

Ozark Christian Schools of Neosho  
PO Box 398, Neosho, MO 64850-0398  
(417) 451-2057 -- www.obiwweb.org

# Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

*From the staff and faculty of  
Ozark Bible Institute and College*

## The STANDARD BEARER

Volume 44, No. 6

November/December 2013

*"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).*



"A place where God can help Himself to young lives." *Founder D. C. Branham*

### A HARD-WORKING CHRISTIAN WOMAN

*By President Daniel E. Taylor*



Betty Workman

January 5, 1929-July 4, 2013

*(Editor's note: This is a condensed version of the message Brother Taylor preached at Sister Betty Workman's funeral. It is a great tribute to a great lady. WEJ)*

*"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).*

This Scripture came to me after hearing the family talk about Sister Workman at the nursing home the night she passed. People tend to detest preachers that are always spouting off about what the Scripture

says in the Greek. So, I try to avoid it for that reason, and also because I know very little Greek. I tell people I know a little Greek and his name is Nick.

About thirty years ago, I took an Introduction to Greek class and 2 Timothy 2:15 was the verse assigned for us to study in the original Greek. *"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* The word "study" is a Greek word that sounds like "spou daz o." It is used two more times in Second Timothy, only it is not translated "study," but it is rather translated "diligence." First, in II Timothy 4:9, *"Do thy **diligence** to come shortly unto me."* Then in 2 Timothy 4:21, *"Do thy **diligence** to come before winter."* If some one is "diligent," it means they are dependable, dedicated and hard working! **If those words ever described anybody they describe Betty Workman.** A Christian "Workman" *"that needeth not to be ashamed."*

I want to define 2 Timothy 2:15, so here is the verse, in my own words: "Put all your heart into having the Lord's approval on your life, do this by being a **workman** that has nothing to be ashamed of because you have rightly balanced your obedience to the truth of God's Word."

Sometime between 8:40 and 8:45 p.m. on the Fourth of July, Sister Betty Workman entered into the joys of the Lord. And, standing in His presence, she had nothing of which to be ashamed. Let me tell you why.

**First, Sister Workman had nothing to be ashamed of because she knew in whom she had believed and was persuaded He was able to keep what she had committed unto Him against that day—July 4, 2013.**

I didn't find anyone who could tell me when Sister Workman was saved—maybe her siblings could tell me. All I know is "she was a mother in Zion" long before I ever knew her. But I know this much, Sister Workman did what all sinners should do when they are confronted with their sins—she repented and found forgiveness.

Somewhere back among those old photos we saw last night, there was a day when Sister Workman knelt at an altar and Jesus came into her heart. And she became a "**workman**" for Him, laid her hand to the plow, and never looked back

**Second, Sister Workman did exactly what 2 Timothy 2:15 tells all of us we should do, she concentrated on serving the Lord!**

Every person from the church said Sister Betty had the right name, "Workman," because she was a worker.

*(Concluded on page 2)*

Sister Rogers said that, one day at the school, Sister Workman complained because she couldn't handle the eight foot tables anymore like she used to (She was in her 70's).

Sister Workman served the Lord in a variety of ways:

- (1) She was secretary at OCA for several years.
- (2) She worked in the cafeteria.
- (3) She cleaned the church.

Sister Tina Edwards remembered when she was a child, if a toilet overflowed someone would yell, "Go get Sister Workman!" Sister Prihoda worked with Sister Workman for years. Here is what she said about her: "She was stable in her convictions and she lived what she preached and preached what she lived. **She was dependable.** You could count on her. **She was a perfectionist.** She would say, 'If you don't have time to do it right, when are you going to have time to do it over?' **She had a gentle spirit.** She was a sweet lady. **She loved the Lord,** she loved her children, she loved her grandchildren, and she loved the students. **She had a natural concern for people's souls.** She was more than a secretary, she was a real friend." The reason Sister Prihoda felt this way about Sister Workman is because, Sis Workman "*studied to show herself approved unto God!*"

**Third, Sister Workman did something else that is mentioned in 2 Timothy 2:15—she rightly balanced her obedience to the truth of God's Word.**

I have told you some of the things that people who worked with Sister Workman said about her diligence, **but she was as diligent in spiritual work as she was in physical work.**

Sister Workman's grand-daughter, Carmen, told me about getting pinched, and so did Mike and Tom. Carmen also told me about the trip from the front of the church so Grandma could apply the rod of correction to the seat of learning. Randy Snow wasn't the only one that was carried out!

