

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER

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

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This Christmas...

What if...

JESUS CHRIST RETURNS!





Dear Readers,

I am not looking for Santa to come flying across the sky with a sleigh full of toys and stuff in a huge bag! I don't expect to see anything so ridiculous as this to happen! *No, NEVER!*

This is all a con-job and lie of the devil, Satan. He wants to rob us of giving the glory reserved only for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **JESUS IS THE KING OF kings and LORD OF lords!** It's Christmas! We celebrate Him now and FOREVER!

Wouldn't it be...something to look up and see Jesus returning to earth this Christmas! The Bible says, *"Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him--even those who pierced him. And all the nations of the world will mourn for him. Yes! Amen!"* (Revelation 1:7 NLT).

JUST IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN

If Jesus came this Christmastime...

Just imagine...what would happen in the malls? No "Black Friday" or Christmas shopping rush hours will compare to Jesus' return to earth!

Just imagine...the beauty shops, barber shops, and nail salons, gyms, and spas!

Just imagine...the airports, bus and train stations!

Just imagine...what would happen on the highways, freeways, streets and roads?

Just imagine... what it would look like in restaurants, supermarkets, theaters, book stores, and EVERYWHERE! Think of what it would look like in the hospitals, nursing homes, senior living centers, college campuses and other places, too!

Just imagine...what a sight this would be on luxurious ocean cruises, inside airplanes in flight in the air, on hot sandy tropical beaches and the frigid snowy places, too!

Just imagine...the sight it would be in gambling casinos, from hotels hidden away for those who went there for a secret love affair, in alleys where drug deals are going down, in drug houses, in prostitute houses, playboy pads, XXX-rated places, abortion clinics, pool halls, bars, lounges, in prisons, jails, and porn rooms!

Just imagine... the morgues, the funeral homes, cemeteries and graveyards!

Just imagine...the News stations! BREAKING NEWS! BREAKING NEWS!

Just imagine...the television networks around the world!

Just imagine...what the political leaders in each nation around the world would do and say to their people!

Just imagine... what would happen on the social networks like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and all of the other people connectors!

Just imagine...at church services, revivals, Bible studies, and other church events!

BUT MOST OF ALL...

Just imagine...if you and I weren't ready? Would we have time to repent and get things right with the Lord? Would we have enough time to ask for forgiveness of a sin in our lives? Could we repent for wrongdoings that we have not confessed to the Lord? Will we be able to reach our children, family members and friends in time to beg them to repent NOW for Jesus is here? Can we give our time and money to those who have asked us to send needed donations or offerings for their ministries? Would we have enough time to do anything that we should have done before?

THIS CHRISTMASTIME

Friends and family members, now is the time to get ready and live right. **THE LORD WILL RETURN! HE IS COMING SOON!** Repent of your sinful ways. Ask Him to take away your sins. Ask Him to come into your heart and life, today. Give Him your full life! Live for Him. Serve Him with your whole heart and with everything that you have. Surrender now! Repent now! Get saved! You can be born again! Do it now...before...it is everlasting and forever too late!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him" (John 3:15-17 NIV).

A TIME OF SPECIAL MEMORIAL and DEEPEST CONCERNS

Precious Readers,

Before we go into our regular format of the presentation of the Christmas edition of *The Lamp Newsletter*, we, the staff, want to first give honor and respect to those who are grieving. There are so many families and friends going through deep sorrow and struggles. We are touched and feel the depths of that grief.

In this edition of *The Lamp*, three very dear and precious people of God have departed this life. They have been in our lives for a season and now they have been called Home to receive their reward for their faithful and glorious years of life. It has been truly a difficult time for our staff as we are connected to these beloved ones in one way or another. They hold a very special place in our lives.

Mr. Philip Mitchell is the father of Pastor Frederick Mitchell of London in the United Kingdom. Our London Ministry Leader, Mrs. Christine V. Mitchell, is married to Pastor Mitchell. Dad is her dear and sweet father-in-law. She has tenderly and caringly supported her husband, his mum and family during Dad's illness. We are praying for the entire Mitchell family.

PROPHET KIM CLEMENT was a mentor, spiritual leader and close friend in ministry to Author Ramelle T. Lee. God blessed her life to be trained and taught by Prophet Clement to become the spiritual warrior and leader that she is today. Ramelle personally knows his wife Jane and has been a part of their global ministry for nearly 20 years. Prophet Clement endorsed Ramelle's book, *Step into His Greatness*. He was greatly impressed by the messages in her book.

