

Founded in 2008

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105 KJV).

MRS. WANDA J. BURNSIDE, Founder and Publisher

International Ministry Leaders:

MINISTER SANDRA HICKMAN, Australia

FIRST LADY CHRISTINE V. MITCHELL, the UK

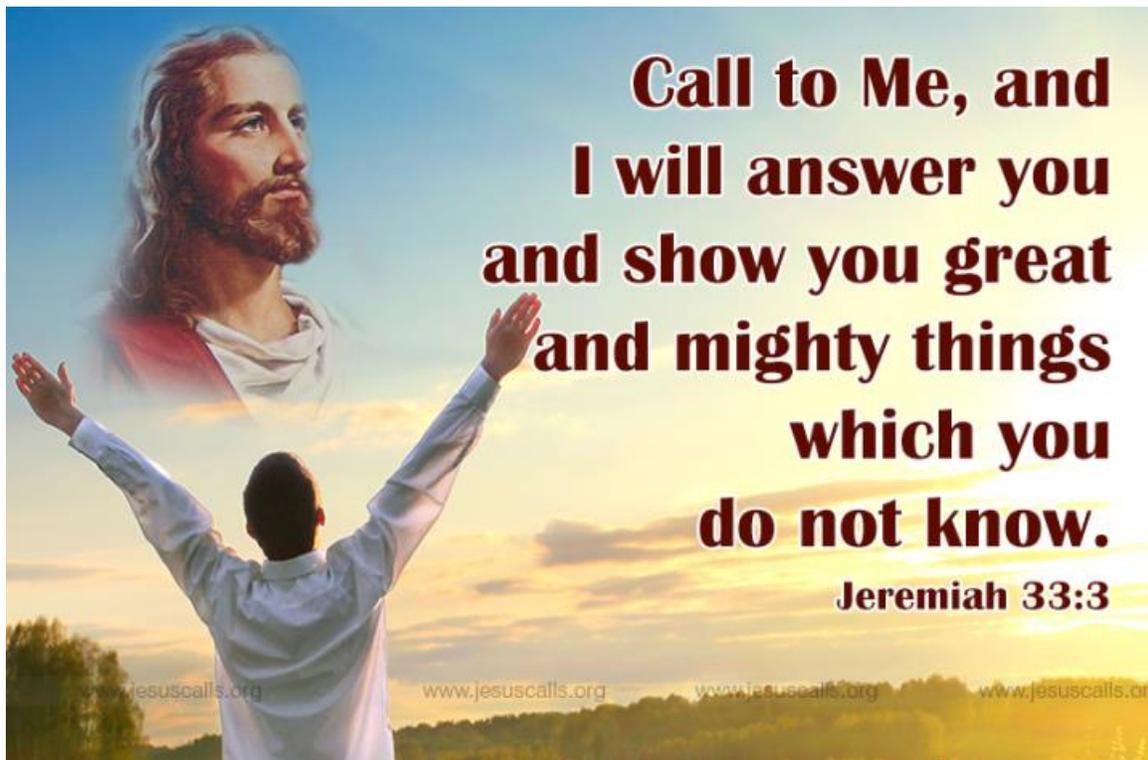
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Contributing Writers: AUTHOR RAMELLE T. LEE and MRS. MICHELE BARNES

MR. SIMMIE LEE BURNSIDE, JR., Manager

DR. MARY EDWARDS, Editor

I'm holding on to my promise...

"THE BEST IS YET TO COME!"





Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside
Founder and President

I'm Holding on to My Promise...
“THE BEST is YET to COME!”

Dear Readers,

I have been crying out...**HELP ME, LORD! JESUS, I NEED YOU! COME, LORD!** There has been one thing then another and ANOTHER happening in my life. I have friends and family members going through so many things, too. These days, I pray during the night until I fall asleep in the early mornings. I hear the birds chirping when I'm finally going to sleep!

One evening, after I finished washing a large pile of dishes and a stack of several pots and pans, I sat down at my kitchen table. I dropped my head and prayed a real sorrowful prayer. I was bitter and so mad about everything going on in my life. I felt hopeless and helpless.

“Lord...I need You! I...have served You all of my life...and tried to be faithful. I have given this and done thatand my life is a dump. I'm not going anywhere. What does it take to overcome? I am praying and serving You. It seems that I should have a much better life!” I cried.

I held on to the dish towel in my hand and thought, *“This is the time to throw the towel in.”* And just then I heard the voice of God say, *“The Best is yet to COME!”* I raised my head...I heard Him say, *“The Best is yet to Come!”* I lifted my shoulders up and heard again...*“The Best is yet to Come!”*

Immediately Satan came. He said, "Yeah...you're imagining this...look at you!"

Then I reached for my Bible in a drawer in my kitchen. I flipped through the pages of my Bible...I wanted to get the Word of the Lord to help me. I searched through one scripture then another. I raced through the Old Testament and then to the New Testament.

Satan said, "You AIN'T gonna find 'The Best is yet to Come' in the Bible!" He laughed.... and giggled at me.

Then I saw Psalm 25! I read the first verse: "Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul." Next my eyes went to the end of the scripture:

¹⁶ Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted.

¹⁷ The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring thou me out of my distresses.

¹⁸ Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins.

¹⁹ Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.

²⁰ O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee."

