

# Have A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2011

## Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission, P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0142 - Phone 801-355-6310 - December 2010

### Victory in Jesus!

I was born into a non-Christian family. We never had a Bible and I don't remember knowing anything about it until I was about 7 years old when I went to live with a family who adopted me about 2 years later.



The family that adopted me were religious, but also abusive. I figured there couldn't be a God, because why would God allow me to be abused by a family that was supposed to love me? I stayed away from the Bible and didn't pick it up for many years.

I started smoking at 8 years old, and was having a lot of behavioral issues because of the abuse. I eventually ran away at 13 and ended up in state care again. I was 13 when I tried pot for the first time. I was bounced around from one foster home to the next where I met other kids who were doing drugs and alcohol. I quickly fell into the role of the "troubled teenager." At 14 I tried mescaline and alcohol. Schnapps was my favorite then because it tasted like candy. Many times I would be molested by men who would get me drunk until I passed out. I was feeling pretty worthless when my social worker reinforced that by putting me in a drug and alcohol rehab and then in a state hospital for over a year, telling me that nobody wanted me because I was crazy and worthless and I should be locked up for the rest of my life.

I ran away from the hospital three times and when I turned 18, I went back to my social worker and demanded that she release me from state care. She told me she could have me committed to the state hospital until I was 25. "I told her that I've already run away three times, if you couldn't keep me then, so what makes you think you can keep me now." After she signed the papers, I left for California where I met more people who did drugs and I was introduced to cocaine, crack to be specific. Soon I had a \$200.00 a day habit. Not long after that I was selling myself as a prostitute. After being arrested twice, I decided it was time to move on.

I moved to Oregon with a boyfriend and continued on in my self destruction. A week before my 19<sup>th</sup> birthday I met someone who had pure cocaine. We rocked it up and it took me 5 days to come down. I remember saying, "Please God, help me get off this and I'll never touch it again." After 5 days I was clean and I never touched it again. I never gave God another thought about getting off the other drugs.

I have 5 children, by 3 different men, was married to one of them but he died 12 years later from diabetes complications. All my children have been taken from me and adopted out. Every single man I was with abused me. I had been dating a raging alcoholic for the last 2 years when we had been kicked

out of our room for fighting. I ended up staying in an abandoned building with a drug dealer when Jesus came calling.

I had been attending bible study at the Salt Lake City Mission, sporadically at first. Then slowly coming every day. Everyone saw a change in me and I felt it as well. I prayed daily for God to get me out of the abandoned building but I didn't expect what He had planned. One day I lost my drivers license and I was fraught with stress. I thought it may be back in the building but it got raided that night. I had no where to go and no clothes. I was angry at God and cried to some of my Christian friends at the mission, "Why me? Why is God doing this to me? Haven't I done everything asked of me?"

My friends from the Salt Lake City Mission tried to get me into a Christian women's shelter but they had no room, nor did the public shelter. All the doors seemed to be closing and I didn't know what to do. I cried out, "OK God. I give up. I give it all to You. I don't know what you want me to do so You show me what You want for me." We went to the YWCA and they had a bed for me. I began to thank God for His mercy!

Ever since I repented and surrendered to God, so many doors have been opening for me. I now have my own apartment with a warm bed to sleep in. I attend all the bible studies I can and I have new, clean clothes given to me regularly, as my life is changing in exciting and positive ways. God is truly providing everything I need as I learn to trust Him and live responsibly for my own actions, working hard to be a blessing to others and God Himself. I PRAISE GOD!

Now I know I'm forgiven I can forgive other also. I now have a godly desire to pray for my ex-boy friend. I feel sad when I think about him and ask God to help him. I know God will answer my prayers. I just hope it's not too late. Maybe you can help me pray for him also. All praise and glory to Jesus!

### Joy

Many people have heard that JOY means Jesus first, Others next, and Yourself last. But in a Christmas sermon in 1998, Pastor Phil Toole of Mountain Valley Community Church of Scottsdale, Arizona, put it this way.

Jesus

O

You

"The 'J' stands for Jesus," said Pastor Toole. "The 'Y' stands for you. Do you know what the 'O' stands for? It stands for zero. Just what it says—nothing. In other words the way to stay close to Jesus and keep joy in your heart is let nothing between Jesus and you."

# “Behold, I Bring YOU Good Tidings of Great Joy”

Jesus is Born - Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them,

**Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.**

**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.**

**And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.**

**And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,**

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

# Wise Men Still Seek Him!

# Do You Have A Christian Estate Plan For You Family?

**A Christian Estate Plan Is:** One that protects your family, avoids unnecessary taxation and recognizes that God is the owner and we are His stewards. **Have you made adequate arrangements for transferring the stewardship of your estate?** *Develop your plan at: [www.saltlakecitymission.org/pcx.html](http://www.saltlakecitymission.org/pcx.html)* and click on the Estate Plan Organizer.

Whether your estate is modest or substantial, you have three choices of where to direct your assets at death: Loved Ones; Ministries You Care About; or the I.R.S. *To discover how you can ensure your assets go where you want them to, visit us at: [www.saltlakecitymission.org/pcx.html](http://www.saltlakecitymission.org/pcx.html)* and click on Estate Plan Organizer.

## Mission Immediate Needs

Please help as much as you can and as much as you are able!

- Money Drives** - All types of financial donations, money, stocks, bonds, land, houses, businesses, grants, etc. Fund-raiser's are critically needed, accepted and always appreciated!
- Clothing Drives** - Coats, hats, gloves, pants, socks, underwear, shirts, tee shirts, sweaters, thermal underwear, ski suits, insulated coveralls, etc.
- Food Drives** - Canned goods of all types, all types of boxed foods and dry goods, all types of meats, ie. Beef, Lamb, Deer, Elk, Turkey, Ham, ect...
- Blanket Drives** - Blankets, sleeping bags, pillows, bed spreads, linen, tents, mummy bags, tarps, etc.
- Hygiene Kit Drives** - Soap, shampoo, combs, hair brushes, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, wash cloths, tooth brush & paste, famine hygiene supplies, etc.
- Christmas Present Gift Drives** - Wrapped and or unwrapped Christmas gifts of all types for all ages...Men's, Women's and especially Children's. Thousands Needed!
- House hold Items Drives** - Pots, pans, dishes, cups, bowls, silverware, all types of kitchen utensils...

**Don't miss the greatest GIFT of ALL! - JESUS!**

For Jesus Said: “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” Revelation 3:20 KJV  
Open the door of your heart today and let Him in!

**What A Gift!**