EVANGELIST PATRICIA STEWART was a great woman of God. She was a vibrant leader in the church and community. I, Wanda J. Burnside, was tremendously blessed to know Evangelist Stewart, her dedicated husband (Johnny) and their family. For years, Evangelist Stewart included me, my mom, my sister Regina, and sister-in-law Josefa in her church activities and events. We, and a mass of women served under her gallant, productive and amazing leadership in the national Women's Department of the Church of God in Christ, Inc.

Dr. Mary Edwards, the esteemed editor of *The Lamp*, met Evangelist Stewart and was impressed by her writing achievements. Dr. Edwards was blessed to offer her some advice and consultation in regards to one of Evangelist Stewart's books.

With Our Heartfelt Condolences...

We extend our fervent prayers to the families of Mr. Philip Mitchell, Prophet Kim Clement and Evangelist Lois Patricia Stewart.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (Revelations 14:13 KJV).



DAD **MR. PHILIP MITCHELL** **Death - December 3, 2016**

Born in Jamaica, West Indies.
Married to Mrs. Esther Mitchell. They are blessed with 8 children, 16 Grandchildren and 11 Great-grandchildren. Mr. Mitchell is the beloved father-in-law of Christine V. Mitchell, our Ministry Leader in the UK.

INTERNATIONAL PROPHET, MINISTER and MUSICIAN **KIM CLEMENT**

September 30, 1956 - November 23, 2016

Married in 1978 to Jane Elizabeth Barnes in Durban, South Africa. They have nine children and have lived in the USA since 1991.

The life of Kim Clement was an expression that has defined "the prophet" for the modern era. His prophetic ministry reached countless people as he revealed the heartbeat of God in tragedy and triumph.



The Kim Clement Center is located in Tulsa, Oklahoma and continues in ministry, working to support missions world wide.

BISHOP P.A. BROOKS, NEW ST. PAUL TABERNACLE
& THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST IN MICHIGAN
MOURNS THE PASSING OF



*"...Blessed are the dead which
die in the Lord from henceforth:
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they
may rest from their labours; and
their works do follow them."*

REVELATION 14:13

ARRANGEMENTS ARE INCOMPLETE AT THIS TIME

EVANGELIST LOIS PATRICIA STEWART

Death – December 8, 2016

School teacher, principal, school administrator, and author

Leader in the women's and youth departments and

Member, New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and

Member, Northeast Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ, Inc.

Married to Deacon Johnny Stewart, mother of three daughters and grandmother.

"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
Mother Barbara Lee
Mrs. Michele Barnes
Mrs. Katie Holloway
Mrs. Shirley Hickman, Australia
Evangelist Ruby Combs
Missionary Margaret Beason
Mr. Jack Dempsey Johnson
Elder LaMont Powell
Mrs. Karen Nevois
Ms. Yovonnna Scales
Pastor Lincoln and Pastor Beverly Wilson
Evangelist Vera Beauford
Mrs. Henrietta E. Barney
Pastor Lorna LaMarr, the UK
Ms. Carmela Johnson*

*Pastor Shirley Douglas Little
Ms. Belinda Scales
Mrs. Jackie Jackson
Mother (Mrs). Essie Stafford
Ms. Margot Maranatha, Australia
Mrs. Dianna Hobbs, Founder –
Empowering Everyday Women Ministries
Ms. Leonie Holloway, Australia
Mr. Donald Brooks
Ms. Delisa Stroman
Mrs. Josefa Palm
Ms. Donna L. Brooks
Mr. Michael Crowley
Ms. Lola Darlene Gardner
Mum Esther Mitchell, Jamaica
Ms. Vivian Barney
Mr. Gary Rheubottom*

*"Heal me, O Lord,
and I shall be healed;
save me, and
I shall be saved: for
thou art my praise."
Jeremiah 17:14*



PRAISE REPORTS!

We sincerely and fervently pray for the precious ones on our Prayer List. We cry out to the Lord to heal, deliver and bless each person. We look to the Lord to change things!

Here are a few praise reports...

FROM MINISTER SANDRA HICKMAN of AUSTRALIA-



Shirley Hickman from Western Australia

My dear mother Shirley Hickman was recently diagnosed with lung cancer, with a devastating prognosis... She has since received amazing news from a Specialist Oncologist that the original diagnosis has been overturned! What first appeared as a mass or lesion in her lung is merely scar tissue formed many years ago! We PRAISE GOD for this Holy Reprieve! JESUS IS LORD!