Let me say to Sister Workman's children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, I hope the memory of Mama taking you to the house of God keeps on pinching you! Sister Workman was diligent in spiritual work as she was in literal work. One of the things Scott Edwards said he remembered about Sister Workman when he was growing up was all the times the Lord used her to give a message in tongues.

Sister Lorraine Branham told me a precious memory about Sister Workman yesterday. On October 18, 1972 at Convocation here in the church, Sister Lorraine was still in high school and had come from Arkansas with

her parents to Convocation. She was praying and Sister Workman stayed and prayed with her until she received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Everybody else in the packed house had left, except Sister Workman. Sister Lorraine said if she hadn't stayed, she would not have received the Baptism.

Another thing Scott said about Sister Workman, "I remember when growing up, you could look to a certain spot and Sister Moore, Sister Briscoe, and Sister Workman would be there— **always faithful to the house of God.**"

In closing, I want all you

who loved Sister Workman to remember the text, "*Study to show thyself approved unto God, a **workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.***" But I also want you to remember the other two verses where "study" (spoudazō) is used. 2 Timothy 4:9 "*Do thy **diligence** to come shortly unto me.*" This life is short at its best, do your best to make sure you will get to see Sister Workman again! And in 4:21 "*Do thy **diligence** to come before winter.*" This verse literally says, "Come before the storm hits." **Come before Jesus comes and the tribulation begins!**

### Upon Receiving A Portrait Of My Mother

*By Wm. Cowper*

Could those few pleasant days again appear,  
If one wish could bring them, would I bring them here?

I could not trust my soul the dear delight

For so to be desired I believe I might

But no, for that which we have here is such,

That there is so little to be loved, and I love you so much

That I could not ill requite thee to constrain

And bring your unbounded spirit into bonds again.

The winds of grace have brought thee to that shore

Where billows never beat nor tempest roar.

And thy beloved consort on the dangerous tide of life,

Now you've safely anchored by His side.

But me scarce hoping to attain that rest,

Always from port withheld always distressed.

Winds beat devious tempest-tossed

Sail ripped wide open and my compass lost,

But to know that thou art safe inside with He,

That thought brings joy no matter what happens to me.

It is not that I deduce my birth

From loins enthroned or rulers of the earth

But higher far my proud pretensions rise

I'm the (son, daughter) of a mother who has passed into the skies.

So time has only half succeeded in its theft

Thou art taken, but your power to soothe me has left.

*(The poem is not exactly like the original. My memory is not as good as it once was, but these are the lines as I quoted them.) Sincerely, Daniel E Taylor*



Student body choreographing a song



Mike Pennington Family  
Field Director

*“Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:6-7).*



2013 Graduates



Drama by students at the graduation service.



Roof tiles blown off by tornado November 1, 2013



Crowd of over 250 underneath the awnings loaned to the school by the mayor of the local municipality.

Once again we are approaching the season of the year when the historical event of the birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated. God became a human to show us His nature and to die for our sins. His life and death truly are moments in history to remember.

We had a few historical events at the Bible school in the past few weeks. Graduation 2013 was on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. It was the first full 2 year graduating class, and the first graduation held outside. The mayor of San Miguel Petapa (the county where the school is located) set up four canopies for the crowd of 250 plus that attended. It was a good thing too, because it started raining during the ceremonies. There were 13 graduates representing 4 countries. Please pray for them as they pursue God’s calling on their lives.

