



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ

Volume 16 Number 02

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January 02, 2005

## My Lines

By Micah Williams

### “The Fall And Rising Of Many . . .”

Forty days after His birth, Jesus was taken to the temple in Jerusalem. There He was greeted by Simon, an old, holy man, who took Him in his arms and uttered a remarkable prophecy: **“Behold this child is destined for the fall and rising in Israeli and for a sign which will be spoken against . . . that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”** (Luke 2:34-35) These words provide an apt summary of what the life of Christ is about . . .

1.) **“Behold, This Child is Destined For the Fall and Rise of Many . . .”** No name in history has caused so many irrevocable changes. People who do not know, believe, or honor Him, still live better lives because He came. He lifted the name of the town of His youth – Nazareth. It had been a byword, a sneer: **“Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?”** Jesus changed that. Today thousands of pilgrims make their way there. He brought down the pride of Capernaum: It beheld miracles and

yawned; so Capernaum was brought low. The community has vanished just as Jesus said it would! He took the power and arrogance out of the word Pharisee: When He came ordinary people were cowed by the Pharisees’ assumption that they were the honored intimates of God. Jesus left the name in shambles. But He raised the name, Samaritan. It had been a sneer, a curse, an expression of contempt, but with one story Jesus made it a benediction and a blessing . . .

2.) **“And For A Sign Which Will Be Spoken Against . . .”**

Christ was not particularly welcome in the world to which He came. **“He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him .”** (John 1:11) Peter called Him, **“A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.”** (I Peter 2:8) This is a strange, hard saying; but history has confirmed its accuracy! During His earthly existence Jesus was called **“deceiver”** and Christianity was referred to as a **“sect everywhere spoken against.”** (Acts 28:22) The Greek verb **“spoken against”** is a present participle, indicating contin-

uous action. It is still going on! Increasingly in our world, expressions of faith in Christ are frowned upon. Today’s politically correct climate is blatantly hostile to Christianity!

3.) **“That The Thoughts of Many Hearts May be Reveled.”** Jesus is the Teller of Hearts; the Tester of men’s thoughts and purposes. Christ brings to light the intentions of the heart. Preaching Christ will either awaken loathing and opposition or love and obedience . . . He draws some, other He repels. The fact of His coming forces people to choose; to declare themselves; either for Him or against Him. (John 3:19) His coming into the world compels people to choose sides; to come to the light or remain in darkness!

Twenty centuries ago, God said at Bethlehem. **“Things don’t have to go on as they always have.”** He sent His Son to a world of depravity and despair and He offered the possibility of change! He brought hope to a hopeless world.

He can make a difference in your life . . . if you allow Him to come in . . .

Bobby Dockery  
The Seeker  
Fayetteville, AR

## Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

*“Too often we go along, vaguely unhappy or discontent about something, without stopping to figure out what’s really bothering us. The people who can identify what’s making them irritable have two choices. One is to do something about the situation. The other is to accept it and learn to live with it.”*

Source Unknown

*When you are unhappy do you know why? Do you try to find out and do something about it or do you like to keep it inside? Do you want to live in a constant simmer, never really knowing why you feel this way?*

*When we are unhappy we need to look to God for help. He will help us solve the problem or He will enable us to live with the situation. Then we can put it to rest. Anything is better than a constant simmer!*

*Our life here on earth can be enjoyable. God gives us each day as a blessing. We can ruin it or make something nice out of it. We can’t be a pessimist or a worrier. Focusing on someone else, rather than self, can often help more than anything else.*

*We should be encouraging and uplifting to others. We can’t do this when we are seething or simmering about something in our own life.*

*There are many situations in life that we can do nothing about. Being able to determine that and learning to live with it makes us a happier person. Certainly trying to change something or someone that can’t be changed can lead to a life of misery.*

*God doesn’t mean for us to be miserable. There is too much good to enjoy while we have the chance.*

## Remember Our Sick

*Thelma Hatcher - Second eye surgery rescheduled for February 14, 2005.*

*Debbie Myers – had surgery, came home Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, on antibiotics. Next doctor’s appointment, Wednesday December 29<sup>th</sup>.*

*Betty Walters – biopsy benign.*

Shut-ins: Needs your prayers and visits. All live in the Dover Area

*Evelyn Burton Louise Killer Mae Vanzandt*

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

*William and Susie Boley, Bernice Brown, John Clark, Barbara Dawson, Evelyn Driver, Lacey Gregory, Charles and Leota Hickey, Bob and Rose Lee, Jerry Martin, Joe Miller, Sandra Mooney, Shirley Pavatt, Teresa Phillips, Zachary Shelton, Henry and Edna Smith, Esther Sparks, Gordon Roughton, Juanita Townsend, Pauline Whorton, Harold and Mildred Turner.*

*Expectant Mothers: Christine Stone*

Military: John Allen, Jeremy Carter, Greg Davis, Paul Holt, Chris Pearson, Tom Pickle, Terry Robinson and Adam Schrepfer.