Margot Maranatha from Western Australia

My dear friend, Margot, was diagnosed with a blocked artery in her heart. Before her operation she prayed to God, felt His tangible presence and smelt the aroma-perfume of the Lord right there beside her. The hospital staff were amazed at her quick recovery without needing any pain medication! My dear friend didn't hesitate to give all the glory to God. Margot is a wonderful witness for JESUS!

FROM THE USA-

The following dear ones are home from the hospital or rehab:

Ms. Belinda Scales of North Carolina – *Friend of Wanda Burnside*

Ms. Lola Darlene Gardner of Detroit – *Mrs. Michele Barnes's sister/Wanda's cousin*

Mrs. Henrietta Barney of Detroit - *Wanda's brother's mother-in-law*

Mr. Michael Crowley of Ohio – *Ms. Shannon Crowley's brother*

Mrs. Josefa Palm of Detroit – *Wanda Burnside's sister-in-law/my brother's wife*

Pastor Shirley Douglas Little of Southfield – *Mother Ruby Combs' sister*

Mother Essie Stafford of Detroit – *Friend of Wanda J. Burnside/Mother of Linda and Marva Stafford*

Evangelist Vera Beauford of Farmington Hills – *Friend of Ramelle Lee, Dr. Mary Edwards and Wanda Burnside*



Reflections on Christmas



Unto Us...

Isaiah 9:6 NKJV ~

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulders. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



Unto us, by the grace of God and His unmerited favour, a son was given. Bestowed to this world, the place in the universe which was once laid to waste and yet replenished again! There was a marvellous meeting in the Throne Room of heaven and decisions were made. It was the Father of all time, the ever-present Holy Spirit of God and Jesus the Son of the Most High! The Father, in His timeless wisdom said, “*Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness....*”

Unto us, life was given. Dominion and ownership of every replenished thing! From the first moment in that heavenly meeting of the almighty triune God, our futures were sealed. Everything was created from that never-to-be repeated singular moment, in the history of heaven and earth as we know it!

Unto us, The answer to the dominion problem was given, long before it even became a problem. And that answer was JESUS! The Son of God, who was pre-destined to become the *child* of the words, penned by the great prophet Isaiah. I imagine that scene, the Father of love, the Christ of all authority, and the Holy Spirit of power, together as the One-and-only unique God, deciding to make a mere man, in His own image no-less! With Jesus to become the man’s sole redeemer!

The Christ-child was born. Nothing would ever be the same!

Unto us, the Peace-heralding Prince was here! The shepherds saw it! The wise men followed it, astounded by that shining guiding-star in the night sky. Somehow the inn-keeper was inspired to offer his stable to the young mother-to-be and her husband... to birth the Saviour of the world. The entire existence of humanity was resting upon the shoulders of one tiny baby boy!

Unto us, He was that extraordinary God-man who stood in the middle, one arm stretching backwards in time to the Old Testament saints ...JESUS... His other arm outstretched to all future generations right through to you and I, and even those yet to arrive! In His own earthly time, He was a man in the middle, yet still the deified Son of God, forming a bridge linking the gap of all humanity, those who had been, those who were there with Him, and those of the future..... Arms stretched wide standing-strong like a cross, never wavering in the face of adversity, welcoming all who would come. Redeeming those Old Covenant saints back from their past into His presence. Calling in the saints of the blessed New and better Covenant! He stood in the middle, alone, in the gap of all humanity... redeeming all past, present and future saints, unto the end of time on this earth.

Unto us, He was the deciding denominator of every human life! The determining factor and standard set for all of mankind. The Mighty God and Counselor, proving His position as the Everlasting Father of all! The saints of the Old and of the New... we all fell madly in love with this Jesus, whose name was called Wonderful!

Unto us, a child was born. Salvation and grace... love, joy and peace were birthed with Him. The celebration we hold-fast to today bearing His hallmark name, CHRISTmas! The name above all other names! He is our Alpha and Omega. He was our Beginning and He is our never-ending End! He alone holds your future in His hands. He came for you! He came for me! This majestic man who was God in a human body, born of a virgin. He was spotless and pure and He changes not. His love changes not! No matter what you do, the Christ of Christmas will love you, and if He had to do it all again, He would! Just for you!

"In the name of Christ Jesus the Wonderful, I wish you the most blessed Christmas season of celebration and adoring-worship of the Most High King of Christmas! Give thanks!

Live, love and laugh in the beautiful perfume of His presence ...

