bitterness, misunderstanding and abuse that wicked men could heap upon Him. Not as God, but as the Son of Man He shared all the misery, agony, loneliness and humiliation of being deserted by friends, that you or I might ever experience. Yet greater was His suffering than ours could ever be because He knew who He was, from whence He came, and that all power was His. He could have summoned ten thousand angels to His side, yet He willingly suffered alone.

Why? Because of His boundless love for mankind—a love so great that only God could understand—so great it encompassed all of hopeless humanity facing destruction for its sinfulness—so great that He died in our stead, the just for the unjust. Because He is a God of love, slow to anger, wonderfully patient, and because He knows our weaknesses and our frailty, He deals gently, lovingly, pleadingly with us, seeking the only thing He asks in return—our love.

Could any earthly king or ruler give so great a gift? Could any amount of gold or earthly power lift fallen man from the mire and make of him a son of God, a citizen of heaven, a joint-heir with Jesus Christ? Yes these are the gifts the Christ of Christmas has purchased for every man, woman and child in the world.

As we plan gifts for our children, family, and friends this Yuletide, and endeavor to choose the thing they most desire, let us consider what our gift will be to Him whose memory-day we celebrate. He does not ask for gold, frankincense, or myrrh. The only gift He pleads for is our love. Let's give Him all of it!

Rose and the family join me in wishing you and yours God's choicest blessings at this Christmas time and the whole year through.
God's Christmas Message

by FR. EVERETT FULLAM

GOD IS A GOD who speaks. He is not a silent, uncaring God who has left Himself to the imaginations of men and their vain philosophical speculations. Rather, He is a God who has spoken to us, a God who has addressed us, a God who has revealed Himself to us from the silence of eternity.

The Bible is the story of how God progressively revealed Himself to the human race. It’s not the story of men seeking God at all, but of God seeking men. Gradually, as we move through the Scriptures, the Lord reveals more and more of His nature and of His will for mankind. In the Old Testament days God spoke through His representatives, the prophets. But now He speaks to us through His very own Son, Jesus Christ. Hebrews 1:1–2 says, “In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by His Son. . .”

Over 1900 years ago Jesus was God’s first Christmas message to mankind. This Christmas Jesus Christ is still the message to the world of the God who speaks. To fully understand God’s message, we need to go back to that most beautiful and significant day in all of history—when Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary—and see exactly what happened.

First of all, John tells us that the eternal Christ, the very Son of God who was equal to His Father in every sense of

Fr. Everett Fullam serves on the Episcopal Charismatic Fellowship board. Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Darien, Connecticut, he also speaks and teaches throughout the country. He was for many years professor of biblical studies at Barrington College in Rhode Island. This article is a condensation of a message in our tape library.
God’s deity, became a human being so that God might be revealed to us. He calls Jesus “the Word,” and he writes, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1). “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth . . .” (v. 14). On that Christmas day long ago the God who created all things came Himself into His creation through Jesus Christ His Son. God has walked among us. That is what Jesus meant when He said, “He who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9). The God who formerly spoke through the prophets now speaks to us through the birth and life and death of His Son, Jesus Christ.

We need to fully understand the uniqueness of this fact, for this is a truth which sets Christianity apart from any other religion. Because the essence of the Christian faith is not found in the teachings of Jesus, but in the person of Jesus, Jesus did not merely speak God’s Word. He Himself was and is God’s Word. When John calls Jesus “the Word,” he is telling us that Jesus is God’s message to us and God’s way of salvation.

Secondly, in Jesus Christ we find God’s love for each and every one of us. Paul says, “God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). And John says, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Some people do not see God’s love in the world, but that is only because they do not believe in Jesus. He is God’s gift of love to the world. What more could God possibly do than to send His very own Son to die on the cross for the sins of mankind? How God’s heart must have ached when Jesus suffered and died at the hands of men!

Yet God’s love prompted Him to do no less. 1 John 4:9-10 says, “In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.” God did not send Jesus into the world because we cared about Him. If that had been the case scarcely anyone would be saved. No, God loves us—even in our sins—because we are His creation. And because God loves us He sent Jesus Christ to pay the penalty for our sins with His very own blood so that we might have eternal life. This is the meaning of Christmas.