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

*Seth Robert Escue was born to the proud parents, Jack and Stacey Escue, Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, weighing 6 lbs., 6 oz.*

### Sympathy and Prayers:

*To the family of Sherrie Sherman, Carrie Clark’s mother, who passed away Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Memorial services were held Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, interment, Rushing Cemetery.*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*“He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new.’” (Rev. 21:5)*

*Is this familiar greeting a DECLARATION, or a QUESTION? Is your happiness in the coming year a WISH or is it a RESOLUTION?*

*It all depends on whether you believe happiness is contingent on circumstances, or a matter of commitment. If you’re one of those people who believe that conditions outside yourself determine happiness, chances are you also believe:*

*That people “fall in love,” rather than they DECIDE to love.*

*That anger is something others “MAKE YOU FEEL,” rather than a CHOSEN response.*

*That for all practical purposes, God is impotent, and His promises meaningless.*

*Whether life is LUCK or PROVIDENCE depends on one’s orientation to the Sovereignty of God. Unaided by divine intervention, the most careful planner, the shrewdest manager of life, may be undone by unkind circumstance.*

*On the other hand, the most innocent babe traveling through this jungle will not be deprived of true happiness if he responds to life’s adversities out of the conviction that “in all things, God works for good.” “Happy New Year” is a choice. To deny that is to deny the Faith. God’s people are NEVER at the mercy of circumstance. If that be true, why not?*

# EVENTS

## Mark Your Calendars

## January Birthdays

### Youth Outreach University!

January 14<sup>th</sup> Thru 16<sup>th</sup>

Morrilton Downtown  
Church of Christ

Grades 7 Thru 12

Students: \$15.00  
Elders: Free

Keynote Speakers:  
Jon Binkley  
Willie Franklin

Parents are encouraged to bring  
and/or go with their children.

For More information  
See Doug Wilson

### Devotional Scrapbooking Class

January 18<sup>th</sup> thru  
April 12<sup>th</sup>

Every Tuesday,  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Theme: “Fruits of the  
Spirit”

Dover Church of Christ

For More Information see:  
Karen Womack

### Men’s Devo

January 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

Dover Church of Christ

### Ladies Night

January 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

Hostess to be announced

### Mack Lyon

“In Search of the Lord’s Way”

This program airs each Sunday,  
8:00 AM, Channel 4, Little  
Rock.

### Pray for our Nation And Our Troops!

01	Alexis Boley
	Billy Walters
02	Sandra Mooney
03	Marilyn Veasman
07	Chris Moss
08	Micah Williams
11	Velva Bates
16	Carrie Clark
20	JoAnn Killer
	Teresa Parker
	Patsy Wisbrock
22	Bennie Lou
	Meadows
26	Klaus Mullins
28	Jack Escue
29	Troy Meadows

If we missed your birthday  
*please* let us know so that it will  
not happen again.

# ***THOSE TO SERVE***

***January 2, 2005***

**Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

## **Prayers**

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Donnie Forehand  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Gary Williams

## **Communion**

**Podium:** Earl Whitted  
**Serve:** Mike Creel  
Paul Williams  
Rex McDaniel  
Rick Hollis

## **Scripture Reading**

Blake Walters

**Sunday P.M.  
Prayers**

James Chadwick  
Jim Killer

# **SPEAKER**

**Sunday A.M.**

Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**

Micah Williams

## **Prepare Table for Communion**

John and Carrie Clark

## **Communion to Shut-Ins**

John Myers  
Lawrence Boley

## **Greeters**

Earl and Frances Kennedy

## **Wednesday Night Devotional**

**January 5, 2005**

Dennis Whiteside

**Meeting Times**  
**Sunday Morning Bible Classes**  
9:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
10:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Evening Worship**  
6:00 P.M.  
**Ladies Tuesday Bible Class**  
10:00 A.M.  
**Wednesday Bible Classes**  
7:00 P.M.

**Minister:** Micah Williams  
**Church Office:** 479-331-3428  
**Or Cell:** 479-264-9244

## **Elders:**

William Boley 858-7131  
Jim Killer 331-2802  
Allen Veasman 331-2156

## **Deacons:**

Donny Forehand  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Joe Miller

## **Nursery Attendants:**

**Sunday Class:** Charlene Clark  
Patsy Wisbrock

**Sunday Service:** Michaela Boley

**Wednesday Class:** Joan Vance  
Kaeli Miller

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