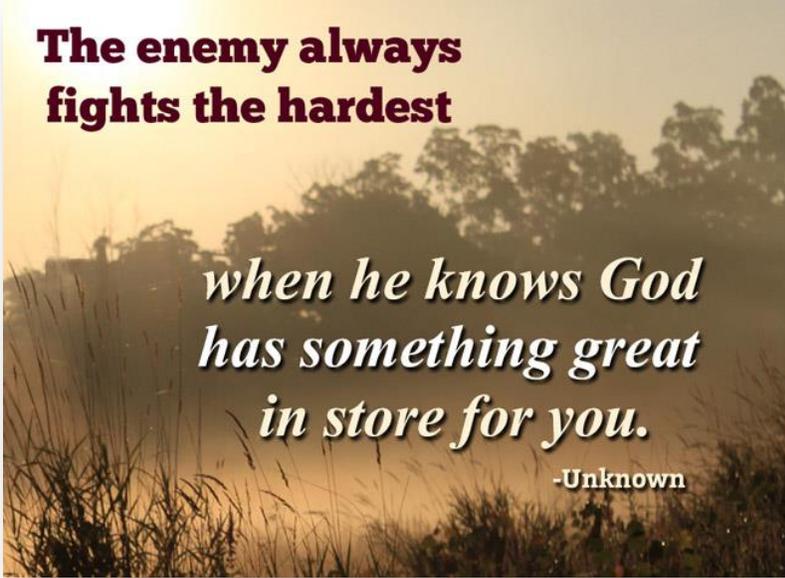
These words in Psalm brought me comfort...and peace. Joy came and filled my heart. I felt the Spirit of the Lord. I felt lifted in His presence.

CONFIRMATIONS: Praise the Lord!

Two days later, early in the morning when I was sleeping with our television on, I heard the shouts, "**THE BEST IS YET TO COME! THE BEST IS YET TO COME! THE BEST IS YET TO COME!**" There was one of the major leading international television evangelists shouting this over and over. I sat up in my bed and raised my hands and said, "Thank You, Lord!" I felt like I was about to fly away out of my bed. All day, I felt encouraged.

I began to feel like I had a weapon against Satan and his lies to me. I wanted to dance! I wanted to rejoice!

Then, as the days went on, there were other challenges and problems that came my way. I could feel Satan moving in to try to put doubt and worry back on me. I held on with prayers. I ignored his mocking voice in the Name of Jesus.



**The enemy always
fights the hardest**

*when he knows God
has something great
in store for you.*

-Unknown

At this time, I had to write an email letter to apologize to Ms. Deneen G. Matthews, the editor-in-chief of DECLARE PUBLISHING, LLC. She is a friend and business partner. I needed to ask her to forgive me for my delay in taking care of urgent matters. My spirit felt down. Late that night, I sent her the email. I went to bed troubled...

In the morning after my prayer time, I checked my emails. There was an email from my friend, Ms. Matthews. When I opened her email and read her tender and comforting words, I cried. Because in her reply to me she wrote: *"I know that the Lord has been bringing about much transition in our lives and in the lives of our loved ones. We can only believe that the best is yet before us."*

There it was! Confirmation! God spoke again to me through her email. Do you see it, too? God used Ms. Matthew to speak to me! In my hurt and brokenness, I read and re-read, *"We can only believe that the best is yet before us."* Oh, thank the Lord! I AM HOLDING ON to my promise!

Readers! Readers! You hold on too! Hold on! THE BEST IS YET TO COME! In the Name of Jesus....it will be done!

-Wanda J. Burnside

Thank You JESUS

A PRAISE BREAK!

By Mrs. Michele Barnes

Join me! Let us take a moment to praise the Lord! Thank you Jesus! Thank you Jesus! *"This is the day that the Lord has made....and I will rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118:24).* Thank you Jesus!

And, this next verse too! Psalm 118:25: *"Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us **success!**"* How can we wake up and not know from that moment, **WE ARE BLESSED!** So remember, we've prayed for success and this scripture does not just say **one success, but success in EVERYTHING!**

Rejoice! For we have awakened to a **new day!** Now praise, and ask God for success and get ready, get ready, because nothing is too hard for God and only He knows the desires of your heart! Let's thank Him one more time! **Thank You Jesus!**