Thirdly, Jesus came to earth not in His divinely-appointed right of royalty, but as a humble servant to serve mankind. Truly Jesus is King over all the earth, and some day we shall reign forever with Him. But when He was born in that tiny manger long ago He came as a servant, for He Himself said, “... the Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matt. 20:28).

In Philippians, Chapter Two, we find the Apostle Paul’s account of the Christmas story. There are no references to
the manger or the star of Bethlehem or the song of the angels or the visit of the wise men or the shepherds, for Paul is concerned only with the significance of Jesus’ birth. He says that Jesus left all the glories of His divinity in heaven when He “. . . emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross” (vs. 6-8). Jesus came and dwelt among us not as an earthly king, but as one who serves.

How did Jesus serve us? He served us by giving His life on the cross so that we might be forgiven of our sins and thus be reconciled to God for all eternity. Through faith in Jesus Christ, through the commitment of our lives to Him, we have peace in our hearts with God and the assurance of eternal salvation.

Jesus is God’s Christmas message to the world. This Christmas let us appreciate ever more the fact that God is a God who speaks and that He has spoken to us out of the abundance of His love through His Son, Jesus Christ. This Christmas let us “. . . rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation” (Rom. 5:11).

FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN’S CHAPTER OUTREACH

As this issue was prepared for publication, the following chapters were submitted as having been recently chartered: Hopefully, one is in YOUR area! The president’s name and telephone number are included in this list for your information.


FOREIGN: CANADA: Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, Roy Carter, (306) 236-6434; NEW ZEALAND: Hibiscus Coast, Graham Braddock.

HOW TO START A FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN’S CHAPTER

Requests come in daily to start new chapters. If you have this burden laid on your heart, and see the vision for your community, write for complete information to: Chapter Department, FGBMFI, P.O. Box 5050, Costa Mesa, California 92626.
MUCH EXCITEMENT is taking place in the Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin area of northern California, as people there claim Bible-times spiritual experiences. A food broker who had been an alcoholic a few years ago now has people gathering in his home for prayer meetings. Alcoholics emerge from these meetings testifying that they have had an encounter with Jesus and that their lives are changed. They no longer drink, and instead of cursing Jesus they praise Him. Extremely conservative church members also claim freedom from many hangups, giving praise to the Holy Spirit for their liberation. People talk of healings such as took place in Bible times.

What is so astonishing, however, is that this is only one of many similar ministries taking place among LAYMEN in this area.

There are prayer meetings in factories, FG&E yards, office buildings, and in the prison. A builder in Livermore claimed his whole work force for God and now they are all Christians. Automobiles all over the valley are displaying many religious symbols and slogans. One man is claiming his family of seven for God. His license plate reads 7 SAVED. On the rear door of his new station wagon, another man painted a cross, a dove, and the words JESUS SAVES in letters two feet high.

One of the most commendable aspects of the revival is that these people continue to attend their own churches. Those that are swept by the phenomena are of all faiths: Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Church of Christ, Pentecostal and others. When they meet for luncheons, prayer breakfasts or home meetings they exhibit complete harmony and unity in the bond of Divine love, worshipping, singing, relating their experiences in the Lord and reading the Bible together without doctrinal disputation.

These people are from all walks of life: doctors, lawyers, scientists, merchants, lineman, athletes, janitors, nurses, IRS agents, realtors, and others.

The local chapter of the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship International has served as a center for the charismatic Christians in all denominations. They hold a monthly meeting at Howard Johnson’s Restaurant in Dublin the first Monday of each month where they worship and share the great things God is doing.

Perhaps a spiritual thrust comparable to the one in the Livermore area is even now being manifested in similar communities around the world and we simply are not cognizant of it. Be that as it may, these are encouraging signs.

DECEMBER 1977
Witnessing for Christ has a way of becoming a chain reaction type of thing. Take the case of Bud Deaton of Lake Charles, Louisiana. Deaton told his story in the May 1975 issue of VOICE under the title, "Point of No Return?" His testimony tells how while he was attending an Alcoholics Anonymous convention at the Capitol House Hotel in Baton Rouge on July 16, 1972 he found a July copy of VOICE magazine containing the story of a Navy fighter pilot, Lt. Comdr. Bob Wright, who wrote of his personal confrontation with Jesus Christ. Being a former Air Force ace in World War II, Deaton read the story with interest and then came to the page containing the "Six Scriptural Steps to Salvation." After reading them he decided to take those steps and prayed the sinner's prayer. Since that day he has experienced a marvelous life as a new creation in Christ Jesus.

