

# A SERIES: THE BLACK FAMILY AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE 80'S

## PART VIII — FOR OUR CHILDREN...

### THE QUEST FOR TRUTH... OUR BEST LIVING REALITY

by Maudra Jones

**"THE WORLD IS IN CONFUSION! IT HAS CUT LOOSE FROM THE FOUNDATIONAL ANCHOR THAT WOULD HAVE PREVENTED IT FROM DRIFTING INTO THE TURBULENT WATERS OF MORAL AND SPIRITUAL CHAOS."**

Keith W. Stump  
"The Plain Truth"—Dec. 1983

#### ...SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS

To borrow an expression once coined by an aspiring teenage disc jockey, last week's conversation was a lot "coming at you" in one "felt-sweep." Yet, when we weight the vast amount of information contained in "Bible Teachings on the Christian Family," together with the list of questions offered for your consideration, against the "turbulent waters of moral and spiritual chaos" that surround us, should not the choice be clear?

As we take this inevitable step in our search for solutions to the pressing problems of our times, it will require serious soul-searching for some. For others it will mean a serious re-focusing of attention to the meaning of human life and a rediscovery, within ourselves, of the realities and truths we have come to disregard. Still others will "begin a new beginning wherever

we can."

And while last week's discourse was directed to the Christian Family, it speak to all—all who are willing to be guided by God's revealed written word, to aid us in finding solutions to the moral and social questions in these days.



Maudra Jones

What this approach further suggests it that we must talk about the problems and solutions. The need demands that some form of discourse should take place between members of the

family, in church services, in meeting places — wherever and whenever possible. Whether it be by explanation, healthy debate, creative dialogue, illustration or demonstration, WE MUST TALK WITH EACH OTHER! It is only through this means that we can begin to define and clarify those problems and needs that affect our lives and our children's lives. In his book, "The Measure of Man," John Wood Krutch states: "It is in discourse of one kind or another that the distinctively human aspects of conscious life manifest themselves...without it, they must inevitably fade away..." Krutch

suggested that unless we believe that there are opposites to indecencies, deceit, ruthlessness, inhumanity and other forms of immoral conduct, then we are unable to adequately protest (or protect) against them. The Bible clearly tells us what those "opposites" are. Our history clearly tells us "how we got over" — on spiritual grounds. The cherished beliefs and values of our people are rooted deep inside us. The moving poem by Margaret Walker reminds us of where we have been, where some of us still are and where we can be — and ultimately, will be. It, too, speaks to all of us.

#### FOR MY PEOPLE

By Margaret Walker

*For my people everywhere singing their slave songs repeatedly; their dirges and their ditties and their blues and jubilees, praying their prayers nightly to an unknown god, bending their knees humbly to an unseen power;*

*For my people lending their strength to the years, to the gone years and the now years and the maybe years, washing ironing cooking scrubbing sewing mending hoeing plowing digging planting pruning patching dragging along never gaining never reaping never knowing and never understanding;*

*For my playmates in the clay and dust and sand of Alabama backyards playing baptizing and preaching and doctor and jail and soldier and school and mama and cooking and playhouse and concert and store and hair and Miss Choomby and company;*

*For the cramped bewildered years we went to school to learn to know the reasons why and the answers to and the people who and the places where and the days when, in memory of the bitter hours when we discovered we were black and poor and small and*

*different and nobody cared and nobody wondered and nobody understood;*

*For the boys and girls who grew in spite of these things to be man and woman, to laugh and dance and sing and play and drink their wine and religion and success, to marry their playmates and bear children and then die of consumption and anemia and lynching;*

*For my people thronging 47th Street in Chicago and Lenox Avenue in New York and Rampart Street in New Orleans, lot disinherited dispossessed and happy people filling the cabarets and taverns and other people's pockets needing bread and shoes and milk and land and money and something—something all our own;*

*For my people walking blindly spreading joy, losing time being lazy, sleeping when hungry, shouting when burdened, drinking when hopeless, tied and shackled and tangled among ourselves by the unseen creatures who tower over us omnisciently and laugh;*

*For my people blundering and groping and floundering in the dark of churches and schools and clubs and societies, associations and councils and committees and conventions, distressed and disturbed and deceived and devoured by money-hungry glory-craving leeches, preyed on by facile force of state and fad and novelty, by false prophet and holy believer;*

*For my people standing staring trying to fashion a better way from confusion, from hypocrisy and misunderstanding, trying to fashion a world that will hold all the people, all the faces, all the adams and eves and their countless generations;*

*For a new earth rise. Let another world be born. Let a bloody peace be written in the sky. Let a second generation full of courage issue forth; let a people loving freedom come to growth. Let a beauty full of healing and a strength of final clenching be the pulsing in our spirits and our blood. Let the martial songs be written, let the dirges disappear. Let a race of men now rise and take control.*

(To be continued)

#### Clara Marlow, A Dedicated Church Mother

"What I like about church work? Well, it's living for the Lord. I love church work," was the ecstatic response Mother Clara Marlow gave when interviewed. Mother Marlow is the Las Vegas SENTINEL-VOICE Church Mother of the Week.

Each week Mid-City Furniture, 501 N. Main Street, pays tribute to outstanding church leaders designated as Church Mothers. These dedicated workers place no price tag on service and sacrifice. They have fully pledged their life's work to serving the Lord. Mother Marlow is a member of the Goodwill

Church of God In Christ, 876 Hassell Street, pastored by Rev. C.L.



Clara Marlow

Murray. Rev. Murray has led that church for the past 16 years. This span

of time equals the length of service for the church given by Mother Marlow.

She is a native of Tallulah, La., having migrated to Las Vegas during 1942. She had 9 brothers and 3 sisters.

As to why she came to Las Vegas, she retored, "To better my condition. I was living in Los Angeles and I was told of the opportunities here, so I made the change."

Rev. Murray is very proud of Mother Marlow. He said she is a Sunday School scholar and heads the Women's Department.

One of her glowing moments came this past Easter. She can be clas-

#### Zion Methodist Choir in Concert

The public is invited to see and hear the Women's Choir of Zion United Methodist Church in Concert, Saturday, May 12 at 7 p.m. The concert will be held in the Zion Church Sanctuary, 2108 Revere Street, North Las Vegas.

sified as a fund-raising champion. She led the drive which raised more than \$6,000 for the Pastor's Appreciation Day.

When you mention church work, Mother Marlow glows.

Retired for the past 9 years, all roads for her lead to her church. SHE LOVES HER CHURCH!

IN LOVING MEMORY

of

ELMO O'NEAL ADERHOLT

October 9, 1910

April 9, 1984



Elmo O'Neal Aderholt

#### Appreciation

*The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed and for your attendance at this memorial service*