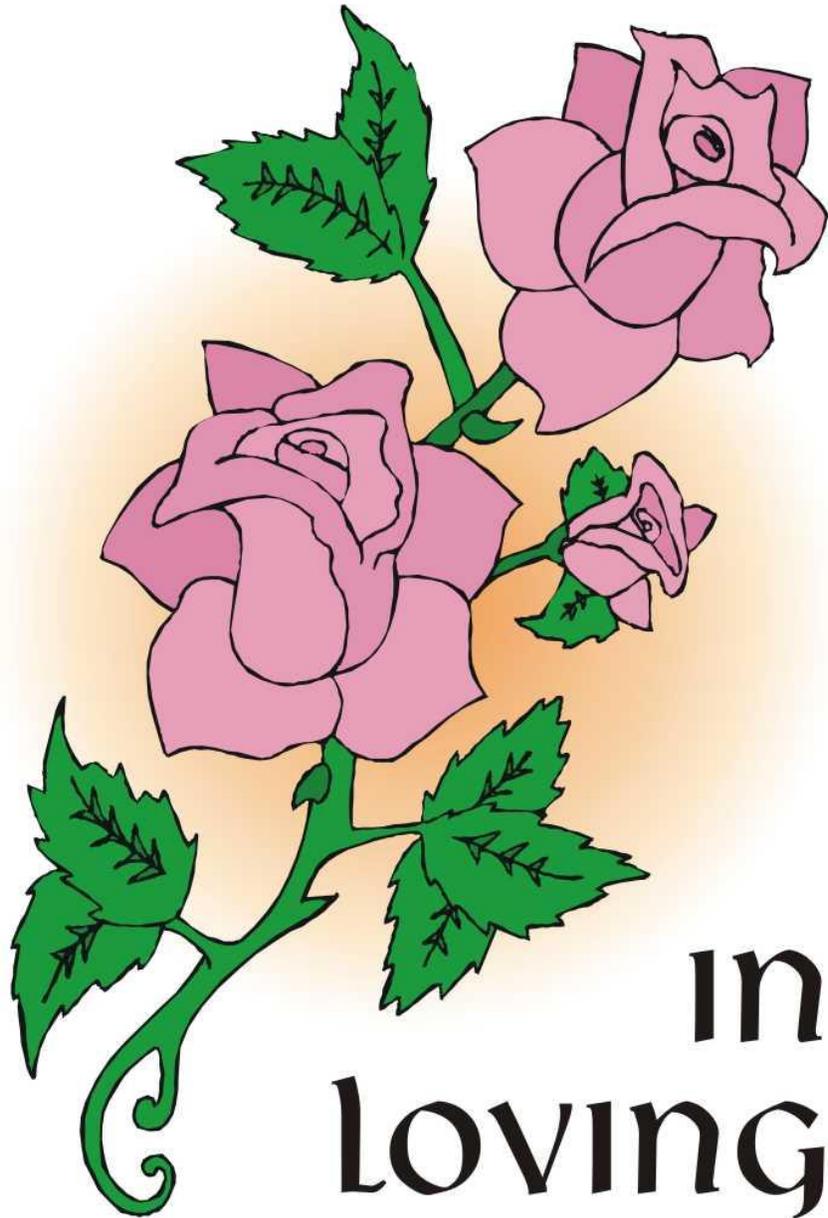
Nowhere On Earth

*Thank You that I can talk with You, Lord
Thank You for being my Friend
Thank You for being right there at the start
And still being there at the end
Thank You for every trial and storm
When I couldn't see my way
In the darkest hour ~ there You were
You're faithful, each night and each day*

*Light of my life, my Father, my God
Jesus, my Saviour and Lord
Sweet Holy Spirit ~ my Comfort, my Guide
How precious, O Lord, is Your word
Hope for the hopeless, merciful King
Rich in compassion and love
In sunshine and rain, Your blessings abound
Blessings from heaven above*

*Nowhere on earth can we find such peace
The peace you send to stay
The peace that passes all understanding
Gracious and kind, always
Nowhere on earth is there any like You
Whether north, south, east or west
In heaven and earth, Your praises resound
Because, Lord – You're simply the BEST!*

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**In
Loving
memory**



In Loving Memory of Our Precious Mothers – Mum...

- *Evangelist Willie Lee Palm...Wanda J. Burnside's Mother*
- *Mother Christine Burnside...Wanda's Mother-in-law*
- *Mrs. Lorraine Sally Gardner.....Michele Barnes' Mother*
- *Mother Barbara LaVerne Lee....Ramelle T. Lee's Mother*
- *Ms. Ivy Mildred McKayChristine V. Mitchell's Mum*
- *Mrs. Audrey Gertrude BridgettDr. Mary Edwards' Mother*

They are NEVER FORGOTTEN!

REMEMBERING RAMELLE T. LEE'S MOTHER

We are remembering Mother Barbara LaVerne Lee (seated). Mother Lee recently went home to be with the Lord on Friday, March 17, 2017. She was truly dearly loved. Mother Lee was 92 years old.

Ramelle is standing in this photo. She is a staff writer for The Lamp Newsletter. This photo definitely shows how Ramelle always stood strong and loving to her dear mother down through the years.





Written in 1995...by RAMELLE T. LEE

MOTHER'S TRIBUTE
to my dearest mother:
BARBARA LAVERNE EDDINS LEE

Mother, you always generated such warmth and gentleness that everyone you met automatically identified with your pleasant soft demeanor.

Although you seldom bragged on yourself, I always enjoyed listening to stories about your happy childhood days. "Those were the best days of my life," you'd say.

Friends are something that you never longed for because they were always there...even now! When you attended your 52nd High School Class Reunion at Booker T. Washington, you

introduced me to four of your grade school classmates. How many people can say that they still know where any of their classmates are today?

Often you have expressed that pictures are not your forte, but I especially love your college graduation picture from Tennessee State University. It represents to me, your time of blossoming, maturity and sweetness of character.

Now I know why Dad vigorously pursued you as “his lady of choice.” I can almost imagine how you swept Dad off his feet. He often acknowledged to everyone as a family joke; that you pursued him!

While your dreams and aspirations didn’t always come true through your marriage with Dad, you had three beautiful children whose love you can always treasure forever in your heart.

As a newborn, if babies could talk, I would have argued with my twin brother to let you know that I’m on the way. Well, I discovered that I’d better get to moving if I expected to arrive within the seven minutes birthing window. You said, I got here the best way I could. Thanks, Mother for holding on until I arrived.

At only 13 months old, my oldest brother, Andrew, was a little taken back when you brought us, Lovelle and me, both home from the hospital. His world was completely disrupted since he was no longer the center of attraction. Such is life!

Many times you expressed that you didn’t get the opportunity to utilize your Bachelor of Science degree. However, you have used your degree every day of your life in ways you can’t even imagine. You have shared your knowledge with others without appearing boastful and arrogant.

Mother, your unmovable, steadfast foresight and courage throughout the years, has kept your family on track because of your strong faith in God. This is a great legacy you passed on to your children.

*You mentioned to me many times that your mother, always encouraged you to **“Keep the faith.”** I will always treasure these words from grandmother and ensure that they are passed on to our family from generations to come.*

Mother, you are special to me! I treasure our closeness which is built on a trusting, loving and honest relationship. I think often about the good times we’ve shared, the laughs, the girlish conversations and kidding around days.

