Antioch Newsletter



INSPIRATIONAL CORNER

The Bright and Morning Star.

The first reference to the morning star as an individual is in <u>Isaiah 14:12</u>: "How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!" (NIV). The KJV and NKJV both translate "morning star" as "Lucifer, son of the morning." It is clear from the rest of the passage that Isaiah is referring to Satan's fall from heaven (<u>Luke 10:18</u>). So in this case, the morning star refers to Satan. In <u>Revelation 22:16</u>, Jesus unmistakably identifies Himself as the morning star. Why are both Jesus and Satan described as the "morning star"?

It is interesting to note that the concept of the "morning star" is not the only concept that is applied to both Jesus and Satan. In <u>Revelation 5:5</u>, Jesus is referred to as the Lion of the tribe of Judah. In <u>1 Peter 5:8</u>, Satan is compared to a lion, seeking someone to devour. The point is this, both Jesus and Satan, to a certain extent, have similarities to lions. Jesus is similar to a lion in that He is the King, He is royal and majestic. Satan is similar to a lion in that he seeks to devour other creatures. That is where the similarities between Jesus, Satan, and lions end, however. Jesus and Satan are like lions in very different ways.

The idea of a "bright morning star" is a star that outshines all the others, and Jesus is the One who is called "bright." Satan was a morning star. Jesus, as God incarnate, the Lord of the universe, is the BRIGHT and morning star. Jesus is the most holy and powerful "light" in all the universe. So, while both Jesus and Satan can be described as "morning stars," in no sense is this equating Jesus and Satan. Satan is a created being. His light only exists to the extent that God created it. Jesus is the light of the world (John 9:5). Only Jesus' light is "bright" and self-existent. Satan may be a morning star, but he is only a poor imitation of the one true bright morning star, Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Author Unknown

Submitted by Minister Richard D. Mills

BIBLE TRIVIA

Who did the Holy Spirit assure that they would not die until they saw Jesus?





ANTIOCH USHERS 60TH ANNIERSARY

On November 19th, the Joint Board of Ushers celebrated its 60th Anniversary. Our preacher for the afternoon was none other that our own Minister Richard D. Mills. We had a glorious time in the Lord. Our Vice Bishop Mark A. Moses and Lady Moses surprised us and came to celebrate our day with us. What a blessing!





CELEBRATION TIME!

ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17th, SOME OF THE LADIES OF ANTIOCH ALONG WITH TRUSTEE MATTIE SIMMS (NEW COVENANT) CELEBRATED WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS ELDER YOLANDA COPELAND'S 60TH BIRTHDAY.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LADY YOLANDA. YOU LOOK MARVELOUS!!

THE LADIES OF ANTIOCH VISIT THE FIRST LADY

On Sunday, December 10, 2023, after morning worship, the women of Antioch, along with friends made a surprise visit to First Lady Constance F. Brown. Through the rain and fog we ventured out. We were determined! We were on a mission. She was very surprised and happy to see each one of us. We laughed, ate, sang and had much fun. As you can see, we each had on yellow tee shirts (First Lady's favorite color) with a word that was unique to express to her what she means to us. It was a glorious time. We thank God for the Cheeks who opened their doors and helped to surprise the First Lady of Antioch

Evangelist Dr. Constance F. Brown.



WHOSE SHOES ARE YOU FILLING?

Sunday, December 18th, Sister Sheryl Little sponsored a service entitled, "Whose Shoes are You Filling?" Members of Antioch and guests of Sister Little came to talk to us about how to walk in the shoes God gave us; our Sister Tessa Williams sang from the bottom of her heart. It was a very informative and high spirited service.

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DISTRICT NEWS

On Friday and Saturday, November 3rd &4th, the Northeastern District Assembly Ushers League celebrated their 54th Annual Convention. On Friday, Elder Joseph C. Copeland Sr. delivered the Guide Sermon. It was an inspirational word on our theme: "The Blueprint of a True Usher" and on Saturday, the President, Sister Doris Govan gave her presidential address (Take Off The Mask). Also, Elder Dr. Ella M. Johnson gave us *all* words of encouragement. It was a powerful weekend. The ushers, along with the entire congregation were blessed.