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facebook.com/sandra.hickman.503

This is His Christmas gift to you!" ~

© 2016 ><> Sandra L Hickman



FIRST LADY CHRISTINE V. MITCHELL, Ministry Leader
The Lamp Newsletter Headquarters - UNITED KINGDOM

TELL IT AGAIN

© 2013 Christine V Mitchell



*Tell it again, the story of Christmas,
ring out the season's joys;
fill your home with warmth and gladness,
festive cheer and noise.*

*Open the treasures of love and kindness,
fill the air with peace;
and let the Saviour's message of life
forevermore increase.*

*Remember to spread that joy to those
who have no place to go.
Your acts of generosity
may bring some hope, who knows?*

*Tell it again, the story of Christmas,
let the starlight shine;
let joyful sounds to hearts resound
God's gift of love divine.*



CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.expressionspoetry.com
www.facebook.com/ForeverGratefulPoetry
www.facebook.com/ComfortandHopePoetry



THE LOVE OF CHRIST JESUS

by Author Ramelle T. Lee

Meditation Scripture: John 3:16 (KJV)

"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."

God so loved us that he sent his only begotten Son to die for the sins of mankind. Just think about it! You are somebody special to God! Before you were even thought of in your mother's womb, God knew who you were. He knew that you would open up your heart and receive him. He knew that he could count on you to come out from among them and be separated. God knew that you would not reject his Son, Jesus Christ.

The first step you took towards Jesus was the beginning of your blessing. Someday you will know what that step really meant to the blessed Savior. God is so proud that you gave your love to him. You could have looked the other way, but you came because you knew that he had something to offer you. You may not have known right away what that was, but you stepped out on faith and accepted his precious Son to be an intricate part of your life.

It was the love of Jesus that led you to the Father. When he gave his Son to the world, he gave his best. He gave everything that he had to offer. His unveiling love for you will never die; it will live throughout eternity. Whenever you feel afraid and disturbed in your spirit, just remember Calvary. Think of God's Son who died to set you free of your sins. He did it all- just for you! It was his love that was nailed to the cross. It was his love that washed away all your sins. It was his love that gives you strength from day to day. The love of Christ will always be with you!

Child of God, you have been given something special direct from heaven.

"What?" you ask. The Comforter, of course! The precious Holy Spirit!

Never forget that you were blessed with a purpose in life. That is, to realize that someday you will be with the Lord in paradise! All because you made the choice to accept his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Now, that's love!

Taken from my book, *Step into His Greatness*.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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A CHRISTMAS HEART

by Michele M. Barnes



*It took so long for me to see,
That Christmas wasn't just about me!
I'd make a list and checked it twice,
And always got a nice surprise!
A new pair of boots or winter coat,
It was always those things
I needed the most!*

*But it happened one Christmas,
When I grew up to realize,
That I didn't have gifts to give
And I started to cry!*

*There were so many pretty wrapped boxes,
Under our beautiful Christmas tree,
And the biggest surprise yet,
Was that one special toy for me!*

*But, everyone hugged me and said,
"It's okay,
We know that you love us
And you'll have gifts to give ... one day."*



*And it was that
Christmas night,
I saved the box from my boots,
And hid it under my bed,
So that no one
could take a look.*

*I decided that
the gifts I make,
I will tuck them
inside the box to hide,
Then next Christmas,
I will be ready to see
The look of surprise
in their eyes!*

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Thank You! Thank You!

To the Sponsors of our

5th Annual Treasures from Heaven CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Ms. Carolyn McKie



Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr.



Ms. Lynette Gibson

Admission Offerings:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Janet Travick | 6. Aundra Board |
| 2. Tommie Legge | 7. Michele Barnes |
| 3. James Lamb | 8. Salonda Jean-Louis |
| 4. Yvette Wilburn | 9. Linda Lee |
| 5. Shaundra Board | 10. Cynthia Blair Smith |

Dear Readers,

Since 2011, Ramelle T. Lee and I (Wanda J. Burnside) have been blessed to have a Christmas bazaar! We look forward to this special joyous time. We work all year getting ready to provide a safe and glorious atmosphere for Christmas shoppers to come and purchase inspirational items, specialty products, books, poetry, toys, DVDs, cds, Bibles, jewelry, and other things for people to give to their loved ones as gifts. It takes much planning and continual prayer, too.

We invest a lot into our annual bazaar. Our main expense and concern are for the room rental for the affair. Next, we want to have refreshments for our shoppers. We never spare our finances for these very important things. They are major!

From 2011 to 2015, four years, we have given our finances for the room and refreshments. But, this year, we stood on faith like never before and believed that God would fulfill His promise to provide! We believed that He would “...do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” (Ephesians 3:20 NKJV). Oh, He did!