If I had to name one item you always liked shopping for, it would be curtains. If I couldn’t find you in the store, I’d just go to the curtain department and you’d be there.

Mother, I briefly remember the not so pleasant moments in your life but don’t dwell on them. It was in those moments the Lord gave you strength to endure through the storm and rainy seasons. He has brought you out and placed your feet on solid ground. God’s grace is sufficient for you.

Mother, you are my inspiration! I will always honor you. Thank you for being my guiding star, my friend, my joy. Honesty and integrity are pure qualities you possess. You are the best!

*Love, your daughter,
Ramelle Tina Lee*

(Written in February 7, 1995 – Updated May 2017)



A LOOK of RIGHTEOUSNESS

By Michele Barnes

Our time is so special, and I thank you!

I am celebrating Mothers' Day and wishing all my mothers today a very happy and most blessed Mother's Day! But it is to my "elder" mothers today that I'm claiming that you have "Victory."

God cares and hears you! He knows your cries and frustrations. God is with you. My heart is for the righteous mothers, grandmothers and even great-grandmothers facing the many trials and hardships of their families. You are A SPECIAL GROUP OF WOMEN that society has labeled an over-fifty generation of aging Baby Boomers.

Women, mothers, do you feel like a baby anything? Can our burdens and cares be packed away in a diaper bag? Our burdens are the burdens on our hearts from those closest to us. Yet, some are far away from us. Sadly, they often try to hide from us.

But we continue to walk in righteousness with prayers for those loved ones who don't have a relationship with God. We deeply care for those in need of a closer relationship with Him. We pray hoping that they can experience a change in their heart. We earnestly pray that it will lead them to salvation, a real relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Yes, the tears are many! But we have to believe God for "Victory" in every situation and in His time! Wait on the Lord! (Psalm 27:14) I'm remembering this old song:

"Victory is mine, victory is mine. Victory today is mine! I told Satan to get thee behind, Victory today is mine!"

MOTHERS! STAND FOR WHAT IS RIGHT!

One day, my grandson made the statement, *"Grandma, who talks anymore?"*

He was at **my house, getting ready to eat at my table! I demanded no cell phones!**

Of course, his statement caused me to take the stand even stronger. See, I had the upper hand because I knew he was hungry, my table was set; the food was ready and smelling good! Something rose within me...**"No, little boy!"** I thought. He's 13 years

old...but, grandma gotcha! *"I want to be able to talk to you and you talk to me,"* I responded lovingly, yet firmly! I thank God for kids and their parents. Yes, they do get hungry and want to eat, but everything must be done right!

Mothers, Teach the Truth

Jesus taught us the importance of feeding the hungry. (John 6) Thank God, the Bible teaches us not just how important it is to feed the hungry, but how love will cover the multitude of sin. (1Peter 4:8)

My grandfather loved to sing, **"Love Lifted Me!"**

"Love lifted me, Love lifted me. When nothing else could help! LOVE LIFTED ME!"

Mothers, Keep it REAL

No McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy's or **any** drive-through restaurant can take the place of any meal of a righteous mother, grandmother or great grand-mother. There is nothing like sitting at her table. It should be a time which gives us a chance to teach our family and loved ones how to talk, share our love and give testimonies. It must not become a time for texting or getting on the computer. These machines don't allow us to look into their eyes or be able to reach over and get a hug.

But we do have that “*money tree*” (so they think) or stove that can keep them coming to our house to smell their favorite foods! They will come for those reasons because YOU know what they like, even if it’s just coffee and cookies!

Always keep something in your house ready to serve so that when they visit, although it is often short, it still can be just enough time to say “*Taste and see that the Lord is good*” (Psalm 34:8). Sometimes just the smell of cornbread or bread cooking will make them stay a little while longer! Use these moments and others with great wisdom, which can only be supported by your relationship with God.

SEEK GOD’S WISDOM

I’m so excited about finding a scripture that truly empowered me. I want to invite you to read and read it again too! It is Proverbs 8. It speaks of Lady Wisdom calling out! How did I get this old and hadn’t read this scripture? I just had to ask myself that question. Have you read this scripture? If you haven’t, please read it! And please write and give me your thoughts. As the kids say, it is really “*deep!*”

MOTHERS, GOD HAS A PURPOSE FOR YOU!

We are living at a time when many are trying to figure out how to fulfill Gods’ **purpose for their lives!** I know, we’ve worked hard to get where we are. We are not just faced with the things that we have struggled to overcome, but forced to watch our children

and loved ones going through the very same thing. These are the things that we got through, only by GODS' GRACE AND MERCY! However, our children are struggling to find a way to overcome!

Did I say, "Find their way?" We know the temptation of alcohol, drugs, and even sex that can be controlling our loved ones. If you are those two and three generation grand-mothers, even with those arthritic hands, take the time to lay hands on your loved ones and pray a prayer that only a mother can pray. Be assured that your prayers will never be forgotten. And if you can't be there, call on the phone and pray for them! In my time of need, I can still hear my momma praying for me!

Mothers, share your testimonies. Even though they are not asking for them and don't have much time to listen! Yes, tell it! Your testimonies may bless the ears that hear it! Remind them that prayer works! And that there is nothing too hard for God!

Never forget! The devil's goal is to kill, steal, and destroy! Do you think the devil wants you to tell the "secret" about the empowerment of inviting Christ into your life? Who can get close enough to your loved ones other than you? People don't even mention the devil anymore. It is like he is a fairytale! You know, but for God's grace and mercy, you would not be here today if somebody had not been praying for you. Those prayers led you to become a new man or woman in Christ. You committed your life to Christ.

