

From The Pulpit

by Rev. Donald M. Clark

NOT OURS ALONE

Text: "He Would Not Drink Thereof, but Poured It Out unto Jehovah." (Samuel II)

IN THE CHAPTER from which our text is taken, King David is at his best. The country is at war and the battle has been going against Israel. The Philistines, with overpowering strength have driven David's forces back. Many cherished possessions are in enemy hands. David has just expressed his desire for a drink of water from the Well of Bethlehem. The Well of

Bethlehem is in enemy hands. David was engaging in a bit of wishful thinking. Two of his soldiers overhear him. Risking their lives, they make their way through enemy lines and under cover of darkness draw water from the Well of Bethlehem. Through the hours of early morning darkness, they steal their way back to David's headquarters and put before him the precious water. It was a moving experience for David to be offered that which



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had been obtained at the risk of men's lives. The text tells us that "He would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto Jehovah." Water gained at such a sacrifice was fit only for God. David just could not bring himself to drink water gained at such a risk.

Here is a tribute to David's character. But more than that, it is a reminder of the stewardship of all of life.

Christians in the world today have been blessed by the gifts of God. Our lives, talents and time have been entrusted to us--living reminders of the love of God. And more than that, these gifts have been made secure by the sacrifice of Christians in every generation. They cannot be accepted as our just dues. They cannot be used solely for physical pleasure and satisfaction. It would be well if it could be said of present day Christians, "They would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the Lord."

AN INTRIGUING STORY appeared in the newspapers not so long ago. During maneuvers of an air-borne division, one paratrooper's chute failed to open and he was plummeting to his death when a comrade noticed him about to pass. The comrade somehow managed to swing himself out in the path of the falling man, grabbed him in his arms and together they floated to earth in safety.

The second paratrooper need not have risked his own safety to save the life of his apparently doomed comrade. But he did, and the beneficiary of his brave act will be always grateful.

These lives of ours have likewise been saved by Jesus Christ. Had we not been taken into the arms of a loving God through the sacrifice of His Son, we would have nothing to look forward to but a swift plunge into eternal darkness. Yet we accept all of God's gifts, including the gift of eternal salvation, as though we were entitled to them.

Jesus died an agonizing death on earth, as a man, to redeem humanity. Like King David's soldiers, He traversed enemy lands to bring us the water of eternal life; unlike David's men, He gave His life in accomplishing His mission. How much more like David we should be in pouring these lives of ours out before God as the last full measure of devotion. As Christians, we must not--indeed, cannot--accept life as our just dues.

IN AMERICA we enjoy material blessings in abundance. These blessings have been made secure by the sacrifice of many people. Yet it is an alarming fact that millions brazenly accept them as their just dues. They are the benevolent gifts of a loving God, made secure by stalwart heroes of the faith in rivers of blood. Such gifts, made secure in so noble a way, demand a most careful stewardship. The spirit of David that

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GO to the CHURCH of YOUR CHOICE



Church Directory

DEADLINE for church news and photos is Friday noon preceding the next Thursday publication date at the Rev. Clark's home, 1676 North 'E' St., phone 642-1560. All items submitted must be accompanied by the sender's name, address and (if available) phone number.

BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. I. W. Wilson, 382-2632
C & Washington Sts., Las Vegas

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Mary Carroll
712 W. Owens Ave., Las Vegas

NEW MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. A. B. Carr, 382-5682
505 1/2 Jackson St., Las Vegas

GRACE EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. C. L. Alexander, 384-7413
815 Bartlett St., Vegas Heights

GREATER FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. P. S. Walker, 384-1248
Balzar St., Vegas Heights

NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. F. N. Addison
D & Jefferson Sts., Las Vegas

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. C. Kline, 382-7263
101 N. A St., Las Vegas

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. L. Kemp, 642-5708
1189 Hassell St., Vegas Heights

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. V. C. L. Coleman, 384-3131
1209 N. E St., Las Vegas

ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. L. Simmons, 382-2748
311 Madison Ave., Las Vegas

ST. PETER BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Leo A. Johnson, 642-2559
C & Washington Sts., Las Vegas

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. A. J. Thompson, 642-4001
1305 N. E St., Las Vegas

REV. SIMMONDS ATTENDS BIG BAPTIST CONVENTION

PIONEER WEST LAS VEGAS preacher Rev. J. L. Simmons, now celebrating his 23rd anniversary as a local minister and his 15th as pastor of St. James Baptist Church, leaves Monday, Aug. 30, for Jacksonville, Fla., and the 85th National Baptist Convention, Sept. 4-12.

As moderator of the Pride of the West District Association, the Rev. Simmons again heads local delegates to his church's most important function for the 19th straight year. He is now serving his 16th year as chairman of the Enrollment and Finance Committee for the 5.5 million member denomination, which is guided by 7,487 moderators throughout the United States.

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CHURCH of GOD in CHRIST

UPPER ROOM C. of G. in C.
Bishop C. C. Cox, 385-1541
1117 N. F St., Las Vegas

POWERHOUSE C. of G. in C.
Supt. J. W. Logan, 382-6187
1216 Adams Ave., Las Vegas

LIGHTHOUSE C. of G. in C.
Eld. Willie Rawls, 384-5539
E. Sahara Ave., Fourmyle

MOST HIGH C. of G. in C.
Eld. J. Washington 642-5675
2029 Travis St., Las Vegas

PRAYER HOUSE C. of G. in C.
Eld. W. M. Shaw, 382-1743
Blankenship St., Vegas Heights

CARVER PARK C. of G. in C.
Eld. C. Parson 642-3967
Carver Park Adm. Bldg., Henderson

ST. PAUL C. of G. in C.
Eld. Coruth Hall, 649-1523
301 N. D St., Las Vegas

(All Churches of God in Christ)

Bible Band: Tuesday, 8 pm
Young People: Wednesday, 8 pm
Consecration: Friday, 8 pm
Sunday School: Sunday, 9:45 am
Morning Service: Sunday, 12 noon
YPWW: Sunday, 6:30 pm

CATHOLIC

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
Mgr. William J. Devlin, 382-9953
704 W. McWilliams Ave., Las Vegas

Sunday Masses: 11 am and 5 pm
Weekday Masses: 7:30 am; Saturday, 9 am
Holyday Masses: 9:30 am and 7:30 pm
Confessions: Saturday, 4-4:30 and 7:30-8 pm
Adult Classes: Monday and Friday, 7:30 pm
Child Classes: Monday, 4-5 pm; Saturday, 9-10:30 am
Rosary: Daily, 7:30 pm except Sundays

METHODIST

ZION METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. M. D. Bennett, 382-9900
911 N. G St., Las Vegas

PENTECOSTAL

CHURCH of the LORD JESUS
Eld. Hosea Coleman, 642-8741
1260 Bartlett St., Vegas Heights

Ministers, Please Note!

WE ARE REVISING our Church Directory in order to add churches not now included and to up-date information on churches listed above. We would appreciate all ministers in this area with predominantly colored congregations to assist us in this endeavor. If your church is not listed above, please let us have the DENOMINATION, of the church, the NAME of the church, the NAME of the pastor, a PHONE NUMBER where the pastor may be reached, and the ADDRESS of the church. If your church is incorrectly or incompletely listed in any of these respects, please send the necessary changes or additions to: Las Vegas VOICE, 958 West Owens Ave., Las Vegas, Nev. Thank you.