

# From The Pulpit

by Rev Donald M. Clark

## LIVING UNDER A SHADOW

I want to refer you to three shadows under which so many people have to live.

THE FIRST OF THESE we might consider is the trial endured of those who must live in the shadow of another's greatness. This happens, many times, to a person of average gifts who is completely overshadowed by a brilliant member of the family upon whom the spotlight is always focused.

One wonders if Andrew would have been a different kind of man if he had not had to live under the shadow of his illustrious brother, Simon Peter.

The possession of great grace is needed to live under the shadow of a greater personality than yourself. There is no need or reason, however, for any of us caught in this clutch of circumstance to despair or to think that those attributes of which we are possessed are of little worth.



REV. D. M. CLARK

Another, and more sinister, shadow under which some must live is that cast by the association of an evil name. Let us turn, again, to the Bible for our example. Jesus had two disciples who bore the name of Judas. For as long as both of them remained loyal and true to their Master, any confusion in identification which might have arisen, made little difference. But when one Judas became a traitor and his name became a by-word, it was necessary for writers of the gospel, in referring to the loyal Judas, to write "Judas, not Iscariot". You see, the evil of another clouded the name and character of the good man.

YET, the "not Iscariot" had a mitigating element in it. The name, "Judas, not Iscariot", was intended to dissipate the shadow under which the loyal Judas would have had to live and remove the clouded stigma of the name Judas. More importantly, he had, still, his own integrity unimpaired, and his experience serves to remind us, whenever we hear the name, that every Judas is not a traitor.

Like "Judas, not Iscariot", those who suffer his same experience, will find their own integrity will shine through the dark shadows confirming others faith in the worthwhileness of goodness, fidelity, and humble, sincere devotion.

THERE IS STILL another shadow of a very different nature under which even you and I, as have countless others, are made to live. It is the shadow of a personal affliction--It may be a great grief or a physical disability.

Life is never the same for us after such an experience. There are those who take such tribulations as a matter of course, and a few are even able to forget them, but it is possible that you or I may have such a shadow and one constantly with us.

AGAIN, let us turn to the Bible. The disciple, Paul, was a man who lived under such a shadow. We do not know its exact nature. He referred to it as "a thorn in the flesh". Thrice he called upon the Lord to remove it, but it was his lot to endure the shadow. Yet he was given the assurance that his Lord knew of it, and that he would be given the Lord's grace to help.

"My grace is sufficient for thee" was that assurance; and with it, the shadow no longer was a menace.

## KING'S

EVERYTHING FOR M LADY

Dresses, Sportswear  
Lingerie, Handbags  
Suits and Jewelry

12 Years at the Same Location

412 W. BONANZA RD.  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DREW OLSON  
DUDLEY 4-3526

## Court Victory For Lodge



REV. AND MRS. PRENTISS A. WALKER

Rev. Prentiss A. Walker, Patron of Mount Olive Chapter #76, Order of Eastern Star, in commenting on the dismissal of a petition filed by the Women Workers Club No. 1 to withdraw \$1,700 from a lodge bank account, said that the decision of the Court was a major victory and should serve as a deterrent to unsubstantiated claims against organizations.

The case, which has been in the courts for two years, evolved when The Women Workers Club, composed of women who broke away from the Mount Olive Chapter of which Rev. Prentiss's wife, Mrs. Leathia Walker is Worthy Matron, filed a petition to be awarded the money claiming they helped raise the \$1,700 for the lodge chapter and now wanted it for their club work.

LAS VEGAS attorney, Neil G. Galatz and Attorney Marvin Lewis of San Francisco represented the local chapter and the Grand Lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of California in protesting the petition. District Judge Roscoe Wilkes dismissed the petition of the Women Workers Club Tuesday, June 15 after a two-day hearing.

Rev. Walker, who is the Grand Master's Deputy for the State of Nevada, also expressed an opinion that the court decision will have far reaching ramifications.

Rev. Joseph S. Pough of San Francisco is the Grand Master and his jurisdiction covers the eleven Western States inclusive of Alaska and Hawaii. There are six units of the Lodge in Nevada--3 lodges and 3 chapters.

**GENERATORS & REGULATORS**

**Generator Exchange**

433 North Main Street  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Phone: 384-7794

Batteries \$3.95 to \$7.95  
Generators and Starters from \$9.75  
Hi-Rubber Tires \$3 to \$5  
Brake Shoes \$8.60 (4 Wheels)  
Many other Auto Parts \* Fully Guaranteed  
We buy used Batteries, Generators, Starters, Alternators & Radiators

**Tax And Exemption Notice**

J. A. Bilbray, Clark County Assessor, hereby notifies all residents of West Las Vegas, Nevada to PLEASE contact his Branch Office located at 310B E. Lake Mead Blvd., for the purpose of validating their Exemption Records. Those eligible for receiving exemption credit on property tax assessments MUST validate their record each year. The Branch Office is now open and ready to serve the public for their exemption requirements, plus other property tax matters. Owners wishing to use their exemption on their Real Property may now complete their application prior- to July 1st Boat and Trailer Licensing periods, thus avoiding possible waiting in line during that peak rush period.

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA  
J. A. BILBRAY, ASSESSOR

**DENTON PHARMACY**

On Owens Avenue  
West of 'H' Street

**GOLDEN WEST SHOPPING CENTER**

**642-4381**

**Our Expert Pharmacist Has Your Doctor's ENDORSEMENT**

*A Gift Wonderland!*

**Your Neighborhood DRUG STORE**

## Register to Vote Now!

# ALTAR CALL

By EMORY G. DAVIS, D. D.  
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

### HEAVEN POSTPONED

"We are turning our backs on the kind of pietism that only prepares individuals' souls for heaven," so proclaimed an official of the Rock River conference, Methodist Church in Illinois.

A VAST overhaul of the conference's structure to provide for more direct social action and involvement was further emphasized in the words of Dr. Merlyn Northfelt, the program coordinator, who said that henceforth Methodists must see their "role as instruments or tools in the hands of God--to bring about changes in our society."

What a breath of fresh air this brings to one of America's most established churches. What a challenge to other denominations who find nothing more to do than to perpetuate a cult of reassurance for populating heaven, oblivious to "hell" here on earth. This speaker further explained the role of so-called converted Christians who "have anti-Christian and dehumanizing postures." "These," he said, "are the ones who occupy seats on city councils and village boards and other responsible positions where they carry out their anti-Christian practices--revealed by the continuation of racial discrimination and segregated housing, for example."

THIS IS THE HEART of the problem of religion. Throughout denominational bodies, there are thousands of lay members whose only interest in and commitment to the church is to perform a minimum of rites and practices with the hope of achieving an eternal heaven when they die. Regrettably, church leadership has not offered much more than this to their followers. Thus the church has carved out for itself a corner of irrelevancy where more and more people are now summarily ignoring it.

Until, and unless, the church postpones its emphasis upon heaven for awhile and comes to grips with life here, its effectiveness will dwindle into nothingness. Now, happily, some of the church is realizing that survival is contingent upon relevancy--coming to grips, individually and collectively, with the "demons" that are destroying the life and health of our cities, towns and villages.

The Negro church, whatever that is, is no exception to this kind of revolution. It has spent entirely too much time singing, dancing, shouting and clapping hands about heaven. It must now achieve a posture of responsibility and become relevant to the world TODAY.

EDUCATION FOR LIFE TODAY, a sense of mission to those victimized by segregation, a commitment to life for others are Altars of Relevancy waiting for heaven-bound church people. Let's get with it!