

# Have A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2013

## Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission, P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0142 - Phone 801-355-6310 - December 2012

### Victory in Jesus!

My name is David Hill and I'm 52 years old. I am a disciple at the Salt Lake City Mission. I come from a relatively large family albeit not very close or "tight-knit." We are spread all over the world from the United States to the Far East.



As far as the immediate family, I am the oldest of three boys. My mother was a saint and my father left a lot to be desired as far as raising children. We were a military family which meant moving around a lot. I remember one year when I was younger, attending three different schools before the 8th was over (Germany, North Carolina, and Washington State).

You would have thought it would have been a great life for a kid however, the "old man" brought his job home with him. We were expected to be his little soldiers and when we were not up to "snuff" we were punished severely. Punishment included everything from belts, razor straps, open hand slaps, fists...etc. The worst day of my young life was the day he brought home a "cat-o-nine-tails." For those of you who have never heard of this device, the Wikipedia has defined it as a "multi-tailed whip that originated as an implement for severe physical punishment, notably in the Royal Navy and Army of the United Kingdom, and also as a judicial punishment in Britain and some other countries." It was about 30 inches in length with separated ropes at the end to inflict greater pain and damage to the individual. Sure, we were able to see a lot of the world through the "old man's" military involvement. But, it came at a great price.

I do, however, have the Army to thank you for getting me out of that house. You would have thought I'd had enough of the military but, that was the only way to get out of Germany where the "old man" eventually retired.

After service to my country was over, I made the mistake of getting married two different times, to women who acted with evil intent. Of course I didn't discover that until six and eighteen years after I married them. Aside from all of the pain, they did bless me with three beautiful children. My second wife made the divorce process quite painful emotionally and in particular, financially. At any rate, a combination of events that followed led to where I found myself homeless. At first I was devastated over all the things I lost...cars, trucks, a business, a home...you know, "The American Dream."

Eventually, I began to roam the country and make it a point to see every state in the union. In my travels, I stayed at a few shelters and

the occasional motel. But most of the time, I found myself quite at home living in the woods.

After about two or maybe three years of life on the road, I met a man on a highway in Alabama. This man caught me at my lowest. I had spent some time in "the bottle" and was convinced that at that point in time, I would die. In retrospect, I consider this man now to have been an angel on earth. He had told me not to give up and that "God has a plan for you!" I had no reason to doubt him due to the circumstances I was in at the time. So I began my walk with my Lord Jesus that day. I began reading the bible daily and talking with God a lot, as one is apt to when alone in the woods so much.

I used to pray for material things but I came to know that God would provide me with everything that I needed. What's more, I was never hungry, thirsty, or in doubt of my next destination. I lived by "The Lord is my Shepard, I shall not want."

Several years past, about six or seven of them, and eventually I found myself in North Dakota. After a couple of brief jobs, as I was usually able to find, I decided to leave North Dakota and head back to south Texas. I reached Iowa and the Lord put it on my heart to come to Salt Lake City. Upon arrival, I asked the Lord, "Well, I'm here. Now what?" Three days later, I was invited to join the ministry at the Salt Lake City Mission. I thoroughly enjoy giving back to the community that through the Lord's good graces had taken care of me for so many years.

The man I met in Alabama was right. God did have a plan for me. The home I was looking for and family I needed were right here all along. I just had to be sent to Salt Lake City and the Mission to find them. Today, God guides me in my life and I am truly thankful every day for the Lord's wisdom and the Salt Lake City Mission.

### 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

Others

Yourself

"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!**