VOICE carried a sequel to the above story in the February 1976 issue entitled, "To God be the Glory." Here we start to see the chain reaction of witnessing take place. Eighty-six year-old Hunter Moles of Baton Rouge is not only a member of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, but also an active Gideon. While attending a Gideon camp prayer breakfast at the Capitol House Hotel in July of 1972, he left several copies of the July VOICE in the hotel lobby.

Nearly three years later, when Hunter Moles received his May 1975 VOICE, he realized Bud Deaton had been led to the Lord through a copy of VOICE that Moles had placed in the hotel lobby. The two men got in touch and Deaton drove 150 miles to Baton Rouge to see Moles and personally thank him for his faithfulness in distributing literature that would lead men to Christ.

In March 1976, Hunter Moles wrote the following letter to the editor of VOICE:

"Dear Dr. Becker, here is a report of the results I have personally seen as an aftermath of the article printed in the February 1976 issue about Major Bud... please turn to page 34
It all began with the publication of Lt. Comdr. Bob Wright's testimony in **VOICE**, July 1972. To this was added Major Bud Deaton's story in **May 1975**, and Hunter Mole's story in **February 1976**. But the end is not yet . . .
I’m a 100% disabled veteran and am in jail on charges that I didn’t commit. After reading your testimony I read the ‘Six Scriptural Steps to Salvation’ in VOICE and I open-heartedly accepted Jesus as my personal Saviour, prayed the sinner’s prayer and signed my name confirming my decision. Praise the Lord!” The letter was signed, Hubert Gallien.

On November 23 Gallien again wrote Deaton: “I really enjoyed the Bible lesson you sent me. I hope you will bring or send me another lesson as soon as possible. I hope you had a wonderful time at the FGBMFI convention that was here. I’ll be glad when I get out so that I’ll be able to attend my first meeting. Your dear brother, Hubert.”

On December 17 Gallien wrote again: “How has the Christmas spirit been treating you? Joyfully I hope. ‘I will extol thee, O Lord; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me’ (Psalm 30:1). As I read this Psalm I think of how much you’ve helped me so far and am very grateful for that. I hope to see you soon. I wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Your brother in the Lord, Hubert D. Gallien.”

Then early in 1977 Gallien made application for membership in the Lake Charles chapter of FGBMFI and paid his membership dues. All this because of the faithful witness of Hunter Moles in giving out copies of VOICE magazine. One is reminded of the words of the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 3:6, “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.”
LIFE TOUCHING LIFE
continued from page 32
Deaton and myself.

"I have received letters from as far away as Florida and California, and from various places in Colorado, Texas and Louisiana, in response to its message.

"The teacher of the largest Baptist church in Baton Rouge used it in connection with a Men's Bible Class, in which forty were present. The Methodist church I attend, which is one of the largest churches in Baton Rouge, featured the article in one of its weekly bulletins. These are mailed to all the families of the church, plus given out to visitors who attend services. Copies of that issue of VOICE were also sent to missionaries in the Philippines, Canada and Switzerland and to many other individuals living elsewhere.

"An employee of mine, after reading the article, signed the Six Scriptural Steps to Salvation and brought it to me together with a cigar box containing $23.00. He said it was his 'drinking money' and asked me to deposit it in a savings account for him.

"If a few of the people who knew me were blessed by the article and wrote to tell me so, I am sure many others also received encouragement to do their best for the Master."

There's still another element in this story. A young prisoner in Lake Charles wrote to Bud Deaton on September 7, 1976. He said, "I read your testimony in a VOICE magazine and was very enthused by what you had to say. Praise the Lord for having people like you really coming out and saying it like it is.

I'm a 100% disabled veteran and am in jail on charges that I didn't commit. After reading your testimony I read the 'Six Scriptural Steps to Salvation' in VOICE and I open-heartedly accepted Jesus as my personal Saviour, prayed the sinner's prayer and signed my name confirming my decision. Praise the Lord!" The letter was signed, Hubert Gallien.