On Saturday November 1, an actual tornado, which is unheard of in Guatemala, passed through and tore off some of the roofing on the Bible school and mission house, and blew down more of the trees behind the school. The cost to fix the roofs is less than the deductible of our insurance. It will be \$700-\$900 for the repairs.

**Should you like to help on this project, please designate your offering accordingly.**

May all of you have a joyous and worshipful holiday season, and may you *“be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*

For souls,  
The Penningtons

**OBI GUATEMALA**

Wind damage repairs \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Any donations should be sent to  
OBI Guatemala, PO Box 398  
Neosho, MO 64850

Daniel E. Taylor, *Editor-in-Chief*  
Wallace E. Joice, *Editor* Carol J. Joice, *Graphic Art*

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## “GLADDEST” MOST OF ALL FOR JESUS

*By Charles S. Price*

*(Editor’s note: I have had this story for somewhere around a half-century. I have told it many times. It has been a great blessing to me; I hope it will be to you. Brother Price was known as “the silver-tongued orator of Pentecost.” Reprinted from December 1975 issue of The Standard Bearer and originally from the December 13, 1947 Pentecostal Evangel—WEJ)*

It was Christmas Eve in London. The air was bitterly cold and the sleet that had fallen during the day had been turned to ice under the cruel hand of Jack Frost. There is always bustle, and stir, and activity on the night before Christmas, and cold icebound London was no exception to the rule. The shop windows were brilliantly illuminated and the stores were crowded with people doing the last-minute shopping before the dawn of Christmas day.

In front of one of the largest stores in the city three little girls were standing hand in hand, gazing into the window. They were fascinated. Their thin little bodies were shivering beneath insufficient clothing; their teeth were chattering with the cold; but they were seemingly fascinated by the gorgeous and brilliant array of toys on which their poor little eyes feasted.

Three little girls stood in front of the window, but only two of them could see. The one in the center was blind—stone blind. Their dolls were made of rags. Their playthings were what they managed to pick up—but they could look at the toys exhibited in the window. You see, it cost nothing—not a penny to look.

As they were standing in front of the window, a well-known surgeon rushed out of the shop with his arms

filled with toys for his own happy little children. He almost bumped into the three little figures that were standing on the sidewalk. As he saw them gazing wistfully into the beautiful window of the shop, it touched his heart. Their poverty-stricken condition made him hesitate for just a moment.

He listened. The little girl on the outside was speaking.

“Over there,” she said, “right next to the soldier, is a beautiful dolly’s house. I never saw a dolly’s home so big! It has windows that open, and a real door—and—”

“Yes, and over on the other side is the most beautiful doll with long brown curls,” said the little girl on the other side.

“And I think,” replied the other friend, “she closes her eyes when you lay her down, and she can walk, and—”

The doctor interrupted. He wondered why it was necessary for them to explain to the thin, wan little girl in the center. Stooping down, he looked into her eyes, and saw she was blind.

Throwing his bundles into the back seat of his car, he came back to the three little waifs on the street.

“She ain’t got no mama,” said one of the little in answer to his question.

“Her mama is dead,” piped up the other one, “and she lives with us.”

Quickly he won their confidence; and assuring them who he was, he drove down into the sordid, poverty-stricken east end and halted his car in front of a typical slum dwelling. He mounted the steps. A slatternly woman told her story. She had been doing her best to care for the little orphan. The little blind girl was not hers, but she had felt so sorry for her that she had taken her in the day that her mother died.

“I am an eye specialist,” the doctor said. “I am convinced an operation

can bring sight to those little eyes. Yes, I want to take her with me. It will not cost you a penny. If I fail it could not be worse for the little girl than it is now; if I succeed this poor little girl will see.”

The story ran through one of London’s hospitals like wildfire. The nurses talked it in the corridors and the interns passed the story along. One of London’s famous surgeons had picked up a little blind girl, and he who had catered to the rich was now to operate on one of the poor.

The little girl from the street soon won her way into the hearts of all who came in contact with her, and more than one person prayed that those little blind eyes would see.