We thank the Lord for the generous donations given to us by these precious ones who truly blessed us! Glory to God! This was a miracle! Because of their generosity, we only paid \$15.00 to cover one expense! Everything else was paid in full with their donations! Lord, we give You glory! May God bless these special sponsors who freely gave out of the kindness of their hearts.

A special thanks is given to **Missionary Trudy Hansberry** for her superb help with the children at the Happy Birthday, Jesus Party. What a blessing it was to have her set-up and supervise this activity. She did a tremendous job!

Mr. Patrick Holloway (my cousin), Mr. Joe Armstrong and Mr. Tyiest Jackson helped Ramelle and I to get all of our numerous boxes of products and supplies for the bazaar to the hotel. We are truly thankful for their time and much needed assistance. Glory to God!

Patrick and Joe even helped with the decorations for our bazaar. They did an amazing job of hanging up the nativity backdrop in the front of the room. It looked so lovely!

5 Things I Like About Christmas...

A special message from:

- ❖ ***Mrs. Christine V. Mitchell of the UK***
- ❖ ***Author Ramelle T. Lee of the USA***
- ❖ ***Minister Sandra Hickman of Australia***



***From Christine V. Mitchell,
The Lamp Ministry Leader in London, The United Kingdom***

THE SPECIAL 5 THINGS I LIKE ABOUT CHRISTMAS:

- *The annual celebration of the birth of our Saviour which makes this a season like no other in the whole year.*
- *Warm family times together, after what has been a busy and tiresome year.*
- *Giving of gifts and the joy this brings, especially to the little ones.*
- *Preparing a hearty Christmas Dinner for the family to enjoy.*
- *The bright and uplifting colourful lights on display just about everywhere, that brightens up those cold and winter days.*

***From Author Ramelle T. Lee,
Contributing Writer in
The United States of America***

THE SPECIAL 5 THINGS I LIKE ABOUT CHRISTMAS:

- *Bargain shopping for creative gift ideas for family and friends. I love looking for and ordering special items from online catalogues, magazines and specialty shops.*
- *Spending time decorating my house while listening to my favorite Christmas music and songs.*
- *Preparing for our Annual Treasures from Heaven Christmas Bazaar that Wanda Burnside and I have had since 2011.*
- *Attending Christmas Day, early morning worship service at my church, Greater Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, MI.*
- *Giving away and selling my poems to people everywhere I go during December.*

***From Minister Sandra Hickman,
The Lamp Ministry Leader in Australia***



Merry Christmas from Australia!

There are so many things I just LOVE about Christmas!

I'm going to share my top 5!

I love that Christmas is named after our Saviour Jesus Christ... in a world where the meaning is often lost, this to me is a constant reminder of Who and what the Christmas season is about! It's the opportunity to say, "God bless you!" to people, even strangers, without those often disparaging looks! Even the non-believers accept the *Christmas* blessings!

I love that as a Christian everywhere I go, into supermarkets or specialty stores there are Christmas carols playing in the background.... I love Christmas carols! Especially the ones with the name of JESUS in the lyrics. Apart from Easter, Christmas is the only other time where the NAME above all other names can be sung about and even talked about freely to all and everyone!

I love Family! That precious time for special family fellowship. I love the giving and receiving of gifts, not for the sake of the gift, but the love and the thoughts that have gone into the getting of the gifts! The excitement and expectation of your gifts being a special blessing! And oh.... the little ones, how their eyes glisten at the sight of the treasures hidden beneath bright coloured wrapping paper! Gifts exchanged with loving hugs.

I love the fun we have. It's joyful... there's an exuberance in the air. Everything is colourful! We play Christmas music and carols. I've had a Country Christmas CD for years! I love it! It begins with a boppy tune, "Rockin' around the Christmas Tree at the Christmas party hop....!" I quickly grab the nearest grandchild and we dance a little jive to that song! Spinning and twirling, (the grandchild, not me! Lol) and before you know it they're all lining up! "Away in a manger...." or, "The Little Drummer Boy..." *always* inspires hugs with a grandie on my lap or in my arms with sweet cuddles and kisses!

I love the food! Of course, don't we all? Lots of delicious fare which is not the ordinary run of the mill everyday dinners. All the special things.... everybody contributes something! We all have our own favourite dish to bring. But my most favourite is the Birthday cake! Decorated with candles on top, and, "Happy Birthday Jesus!" written across it! This year it will be the youngest grandie, 3yr old Judah, lil Mr Cutie, blowing out the candles. I love how we all sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, with the sharing of little party chocolate treats and Bon-Bons, as we celebrate and honour our dear Savior! © SLH

GLORIOUS GOLDEN BIRTHDAYS!