The League presented Evangelist Carol Moses with a plaque in memory of her husband and our Bishop MacDonald Moses. He was a great encourager and supporter of the Ushers League.

Also, our Mother Anna Belle Rembert spent both days with us . She just celebrated her 102nd birthday and is the oldest usher in the Assembly. As you can see, she loved her flowers.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS



During the Northeastern District Assembly Ushers League Convention, *Sister Jazmin D. Forbes* received an award for her dedicated service to the Ushers League. She has been an Antioch usher for more than 22 years. We congratulate you Jazmin for your untiring service to Antioch as well as the District Assembly Ushers League.





Antioch has a new usher and we are excited. **Brother Zaquan Davis**, great-grandson of president Doris Govan has joined the usher board of Antioch. Welcome Zaquan (Zay). We are delighted to have you with us.

FOR THE NEW YEAR

Every Day God thinks of you. Psalm 68:19

Every Hour God looks after you. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

Every Minute God cares for you.1 Peter 5:7

Because Every Second He loves you. Jeremiah 31:3

BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

Sister Charlotte Short 7th Sister Annette Dean 15th



THOUGHT FOR MONTH

Be careful not to focus on ALL of your troubles because you will miss out on ALL of your blessings!



BIBLE TRIVIA ANSWER

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2:25 Now a man named **Simeon** was in Jerusalem. This man was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the Holy Spirit would comfort Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's not die until he had seen the Lord's

Antioch Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ Inc.

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December 16, 2023

"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King; Behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and are come to worship Him." (Matthew 2:1-2).

Greetings Antioch Church Family;

"Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

We have embarked on what is considered to be the most celebrated holiday season in our calendar year, "Christmas." We look forward to that day which we celebrate. Christmas Eve is on Sunday the 24th in this year of 2023 and we can say that's a blessing. We have the opportunity to praise our Lord with uplifted hands, and sincere **joy, together** as we worship Him in Spirit and truth. We give glory to God for this time together and say Hallelujah, for God has given His Son to save us from our sin. "Thank you, Lord!"

Let us remember those whom we see so often through the year: the impoverished, the hungry, the unfortunate, the sick, and the disturbed. We must remember that it is our responsibility to minister and to introduce Christ as we serve those who are less fortunate. We thank God for the ministry that He has given to us. As we look back over the years, we are reminded that we are His servants. God has been good to us that we may continue to serve, to love, and to minister.

Thank you for your dedication, commitments, your support and all that you have done through this year of 2023. We have made great strides. We have done great work. We are grateful for the accomplishments that we are now able to enjoy: *"The Renovation of the Sanctuary."* Thank you Lord for granting us the provisions and the love in our hearts to see it through. We now look forward to a greater work in the coming year in our community, in our ministry, in our study, in our, teaching and preaching, and even our fellowship with sister churches. Most of all, we want to open the doors of our hearts and establish a stronger wave in ministry to our community.

May I say that I am grateful to the officers, the ministerial staff, and the body as a whole. You are to be commended for your dedication and support. Thank you. Let us continue to work together. Let us continue the love that we have, *(it's the Love of Christ),* and bond that we have for the work in Kingdom Building. The Lord is gracious and merciful. He will guide us to our next level of accomplishments.

I pray the Lord will grant each and every one good health and strength, good fellowship with family and friends as we enter the New Year. We will continue to do the work the Lord has charged to our hands.

God Bless you Antioch Church Family; May the Lord give you peace. May His face shine upon you as we go forward in Him.

Sincerely In the Master's Service

Bishop Leonard & Brown, D.D. Pastor

Merry Christmas, and a Very Happy New Year

To God be the Glory!

This edition of the Antioch Newsletter is dedicated to

AND IN REMEMBRANCE OF

Brother

John Henry Satchel



"DEATH TAKES THE BODY GOD TAKES THE SOUL OUR MIND HOLDS THE MEMORIES OUR HEART KEEPS THE LOVE OUR FAITH LETS US KNOW WE WILL MEET AGAIN."



SISTER IVESTIA BLAKE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SISTER PORTIA ARMSTRONG, EDITOR SISTER CYNTHIA L. BLAKE, EDITOR SISTER KATHY SMITH-BLAKE, REPORTER SISTER DORIS GOVAN, REPORTER MINISTER RICHARD D. MILLS, REPORTER