Mothers, I understand you have a lot on you. But, don't get caught saying, *"I just don't feel well"* or *"I'm too tired?"* You say, *"Been there and done that?"* And some might even say, *"Let the streets teach them!"* Really? Throw them away to the streets? Act like you don't know them? The scripture refers to us as "Elders" men and women created in God's image, (Genesis 1:27) Now, if we think about this for a moment, we will always have what we need to fight the good fight! But does that mean we can go into retirement or stop doing Gods' work or stop fulfilling His purpose for us?

At such a time of "darkness" and all the signs of Revelation, do we really want to stop or give up so close to the **judgment day? Don't shut up! Get up! Tell somebody! Tell anyone that will listen, that it's not too late! Tell them** that Jesus Saves! Break it down and don't be ashamed to tell the story! Don't you want to hear Jesus say *"Well done?"*

It's not about how many souls you have already helped to save. It's about how many **MORE need to know about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? We cannot just have a look of righteousness; we have to continue our purpose with actions of faith, our testimonies, our works, and our love!** Only be empowered by your relationship with God! Be proud and know of the powers of your look of righteousness!

We are beautiful and spiritual women. We are women who are not conformed to the pattern of this world (Romans 12:2). The look of a righteous woman tells others.....**TO BEWARE!**

MOTHERS, DON'T GIVE UP!

I woke up singing a song that I only remembered a few lines of. It is, "In the Garden." I had to call and ask my Aunt Katie about some of the words. All I could remember was: *"and He walks with me and He talks with me and He tells me I am His own."* Oh how *those words comforted me!* But at eighty-five years old, Aunt Katie even knew the second verse and informed me that this song was a favorite of her mother, my Grandmother Marie Palm.

My grandmother has long gone to heaven, but this song speaks to me as if my grandmother Marie is giving her testimony today! For the women and mothers that are sick and tired, *don't give up!* God promised to never forsake us! (Deuteronomy 31:6) Know that God is with you! I last heard this sung by Marvin Sapp. I am sharing a part of it with you:

In The Garden

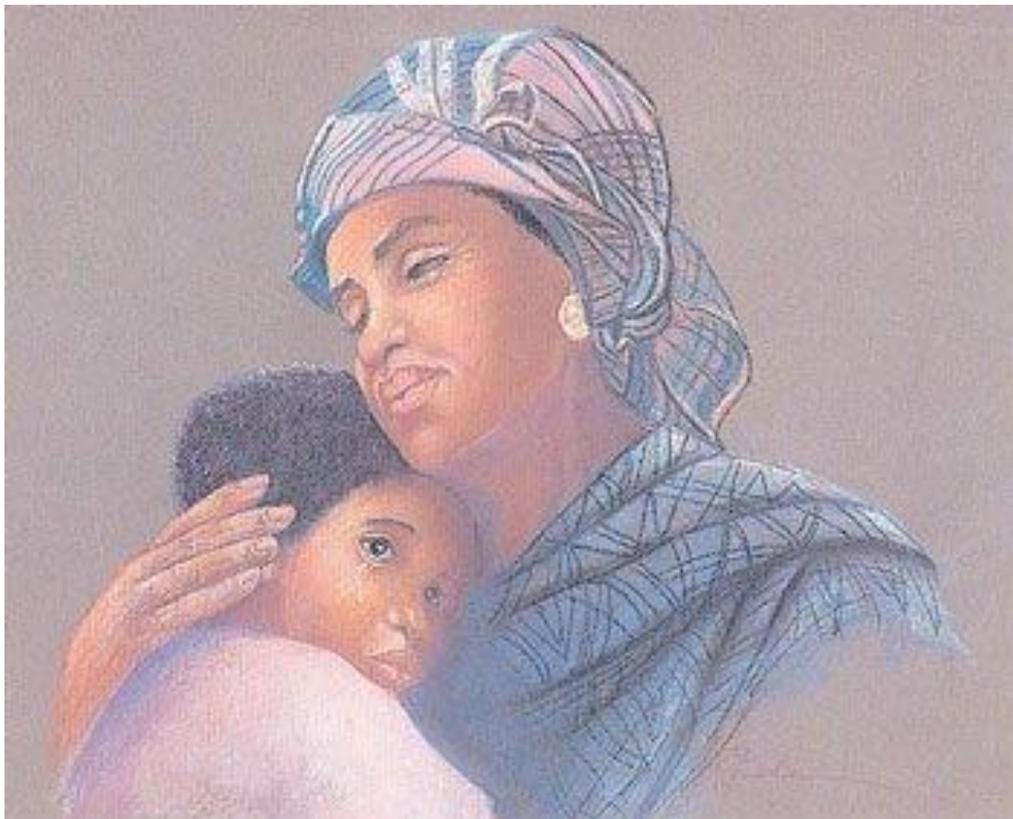
*1. I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses.*

o Refrain:

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.*

- ❖ Happy Mother's Day to the mothers who have loved and lost their children in death.
- ❖ Happy Mother's Day to the mothers that are fighting the good fight to stay a part of their children's life and praying a hedge over their family.
- ❖ Happy Mother's Day to my young mothers and who may not have accepted Christ in their life yet. Please know that we are praying for you. God is patiently and lovingly waiting for you to invite Him into your life.

Mothers, let us remember to sing the songs of praises that even after we are long gone will be our forever testimonies to those we love and have left behind.



GOD BLESS OUR MOTHERS



Happy Mother's Day
to all Mothers - Mums around the world!