December 10, 2016

Happy 70th Birthday
MR. BRUCE TOUSSAINT

Sarasota, Florida



December 12, 2016

Happy 74th Birthday
EVANGELIST VERA DEE BEAUFORD

Farmington Hills, Michigan



December 15, 2016

Happy 75th Birthday
MISSIONARY TRUDY HANSBERRY

Detroit, Michigan





Merry Christmas From My Heart. . .

This year, 2016, was full with so many challenges. Throughout the year, there was one thing and another going on. Things, life, just seemed to be going out of control! Oh, it was truly praying time, all of the time. But, I don't want to sit here and fret. It's easy to complain and fuss about so many things.

However, I want to thank the Lord for all of the wonderful blessings He gave throughout the year.

To My Husband: I give God glory and praise for my dear husband, Simmie, who held on while he went through a year of health challenges and medical problems. Yet, he supported me in the numerous ministry projects that I was responsible for to do each month. Simmie was in the hospital and came home to have physical therapy for several months. God was there all of the way!

To My Staff: God gave me a dedicated, productive, talented, anointed, gifted and truly supportive staff. My ministry leaders and contributing writers worked like never before! Every schedule, deadline and requirement that I sent their way, they prayed through, pressed on and got the job done. They all had difficulties, family health issues, illnesses, deaths of loved ones, weddings, struggles, major events, and a full list of something going on in their lives. Yet, they remained faithful and prayerful. I am sincerely grateful for you:

I thank the Lord for my outstanding ministry leaders: Minister Sandra Hickman of Australia and First Lady Christine V. Mitchell of the UK. You mean everything to me.



I praise the Lord for the fine staff of contributing writers here in the USA: Mrs. Michele Barnes (my cousin) and Author Ramelle T. Lee. I give glory to God for you!

To My editor: Dr. Mary Edwards worked through every issue of *The Lamp* during her plans and celebration of her 40th Ministry Anniversary. Thank you for providing your services. You are a blessing.

To My Typesetter: Thank you so much, Miss Shannon Crowley for your professional services. You had a major load of responsibility for the care of your brother, Michael, as he recovered from the stroke. To add to all of this, you moved to Ohio to live with him. God bless you.

To My Cousin: Mr. Patrick Holloway has been a great blessing to me and Simmie. He has provided help in every area of our lives. Patrick has lovingly given his time to see that we are taken care of during this time of Simmie's health challenges. Patrick has assisted me in areas of our ministries. With much love!

To My Readers: Thank you! I greatly appreciate your comments, feedback and encouragement. You blessed me in so many ways. Your interest in *The Lamp* was exceptional. You expressed your concerns on issues and news that was published in the newsletter. You let us know how our writings, poetry, stories and articles touched your lives. You prayed for us which sustained our spirits to keep going! May you forever be blessed in every area of your lives!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