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SHELDON CLEMENTS: A CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

LAST DECEMBER 18, while on a business trip out of state, Sheldon Clements, 43, for seven years (1962-68) Chapter and Convention Coordinator for the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International went to be with the Lord. He apparently suffered a coronary while driving.

Since the Editorial Department works some four months ahead of VOICE publication date, by December 18 both the December and January issues had been long off the press and the February issue was already in its final preparatory stages. We thought it fitting, therefore, to reserve our official published report of his passing for this special Christmas issue, and thus provide a more timely tribute.

Born and raised in a skidrow section of Dayton, Ohio, Sheldon never really knew his parents. His father deserted the family when he was a baby and his mother died when he was eleven. Until his aunt and uncle, Rev. and Mrs. Carl Folk took him into their home a few years later, Sheldon "knocked around on his own," finding shelter and a home wherever he could. Under the Folks' gentle guidance he came to know the true meaning of love, and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. He later attended BIOLA and subsequently served with Youth for Christ and World Opportunities.

During his association with FGBMFI, Clements was among other things responsible for coordinating the 1965 London Airlift that took five jet loads of American businessmen and their wives to witness for Christ in Britain. The spiritual impact of this undertaking is still felt. He also coordinated airlifts to South America and Vietnam, with the latter serving to open up that country for many years to the distribution of some 20,000 copies of VOICE per month to American servicemen.

Sheldon Clements was rightfully proud of his family whom he left: his wife, Joan; two sons, Kevin and Christoffer; and three daughters, Colleen, Collette and Karen, all of whom reside in Huntington Beach, California.

DECEMBER TAPE MINISTRY
- check desired tapes -

□ 7WCA5, Rev. Oral Roberts, "The Fourth Man”; □ 5NY6a, Dr. Robert Frost, "Baptist of Jesus” ; □ 24WCB, Chuck and Mary Ann Flynn, "Profile of a Christian Family”; □ 10NY6b, Rev. David King, "Faith Vision”; □ 18S6b, Helene Curtis (personal testimony); □ 12NE6b, Rev. Joe Jordan, "God's Word as a Medicine."

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ATLANTA HOLDS 5th REGIONAL CONVENTION

“We went from glory to glory!”

—Lynwood Maddox

“This convention was certainly one of the greatest I have ever attended,” reports Convention Chairman Maddox, “especially in the way each speaker complimented the previous one. We went from glory to glory.”

Beginning with Tom Ashcraft’s message to the unsaved on Thursday night, the convention was highlighted by testimonies, seminars and messages from Harold Hill, Rose Shakarian, Ogburn Yates, Dr. Paul Walker, Ralph Marinacci, Earl Prickett and Demos Shakarian. All the speakers were laymen, save Dr. Walker.

The spiritual, physical and material results were gratifying indeed, with many being saved, baptized in the Holy Spirit and healed. A woman professor (PhD) from Georgia State University, a former member of Albert D’Arpa’s Sunday school class, was one of those who received the Baptism.

1. Lynwood Maddox was Convention Chairman. 2. Dr. Paul Walker taught afternoon seminars. 3. Ralph Marinacci ministered in “Miracle Night” service. 4. Rose Shakarian (center) addressed Ladies’ Luncheon. 5. Dr. Henry Gore, math professor at Morehouse College, was convention pianist. 6. “The Fairchild Sisters” were featured singers at the banquet service, with Demos Shakarian as guest speaker.
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Looking forward to a Very Merry Christmas
and into the New Year as well . . .

Conventions: Plan Ahead With the Fellowship

Washington, D.C. International Regional
January 11-14, 1978, Washington Hilton Hotel
L. P. "Jack" Safford/Dr. James Johnson/Al Malachuk, Chairmen
FGBMFI, P.O. Box 4270, Washington, D.C. 20012

Phoenix International Regional
Ray H. Biddle/Art Nersasian/Carl Williams/Demos Shakarian, Chairmen
5019 W. Frier Dr., Phoenix, Arizona 85301

Hawaiian 1978 Bible Faith Seminar
January 29-February 5, 1978, Sheraton Waikiki Hotel
Bob Kitchen/Blaine Amburgy, Chairmen
FGBMFI, P.O. Box 17417, Irvine, CA 92714