

# The New Testament Tabernacle Journal

A Quarterly Spiritual Newsletter

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## The Face of Evil By Elder Franklin Rutledge

**T**he face is the identifying character of the whole person or thing. Halloween is the face of Evil. The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ should not celebrate evil; Halloween. We should not rationalize the giving of candy or the wearing of masks to celebrate Halloween in any degree.

Halloween started under a religious pagan celebration before it was given its current name. It started under the Celtic regime long before Christianity started. Like all cultures, the Celts had a warring faction that carried out its laws and rules.

They were called the Druids; the Priest of the Grove. The Druids were fierce warriors. They would sacrifice one of their warriors to kill one warrior of the enemy. The Druids believed in the power of demons, and also the manifestation of demons.

At a certain time of the year, they would summon up evil spirits to attack different homes. When these demons appeared, the Druids would make

masks and clothing that looked like these demons.

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, wherever the Druids were dwelling, no young female was allowed to leave their house.

At evening, the Druids would look for a female sacrifice. They would go to a house and mark it. They would ask for the female in the house. If they were treated, then it would be well with the house. If they were not treated, then that house would receive a trick.

The demons would come by and burn the house down with the family in it. If they were treated with a female sacrifice they would eat her from her private parts to the breasts.

After the Church (Catholic) spread into Ireland, the Romans overthrow the Druids. They merged the pagan celebration into the Church with all of its rituals to appease the defeated Druids.

Around May 13, 609 AD, the Church celebrated the first All Saints Day or All Hallows' Day.

It was later moved to October 31, which was the

same day of the pagan celebration. This was the day to remember all the

saints that had died, but they believed that their spirits came back and walked on the earth on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

As the celebration continued each year, other ghostly and evil things were added to Halloween. How should the Church respond to Halloween? We should reject the face of Evil. Matt 15:19, states that evil is in the heart, but Jesus has given us a new heart. Acts 19:18-20; I John 4:16-18.

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

### God is in Control! By Sister Barbara Bolton, Editor

As we witness the changes in the season, we see God's handy work unfold in all its beauty. The leaves are changing its colors; pretty soon the snow will blanket the ground. Families will come together to celebrate the Holidays. These changes for us are familiar and comfortable.

Change is inevitable we can either embrace it or turn away from it, what matters is how we deal with it. Change can be difficult mainly because we're not sure of the outcome. It forces us to face challenges we may or may not be ready for without question. However the word of God declares that there is an appointed time for all things.

We should not think it strange when changes occur in our lives. Change can be a good thing. The scripture states in Ecclesiastes 3:17 for there is a time for every purpose and for every work. As the season of our lives change we must remember that the one thing that remains true and constant is God, He is in control!

When we keep God at the forefront of our lives then the transitions that we face won't be as difficult to go through because He is with us and will never forsake us. At the very best we should always know with certainty that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who



are the called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28). We must pursue life with purpose and with the mindset that God knows exactly what he is doing in each of our lives.

## A Healthy You!

### “Do Thy Body NO Harm!” - Our Body, the Temple of God By Sister Patricia Strong

The great preacher of Ecclesiastes wrote, “The thing that hath been, *it is that* which shall be; and that which is done *is that* which shall be done: and there is no new *thing* under the sun. Is there *any thing* whereof it may be said, See, this is new? It hath been already of old time, which was before us.” Chapter 1: verses 9 & 10

Today, if it feels good – do it! We are now living in times where caution is thrown to the wind—again. For this quarter and next, I wish to speak on God's expectations and requirements given to us in the care of our **body – the temple of God**. What too is startling is that as mothers and grandmothers, we have given our children “carte blanche” when it comes to doing what they want with their bodies. Our bodies are special! Not only are they special, but the Apostle Paul reminded the church of Corinth that our bodies were sacred unto God and all of our faculties were meant to be holy unto the Lord. We are the creation of God's hands, we are the fruit of God's labor, we are the apple of His eye, we are the pride of His heart, and we are the choice object of God's eternal love.

There was a time when mothers and grandmothers “preached” strong words of warning against negative vices we might have pondered to do to our bodies, but we thought twice before doing them. You see, the fear of God was embedded in us to the point we felt God, himself, would come down to get us, if we did! Do we no longer fear God? Yes, in all honesty I think we no longer fear or care about God's feelings when we chose to desecrate this earthly vessel He has so beautifully made! **How have you taken care of your body – the temple of God?** We'll continue this conversation in our next edition.