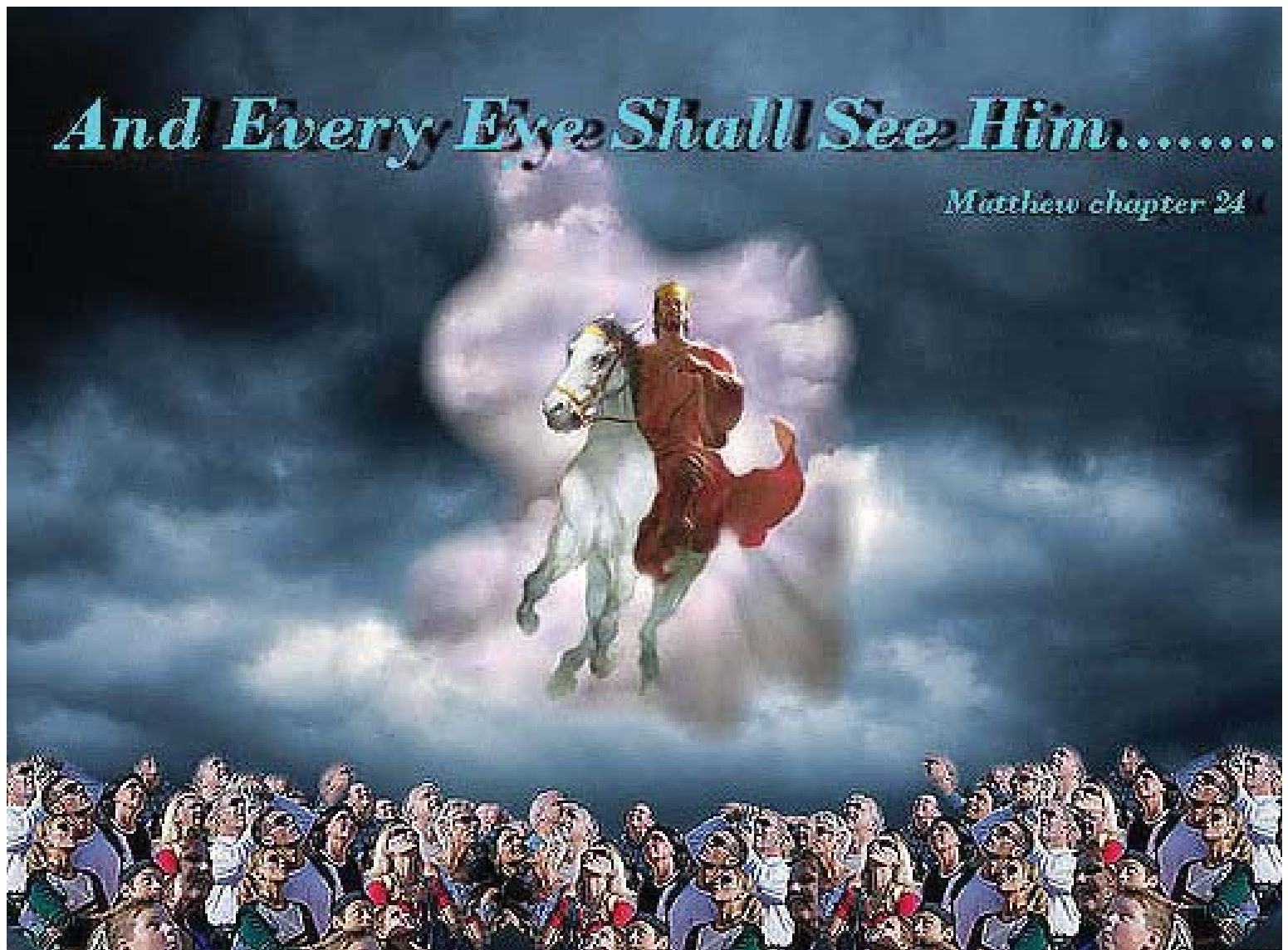
MAY 2017 BE FULL OF THE BLESSINGS OF THE LORD FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Remember...

This Christmas...

What if...

JESUS RETURNS!



While You Can

by Ramelle T. Lee



Look to Jesus, while you can.

Take Him by the hand.

He will save your soul.

*Hold up the bloodstained banner
for the Lord.*

*Take God's Word with you
everywhere you go.*

Obey Him, while you can.

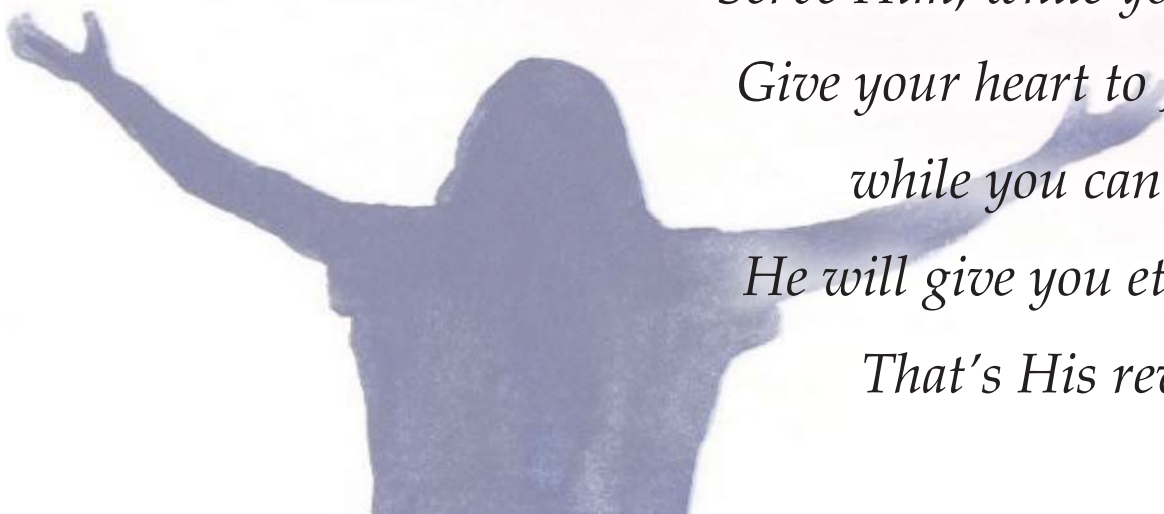
Love Him, while you can.