Special greetings, prayers and well wishes to my wonderful staff of great mothers, precious grandmothers and dear great-grandmothers:

- **Minister Sandra Hickman of Australia:** 2 adult daughters and 8 grandchildren
- **Mrs. Christine V. Mitchell of the UK:** 4 adult children and 2 grandchildren
 - **Mrs. Michele Barnes:** 4 adult children and 9 grandchildren
- **Dr. Mary Edwards:** 2 adult sons, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren

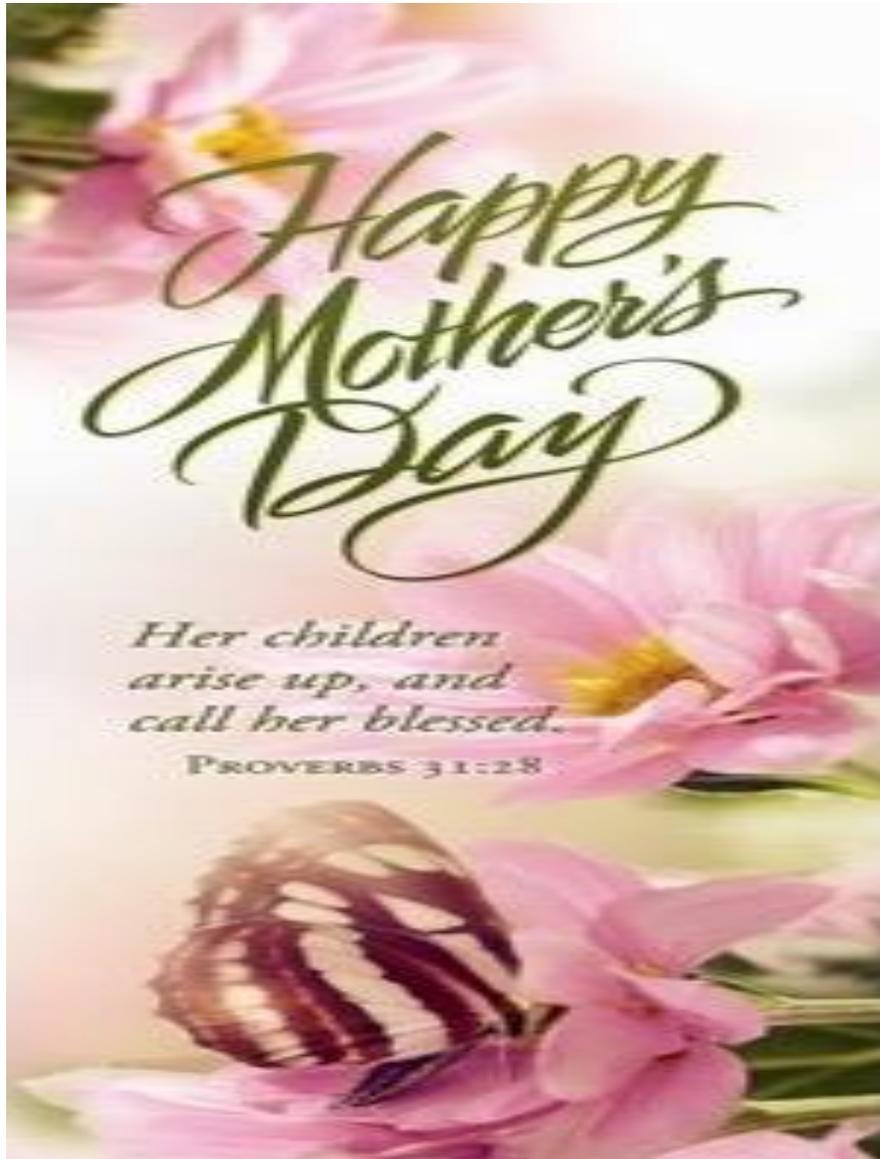
LOVE and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT to 2 dear Mums...

- **Mum Shirley Hickman of Australia,** the Mum of Min. Sandra Hickman
- **Mum Esther Mitchell,** the Mum of Pastor Frederick Mitchell and Mum-in-law of Christine Mitchell

Greetings from Australia....

MINISTER SANDRA HICKMAN,

Minister Leader and Staff Writer



Who Is This Woman?

***She is a Proverbs 31 woman
Her worth is far above rubies!
She calls upon the joy of the Lord
To be her strength ...***

***She arises from her bed
To nurse her sick child..
To comfort the frightened one
There are diapers and baby bibs
Formula bottles and pacifiers
Mini mountains of soiled laundry***

***She is a well-travelled taxi driver
To kindergarten, school and sports,
Doctors and dentists... Appointments!
She is a self trained nurse
She bandages and binds injuries
Administers medications***

***She sits on the floor with little ones
Building Lego cities and skyscrapers
She is an expert artist in finger painting
Her children call her the Storyteller
She irons, mends and sews on buttons
... In her "spare" time!***

Continued...



*She is a chef of culinary delights
And a cook of two minute noodles
She washes, cleans and tidies
Sweeps and mops...
And then she repeats it all again!*

*She is an umpire of arguments
And a sorter of problems
She is a banker and accountant
Managing money is her expertise
Especially when there isn't much*

*She is a helping hand to friends
A pair of loving arms ready to hug
Her hands are poised to pray...
She is an ambassador of Christ
She is a Mother!*

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Special Acknowledgement



Mrs. Katie Palm Holloway

***Much love to our dear and precious,
Aunt Katie.***

***We love and appreciate everything that
you have so lovingly done for us through the years.***

***Our parents, your brother and sisters, have gone on
to their eternal home with the Lord. We truly miss them.
But, God has kept you here to care for your own beautiful family....
and to watch over all of your more than 50 nieces and nephews.
Your prayers have sustained each one of us.***

***You have always had that bright and sweet smile!
We are so grateful for you. We sincerely appreciate you.
Your family,
Palm, Burnside, Barnes, Gardner,
and all of the rest of your nieces and nephew***

“LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me” (Psalm 30:2 NIV).