# Savvy Management

## Tithes and Offerings – Part 2 By Dr. Mya T. Bowen, Ed. D. MBA, MSPA

**T**oday, as in times past, we see the Lord challenging us in Malachi 3:10 (Amplified Bible):

Bring all the tithes (the whole tenth of your income) into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and prove Me now by it, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

It is by faith in God's ability to do all things, but fail, that inspires us to tithe. Tithing is a practice that reverences the sovereignty of God. It is an acknowledgement, by faith, that God has given us the ability to earn wages (or substance); "For in him we **live**, and **move**, and **have** our being;" (Acts 17:28a, King James).

The giving of offerings by the people has significance in terms of our faithfulness and results in abundance; according to 2 Chronicles 31:10 (Amplified Bible):

*...Since the people began to bring the offerings into the Lord's house, we have eaten and have plenty left, for the Lord has blessed His people, and what is left is this great store [abundance].*

The faithfulness of the people mentioned above is of great importance because they revered God; "*But **without faith** it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that **he is a rewarder** of them that diligently seek him*" (Hebrews 11:6, King James).

Therefore, the people not only professed, but practiced faithfulness in the giving of both their offerings and tithes; "*And brought in the offerings and the **tithes** and the dedicated things faithfully:* (2 Chronicles 31:12a, King James).

As a people with a heart after God, we have been and are being questioned:

Will a man rob or defraud God? Yet you rob and defraud Me. But you say, In what way do we rob or defraud You? [You have withheld your] tithes and offerings. (Malachi 3:8, Amplified Bible).

In the next issue of our Newsletter, I will continue with the discussion and review of "*Tithes and Offerings – Part 3.*"

If you have missed an issue, find it online at <http://nttbloomfield.yolasite.com/newsletter.php>.

~**May God bless you, heaven smile upon you, in the precious name of Jesus. Amen.** ~



### A Prayer for Thanksgiving By Maya Angelou

Father, Mother, God Thank you for your presence during the hard and mean days. For then we have you to lean upon. Thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days For then we can share that which we have With those who have less. And thank you for your presence During the Holy Days, for then we are able to celebrate you and our families and our friends. For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak. For those who feel unworthy, we ask you to pour your love out in waterfalls of tenderness.

For those who live in pain, we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing. For those who are lonely, we ask you to keep them company. For those who are depressed, we ask you to shower upon them the light of hope.

Dear Creator, You, the borderless Sea of substance, we ask you to give to all the World that which we need most — Peace.

## POETRY CORNER!

### Elevated Life By Sister Rosemary McClain

**F**ive mountain tops only one pure and white, called attention to my sight. A challenge sprung within as the call came to ascend. No matter the path rugged or harsh, accomplish the task and know changes at last.

A beauty within to become more like him as I climbed the mountain with Him. Mountains to climb, victories I see...

There is no change unless you can see.

Snowcapped mountains glow in delight as the sun shown on the top gave everyone sight-while the mountains around stood dark and cold. The snowcapped mountain is where to go; a challenge indeed to conquer life's battles and get the victory. To ascend to the top makes you want to drop. Keep following the path that brings you to your knees. Knowing this changes come when you bend your knees.

*New Testament Tabernacle, House of Prayer for All People in Bloomfield is here waiting in love to serve the needs of the whole family and community through worship, witness, Bible Study, and fellowship. We extend a warm invitation to you and your family to join us in our worship services as we have noted below.*

**Order of Service**

**Sunday**  
Sunday school.....9:45 am  
Morning Worship...11:30 am  
Evening Worship.....6:00 pm

**Weekly**  
Tuesday.....Bible Study  
Wednesday.....Noon Day Prayer  
Thursday....."Happy" Hour (Prayer)

**Doctrinal Statement**

**We believe....***that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, written by holy men of old as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. That God is infinite in power; holy in nature, attributes and purpose. We believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and that He ascended on high and has sent His spirit, the Holy Ghost, which was poured out in Jerusalem over 2000 year ago, and is the same spirit that fills hearts today. We believe in baptism in water by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38) for the remission of sins, and the infilling of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Acts 2:4). We further believe in living a holy, sanctified life; in divine healing, foot-washing and communion; as we await the glorious return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (Rapture) to catch away **His Church** to live with Him throughout eternity.*

**NEW TESTAMENT TABERNACLE**

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**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**