Serve Him, while you can.

*Give your heart to Jesus,
while you can.*

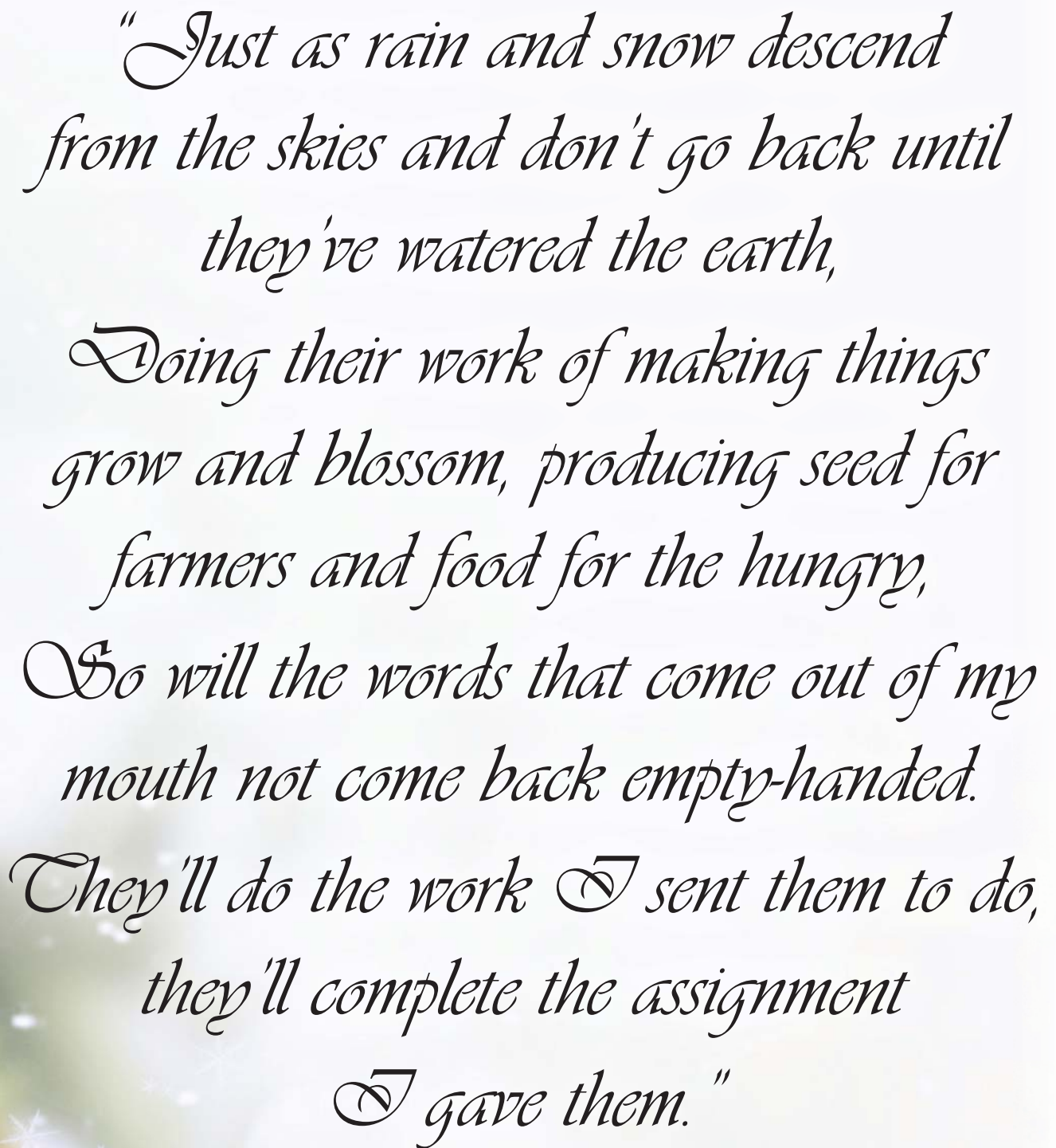
He will give you eternal life.

That's His reward to you!



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*"Just as rain and snow descend
from the skies and don't go back until
they've watered the earth,
Doing their work of making things
grow and blossom, producing seed for
farmers and food for the hungry,
So will the words that come out of my
mouth not come back empty-handed.
They'll do the work I sent them to do,
they'll complete the assignment
I gave them."*

Isaiah 55:10-11 (MSG)



CONTACT INFORMATION: Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside, Publisher. The Lamp Newsletter.

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