The operation was over. The smell of ether permeated the corridors. In her private room the little girl sat with the bandages around her eyes. The doctor sat by the side of the bed and stroked her head. “It will be a little while yet,” he said, “and then one at a time we shall take off the bandages; and I believe, my little darling, you will be able to see for the first time in your life.”

The nurse was busy in the corner of the room. They had put up a beautiful Christmas tree. Electric lights of various colors hung from its branches. Right in front was a beautiful doll’s house, the identical one that had been in the London shop. By the side of the doll’s house there rested a beautiful doll with lovely brown curls, and many other things that the heart of a little girl could desire. They were so arranged that they would be seen first of all when the bandages were taken off.

The moment arrived, and one by one, off came the bandages. Just one more. The nurse’s heart stopped beating; the hand of the doctor shook; slowly in the dimly lighted room

*(Concluded on page 5)*

the last bandage came off. The little eyelids raised. There was a smothered little gasp of joy. She saw.

She looked at the beautiful colored lights. She gazed in rapture at the doctor. She looked happily at the doll house. The doctor looked through his tears and said, "All these are for you my dear. They are all yours—every one."

The little thing smiled and said the one word, "Mine!" Then she gazed

intently into the face of the doctor and smiled. The doctor pointed out the doll, but she could only look at the doctor. He pointed to the tree and the lights, but her eyes invariably came back to the doctor's.

"Don't you like the pretty things?" asked the doctor. "Don't you like the doll?"

"Oh! Yes," she replied, "I am very glad for all those pretty things...but...I

am gladdest...most...of all...for you."

Yes, she was glad for the pretty things, but gladdest most of all for the man who had given her sight!

We get many wonderful things from Jesus. Once we were blind, but now we can see. Once we were bound, but now we are free. We can be glad, very glad, for the things He has given us; but we should be "gladdest" most of all for Jesus.

### CONVOCATION AND OZARK CHRISTIAN MISSIONS REPORT *By President Taylor*

Another Convocation now goes into the annals of history, and what a Convocation it was! Every service was wonderful! One night as I was leaving after the service, an OBI Freshmen said to me, "I've got to call my parents?" I asked, "Why?" She responded, "I received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost tonight!" I said, "Oh yes, you had better call them!" She said, "They are an hour ahead of us and I'll wake them up, but they'll be glad I did when they hear the news." And so it was this Convocation as in Convocations past, God moved in people's lives. Thank God "The Road to Revival" has not been closed due to the lack of interest.

A special offering was taken for the new choir bus. **As of this writing we still need \$34,701.00 to pay off the bus.** I want to say "Thank You" to all who gave to help us have safe, dependable transportation for our young people. It is my hope that the rest of the funds will come in before the end of the school year. **If you would like to help us, send your**

**contribution to OBI and specify "Bus Fund" in the memo.**

On Wednesday night the mission offering of \$5,841.62 was divided between our Bible school in Guatemala and our ministry-training extension program, Ozark Christian Missions (OCM). The work of OCM is expanding at a phenomenal rate. Lord willing, OCM will send ministry teams to Sudan, South Korea, India, and Germany this year. Our plan is to have pastor training classes and evangelistic services simultaneously. The evangelistic services will focus primarily on children's ministry. Reaching children and helping train national workers on how to have an effective children's ministry is our goal.

Through our Mission Intern Program we are opening up these trips to allow students involvement. This will give students an opportunity to experience missionary work first hand and allow God to broaden their vision for missions.

This is the opportunity of a life

time! To train nationals for ministry, train OBI students for missions, and actually reach lost people with the gospel all at the same time! Wow! Surely the Lord is coming, and He is sending out the eleventh-hour laborers to get the last of the harvest in before the night comes and no man can work!

**So thank you for your investment in Ozark Bible Institute and College and its work here and around the world. In closing, we ask for your prayers. If OBI were a person instead of an institution, it would no doubt say as Paul, "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries" (1 Corinthians 16:9).**

We know in this fallen world, for every single open door there are many adversaries. But God has opened a "Great Door" for OBI and we expect Him to give us power to overcome all our adversaries. Pray for us! And if you can, help us.