Prayers are extended to our sick and shut-ins:

Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr.

Miss. Regina M. Palm

Ms. Kathryn Mitchell, the UK

Pastor Karen Butler

Mrs. Michele Barnes

Mrs. Katie Holloway

Mrs. Shirley Hickman, Australia

Ms. Vivian Barney

Missionary Margaret Beason

Mr. Jack Dempsey Johnson

Mrs. Karen Nevois

Ms. Yovonna Scales

Pastor Lincoln and Pastor Beverly Wilson

Pastor Lorna LaMarr, the UK

Mother (Mrs). Essie Stafford

Dad-Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Sr.

Mother Eleanor Woodwork

Mr. Donald Brooks

Ms. Delisa Stroman

Mrs. Josefa Palm

Ms. Donna L. Brooks

Mr. Michael Crowley

Ms. Lola Darlene Gardner

Mum Esther Mitchell, the UK

Elder LaMont Powell and wife, Charlzetta

Ms. Leonie Holloway, Australia

Author/Mrs. Gail Gayner Martin

Mrs. Jackie Johnson

Evangelist Vera Beauford

Mrs. Henrietta E. Barney

Ms. Carmela Johnson

Mrs. Kathy Strong

Baby Lovell Lee (2 months old)

Mr. Daniel Gardner

A MIRACLE TESTIMONY!

Mrs. Dianna Hobbs, Founder –Empowering Everyday Women Ministries has been healed and delivered! *She was under the doctors' care and received every kind of medical report. Mrs. Hobbs suffered, but she believed that God WILL HEAL HER! SHE BELIEVED that He would DELIVER HER! PRAISE THE LORD....HE DID!*

Her amazing story of healing and deliverance will be featured in our June issue of The Lamp Newsletter.

Prayers for our editor...

DR. MARY EDWARDS



Dr. Edwards is recovering from knee surgery. Her surgery was performed on April 20, 2017. God is blessing her to go through rehab and other medical help. Dr. Edwards is thanking and praising the Lord for bringing her through. During this time, she has pressed on with great determination to continue her work in her various ministries. Dr. Edwards is a great leader with tremendous faith in God.

Please send your greetings, encouragement and comments to her at:

Leaves of Gold Consulting, LLC

(313) 744-MARY ~ Mary@LeavesOfGoldConsulting.com

www.LeavesOfGoldConsulting.com

She would love to hear from you!

MAY BIRTHDAYS!

Husband and wife....Mr. and Mrs. Washington
May 5th – TONY WASHINGTON and May 6th – MARCIA WASHINGTON



These precious cousins are busy for the Lord. Both of them are involved in community services and outreach in Pittsburgh. Marcia is a poet, author, playwright, drama director and historical documentary screenwriter.

May 25thHappy Birthday to Our Staff Writer and Supporter...
AUTHOR RAMELLE T. LEE and her twin brother REV. LOVELL LEE



Ramelle is an: Author, Poet, Writer, Speaker, and Businesswoman
Ministry Founder: Touching Your Heart Ministries and Treasures from Heaven
Reverend Lovell Lee serves at Unity Baptist Church in Detroit, MI

Happy Birthday to My Dear Sister...
MISS REGINA MORNA PALM
May 29th



*Regina is the youngest child of the late Elder Minor Palm, Jr.
and the late Evangelist Willie Lee Palm.*

*She is a psalmist, gospel singer, professionally trained cook, missionary,
former church clerk, and has faithfully served in numerous offices in church work.
Regina is caring and so kind. She loves people! Regina truly LOVES the LORD!*





Words of hope and encouragement from Ministry Leader...
CHRISTINE V. MITCHELL
of London – the United Kingdom

Dearest Friends,

Precious greetings in the wonderful Name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

As our dear Founder and Publisher, Wanda, has said in her opening article – it's been a severely trying time for many of us. The last few months have been heavy for me also. I'm thankful to the Lord that, in the midst of my trials, He has still blessed me to write more poems ...often poems of prayer.

Here is one of my poems that expressed my heart at the time, and may perhaps mean something special for you. The 3rd stanza expresses something of what the Psalmist David voiced in Psalm 73. I praise God for bringing me through that difficult season. I pray He will bless your heart today and also bring you comfort and peace.

God bless you!



Patience

**Give me patience I pray in the midst of my trials ~
Lord, do Your work in me
For sometimes, O God, when I'm deep in the fire
It's so very hard to see**

**When things that I face seem too much to bear
And everything round me looks wrong
Please help me to see ~ to know You are near
With grace, to make me strong**

**I'm puzzled at how some wicked ones prosper
Sometimes, I ask myself, "Why?"
As I pray and I hope for a way of escape
At times, I sit... and cry**

**But just over yonder a blessing awaits
I know this ~ deep within
If only my soul would be still and would trust
In Your strength ~ I surely would win**

**At times I'm hasty, I want things to change
But I know I must wait on You Lord?
In the midst of my trials, You offer me peace
Something this world can't afford**

**Let my heart be content to sit at your feet
Let my trust and my faith grow higher
Do Your work in me Jesus, let patience, complete,
Accomplish in me Your desire.**

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Closing Words from... Minister Sandra Hickman of Australia



Salute To Motherhood...

Mother's Day... a time to salute the women who dedicate their lives to mothering and nurturing the precious souls given to their care by the Lord. Women who have borne and raised children to go on to become parents themselves. Oftentimes, it's been through the many minefields of life. No one ever said it would be easy, but it is the most rewarding job we can ever have.

Motherhood is perhaps the most important calling of all. For it is the awesome responsibility of nurturing God-given offspring, the children of the future.

Yet motherhood carries its trials. It can be difficult, often frustrating and at times downright exhausting! But a mother never gives up. She always pushes through the barriers for the sake of the life of her child... just as she pushed in the delivery room! Mothers are raising new mothers ... for new generations. Leading and guiding... loving and teaching from tender hearts. Their one goal is to see their children reach their full potential.

God surely made women to be strong. We are made of tough stuff!

*Remember the Old Testament mothers. Jochabed who by faith, floated her baby son Moses in a basket down the river Nile... Her unshakeable faith ensured the survival of her son and the Jewish nation! Sarah the mother of Isaac, who laughed at the prospect of conceiving a baby in her old age, yet God did it anyway... She went on to be called the Mother of all nations. God always has a plan and a purpose. The two most admired and anointed women of the New Testament, Elizabeth and Mary! They were cousins, who were both carrying seeds of promise. One child who would become the forerunner for the other, who was the Ultimate Promise... predestined to be the cross-bearer for all people across all time. Hard to even imagine being the mother of John the Baptist... and much more so, **Jesus!***

Just like these amazing God-fearing women of the Word, Mom's of today have inherited the same love, strength, fearless faith and undaunted dignity... The grit needed to birth and raise children. It's inherently placed in us to receive and pass it on. Even to those beloveds whom we didn't give birth to, but mothered them nonetheless within the extension of our family. Praise Almighty God! ...



God Knows...from Wanda J. Burnside

MOTHER'S DAY:

For Some it is a Hurting Day...

Hurting back the people
who hurt you,
makes you
become
just like them.



Dear Readers,

I just couldn't close our newsletter without a word to those who are hurting during Mother's Day...and always. Some of you find it hard to honor and celebrate your mother or mum. You have come to hate this day! You don't like all the flowers, cards, and celebration about a good, loving, caring, tender, praying, and sweet mother or mum. You're mad and upset. You're full of anger and bitterness. You hate your mother...

I feel in my spirit that you want to pay her back for the painful and unkind things that she did. She may have abused you, neglected you, and abandoned you. Your mother might have been a total wreck and crazy in every way. She could have been so selfish and downright mean to you. Maybe she wasn't even there for you...she completely turned her back on you. She didn't care for you.

You know, you might have a right to feel that way. In fact, you're justified or really right to be full of hurt towards her. She isn't or wasn't there for you, you're fed up with her. You can't and won't deal with any more of her lies! In your heart...you wish she would stay out of your life or...just drop dead...

See, as hurt, angry and bitter as you feel, God knows. He is there in that big mess. He promised to be there. He loves you and has always...LOVED YOU. I can feel that you find that so hard to believe because you wonder why He didn't do something about your mom! Why didn't HE STOP her from doing the crazy, stupid and hurting things that she did...to ruin your life? You say, *"I didn't ask for her to be my mother! Why me?"*

Somewhere along the journey of your life, things went the wrong way and trouble came and blocked what was right and true. You should have received the love that you needed, but those who should have given were hurt. They were broken and unable to reach out to you in love. They were blind to the truth. They were not filled with the love and concern that you needed. They couldn't give love because somewhere and somehow they never received true love. They couldn't release what they never had.

BUT GOD!

Our Heavenly Father wants to bless you. His arms are opened wide to you. He is there for you. In Psalm 27:10 KJV, we read God's promise to us:

"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

Oh, dear one...it is not "if" they forsake us...but..."When." This means, in the moment or at the time that we are forsaken by our father and our mother, DO NOT WORRY or FRET. KNOW THIS...the Lord will take care of me greater than my mother or father can. He will rescue me! He will bring me into His care. His love is there in every circumstance.

So, it is my prayer that this year you will be healed of your broken heart concerning the hurts that you have suffered. I pray that there will be a change in your life that will lift you out of the hurts that you have experienced. I ask the Lord to send people into your life who will show His love for you. God will send the tender-hearted, concerned, loving, uncomplaining people full of understanding. Allow God to work through them to reach out to you. Let Him handle the hurts. Surrender them all to Him and watch God move in your heart and life.

With God all things are possible!

"But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26 KJV).

Now, accept what God is going to do for you...your life. Expect a change to come that will set you free and release you from the bonds or chains of hurt and pain. Seek God in prayer and look for Him to lead you through. You can't fix your hurting and bitter heart. You cannot control your life. Remember, you cannot make the people who have hurt you to love you. You cannot turn them around or away from the life of abuse, lies, anger, and bitterness. You cannot make them see the hurt that they have done to you. THEY WILL NOT accept the blame! They won't allow you to put guilt on them. Just wait on God's plans for your life to take over. Wait on Him.

The Hardest Part – FORGIVE

The most difficult thing for you to do is to forgive those who have hurt you. Their hurt has hurt you. Their anger has made you angry. Their bitterness has made you bitter. So, to forgive them for all of the wrongs that they have done...is too hard. It feels impossible... Actually, it is impossible. You can't do it on your own.

Ask God to help you to forgive. He knows that you don't want to forgive them for what others have done to you. However, He is there to help you to forgive. He wants it all...Hand it to Him. He will show you how to forgive. He wants you free!

This Was My Assignment to You..

I wanted to end this issue of the Lamp Newsletter pages ago. I did not intend to write this article, but God wanted me to write it. He cares too much about those of you who are hurting so deeply because your mother or mum isn't like those that we have written about in this newsletter. He loves you. God doesn't want you to suffer any longer. He cares. He knows your heart. He is right there...waiting to take you up. Let Him...



MEMORIAL DAY

Remember those who have fallen,
Honor those who have served,
and Pray for those still serving...
and teach your children to do the same.

That's what
Memorial Day
is about.



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