At the threshold of a great door,

*Daniel E. Taylor*



Time spent at the altar was time well spent



2013-2014 Overcomers choir



## IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME

By Founder  
D. C. Branham  
(Reprinted from the  
December 1970  
issue of  
The Standard Bearer)

*“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 heavenly host praising God, and saying glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace good will toward men”* (Luke 2:10-14).

During this season of the year, the world celebrates the birth of our Savior. Many observe this day for reasons other than to worship God. Some defile the celebration through idolatry or lasciviousness. This does not mean though the true Christian should keep quiet, and let the world, the flesh and the devil, propagate their programs and let the truth lie hidden.

This is the time of golden opportunity for witnessing to the truth. The attention of the multitude has been arrested from the normal daily routine and world problems. Hearts are more mellow, and we gain inroads through the Scriptures. The Word of God speaks louder than fancy verse script. The Scriptures reach the tender spots in the hearts of men. The seed will sprout and bring life to the sinner. Some Christians withdraw from this season, and maintain a stoic front to all celebration. Surely though, the true Christian has enough strength to avoid excessiveness, and still enter into the joyous days that commemorate our Lord and Savior. We can make the earth ring with our praises,

as did the heavenly host on the countryside outside of Bethlehem.

## THINK ON THIS! WHAT IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME! THE WORLD WOULD BE FILLED WITH SPIRITUAL DARKNESS.

The world was in darkness before Jesus was born. There had been no open vision or prophecy for some four hundred years. The Scriptures of the prophets foretold the coming of the Messiah; but there was only a very few who still believed in those words. What would have happened if the prophecies had been left unfulfilled? It would have indicated that either God could change His mind, or else that satan resisted His purposes too strongly. It would have meant that God was unable to keep His promises! Unthinkable, of course! But it emphasizes the importance of the little Babe, just as the Scriptures declared.

## IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME, WE WOULD HAVE NO NEW TESTAMENT.

We would not be privileged to read the beautiful and wonderful account of the birth of the Savior. We would not have the touching scene of Simeon lifting the Baby Jesus in his arms and praising the Father—*“Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy Words: for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation”* (Luke 2:29-30).

We would not be able to read of the powerful and effective ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. We could not have seen Him weep with Mary and Martha. We could not have felt His tender compassion as He touched the bier that held the widow’s only son. We could not have know the power that flowed through Him as the hem of His garment was desperately touched. We could not have known His justice in dealing with men, if He had not stooped on the ground and written in the sand with His finger

and forgiven the sinner who wanted forgiveness. We could not have known His concern for each lost soul searching for the truth, if He had not sat on the well and spoken to the woman who came to draw water.

We could not have known the love and compassion of God which was manifested in His Son. We could not have understood the meaning of Christian servitude, if He had not illustrated its beauties in many ways—but none more revealing than His last supper, when He knelt and washed the disciples’ feet. We could not have known the agony He felt if we were unable to read of His battle in Gethsemane. We could not know how important His decision was there, when He cried in agony and yet peaceful resignation, *“Nevertheless not as I will.”* We could never know divine forgiveness if we had not heard Him call Judas, *“Friend,”* and later as He hung on the cross, suffering from the physical mistreatment and the rejection, say to heaven, *“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”*

He knew what He was doing and why He had been born into this world. He knew that was the only remedy for man’s ills. The Father’s will was His will, and nothing could stop Him from going all the way, even to the death of the cursed cross. He bore all our sins, paid all our debt to God, and appeased the wrath of a just God by letting the law enact its full penalty upon Him.

## IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME? OH, THINK OF THE CONSEQUENCE!

Does it mean nothing to you, Christian, that Jesus was born? His birth was a great and important step in God’s plan for humanity. Nothing could go wrong, or the whole plan was worthless. The right maiden had to be found; the right husband had to be found for her,

(Concluded on page 7)

who would understand God's strange ways. The stable had to be ready; the inn had to be filled; the shepherds had to be on the hillside; the heavenly host had to be ready, and the Blessed Event took place!

The next great step was His earthly walk. The world could not stop Him; the flesh could not interrupt Him nor distract His steady march; the devil could not defeat Him, though he mightily tried. He walked straight to the cross, where atonement was made. His second coming to this world and subsequent reign are dependent on His first coming. We cannot entertain the hope of His soon appearing, without commemorating His birth.

**IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME WHAT WOULD THE WORLD BE LIKE?** Take out all but one or two percent of the Christians from the world, and what would their existence be? A Simeon and an Anna, plus two or three others, would find this world a gloomy, dark, and dismal place. Sin has all but wrecked the world, even after two thousand years of Christian influence, it staggers the imagination to try to conceive to what lengths man would have gone without Christ. There would have been the necessity

for another flood, or a Tower of Babel experience, or the plagues of Egypt. Men would have destroyed themselves and the planet on which they live, if Christ had not come.

There would be no joy in the world today. There would be no singing the praises of the Lord. There would be no smile on faces, or spring to the step. There would be no laughing children. There would be no places of worship, no praying, no praising the Lord for all He has done. There would be no surging expectancy, in the hearts of Christians, of Jesus' return. There would be no hope, no faith, no love.

**BUT, CHRIST DID COME AND WE ARE HAPPY!** He came in the fulfillment of the Scriptures, despite the opposition of satan and men together. By coming He proved the infallibility of God's Word. He established God's throne of justice forever! Not one jot or tittle of God's word will ever be deleted because He came as foretold! Our hearts tell us that He lives today. Our spirits testify what God has promised He is able to perform. Our souls tell us Jesus loves us and longs to return for His waiting ones. We know Jesus is coming again. And the signs all point to the nearness

of that great event.

Let us lift up our heads and shout and laugh—our redemption draweth nigh. Let us shake off the lethargy and stiffness, and give our whole being to the praising of God. Let us explain to the sinner the reason for our joy and lightheartedness. Let us tell them why we cannot be worried about anything. Let us tell them why the excesses of the world cannot touch us. We have been freed to worship our Savior. And if the world chooses this time for frivolity, we certainly can set our heart in yieldedness to worship the Lord.

What a joy to be in the presence of Him we love! Now, we talk about Him, walk with Him, and praise Him. We have never seen Him, we have never talked with Him face to face; yet we have had wonderful fellowship together. We will surely know Him when we see Him. There will be no need for Him to show us His wounded hands and feet, nor His pierced side. Our Hearts will tell us who He is. Our eyes will be opened unto reality, and they will meet His in eternal embrace. Praise His wonderful name! We are so anxious for that day to come, but we shall wait for Him!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2014 BACK TO SCHOOL WINTER REVIVAL

January 7-12, 2014

Tuesday through Saturday 7:30 PM  
Sunday 6:30 PM



Special Speaker  
Randy Snow

Bible Holiness Assembly  
614 N. High St. Neosho, MO

*"I was glad when they said  
unto me, Let us go into  
the house of the LORD"*  
(Psalms 122:1).

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### DECISION DAYS 2014 MARCH 20-23

Juniors, Seniors & qualifying graduates are free; all others are \$35.00

**The faculty, staff, and students, of Ozark Bible Institute and College invite you to attend and see what campus life is like.**



Special Speaker  
Mark Hutson

\*Sit in college classes \*Experience dorm life firsthand \*Eat in our dining hall \*Get to know the instructors \*Attend special services \*Allow God some quiet time in your life \*Hear *The Overcomers Choir*

#### For more information

Contact OBI Registrar Bonnie Stoner, 417-451-2057  
E-mail: [obi@juno.com](mailto:obi@juno.com) or web site [www.obiwed.org](http://www.obiwed.org)



# Alumni In Action



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Just seems like yesterday we were loading up the vehicles to head to Convocation. What a refreshing and blessed time it was! Now in just a few days, it will be time to load up again to see friends and family for Christmas.

By Alumni President  
Randy Snow

I love Christmas! It's such a special time of the year. A time when God is able to soften the hearts of people. I enjoy listening to our church choir as they sing in the mall each year, about the Reason for this Season. It's awesome to see people start crying and come over and say "that's so beautiful, its been years since I heard those songs." Last year a single father followed the choir back to the church and there under the carport received Christmas! Jesus came into his heart as tears flowed down his face. Oh, how I love Christmas!

Matthew 1:21 "... and thou shalt call His name Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins." Let's discuss for a moment three precious truths. First, His Name

"Jesus," I dare you right now, take a moment and just say that lovely, holy, matchless name. Jesus! Just pause for a second and think about where we'd be had it not been for Jesus. Who saved you? Who died for you? Who loves you like no other? Who has provided for you? Who healed your body? Who watched over you? Who is the anchor of your soul? The answer is always the same. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! And who is coming back for you? Jesus. Oh yes, we face many storms, that's part of life. One night off the coast of England a mighty ship was dashed to pieces in a horrific storm. All drowned except one Irish boy, who had been swept by the forceful waves upon a great rock. "Lad, didn't you tremble out there all night long by yourself?" "Yes, sir, but not once did the rock tremble!" We have a Rock. An anchor of the soul and His name is Jesus! Oh, I love Christmas.

Secondly, our text tells us what Jesus came to do! He's not a statue or a wooden idol or a once upon a time memory. He's alive and came to save "...He shall save..." and let me tell you friend, He is still in the saving business. The other day I passed a business that had a huge

sign in the front of it's store that read, "Going Out For Business Sale." Cars were all over the parking lot. Sales were getting with it! Yes, I was there! I can't pass up a good bargain. I slipped up beside the owner and said, "I'm sorry I didn't know you were going out of business." He smiled and said, "Go back and read the sign, it says 'going out FOR business sale, not going out OF business.'" Would to God, that the church would broadcast the news! Jesus is in the soul saving business and we are going out FOR business! Oh I love Christmas!

But wait, one more thing.— "For He shall save His people from their sins!" That which destroys the soul and separates us from the presence of God. That which deforms man and brings him to the pit of despair and darkness. That which divides the church, home and mankind has a remedy. There is a cure and it came at Christmas! For it was at Christmas, on that blessed starry night, that Jesus came to save sinners from sin! Oh I love Christmas!

## MARRIAGES

- **Trey Holden** and **Melita Bontrager** were married on August 23, 2013.
- **Peter Metzger** and **Hannah Royal** were united in marriage on August 31, 2013.
- **Seth Hoover** and **Anna Crafton** were married on September 7, 2013.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue to pray for a physical miracle for Sisters, **Darlana (Halfacre) Bean, Jennifer (Linam) Carper, and Tammy (Ahart) Kimbrough.**
- Please continue to remember in prayer Brooklynn Faith, daughter of **RC & Danielle Betz.** She is now 4 months old and doing well but is still pretty fragile.

## DEATH NOTICE

- Rev. W. Ramon Booth went to heaven on October 15, 2013. We want to express our sympathy to his family and our appreciation for his faithful support of OBI down through the years.

## Attention Young People

# TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO ENROLL AT OZARK BIBLE INSTITUTE



Spring Semester Registration Monday and Tuesday January 6-7, 2014

**ACT NOW!** Classes begin January 8, 2014.

**For more information**

Contact: OBI Registrar Bonnie Stoner, 417-451-2057  
E-mail: obi@juno.com or website: [www.obweb.org](http://www.obweb.org)

**2013-2014 Officers**

**Randy Snow, President**  
dsnows@msn.com

**Mark Hutson, Vice-President**  
lisahutson61@aol.com

**Sheila Shelton, Secretary**  
shelton\_0204@yahoo.com