

Revival For Our Day

March 2006

Dear Ones of Revival For Our Day, praise the Lord. We are so grateful for your prayers, sacrifices and faithful help. Thank you for each of your remembrances on my birthday. I am now in my ninety-first year, as I turned ninety on February 3rd of this year. It is hard to believe that I am ninety years of age. When I was seventy to seventy five, I would never have imagined it would be like it is to be ninety. Even at eighty, I was able to walk well and get around and do much more than now. I am thankful to be able to get around, but I would never have dreamed it would be like it is. Please continue to pray for strength in my legs and for healing and deliverance.

I want again to express thanks to those who help and assist me and for all of your prayers and sacrifices on my behalf. I owe all to our heavenly Father and give him the praise for all of it. I am also thankful to Harmony Press and for those at Shepherd Services for the printing and mailing of this letter as well as for Stephen and Michelle Carpenter who type and edit the letter each month. I give Jesus the praise and did not want to fail to mention how grateful we are for all of this help. Praise the Lord.

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In Deuteronomy 5:29, our Heavenly Father is speaking and says, "Oh, that there were such a heart in them that they would fear me and keep all my commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever."

This verse indicates that God's heart was longing for his people to have a heart that really wanted to do his will, love him, fear him and keep all his will an purpose. But it infers that they did not have this kind of a heart. Out of six hundred thousand men above the age of twenty-one of his chosen seed, there were only two of them that believed that they could conquer Canaan. Only two. So this, of course, grieved the heart of God. Only two believed, and only two men arrived at the Promised Land. The others failed to gain their goal because of their unbelief and their questioning and doubting.

But two men believed. They said, "Our God is able to do it." So this verse indicated that the hearts of the people were prone to wander, to doubt; prone to analyze and question. But God's great heart longs that we have a heart that will be faithful and true.

Have you ever thought about how hard the heart is? When we were going through the airplanes and the hanger of Ozark Airlines years ago, Glen Shaver was showing us that if you are flying at 150 knots,

you could only get your arm about eight inches out of the cockpit window. Then when you get to about

300 knots you can't get your fingers any more than one-half inch out because of the pressure. And if

you are going faster and put your finger out it is like touching a red-hot stove.

Well, we felt the wing and it was so heavy and thick. Think of the tremendous resistance against heat and wind that it has to have - the hardness of it. It has to be a certain measure of hardness in order to endure. Otherwise it just would not hold up: it would fold up and we would fall down.

But our heart must be the reverse. Instead of being hard, it must be more and more tender. These structural things of earth must be hard in order to endure. But the heart must be the opposite in order to be sensitive to the will of God, to the purpose of Jesus; because if the heart has very much hardness in it, it cannot believe. Now I have scripture to prove that. It's over in Mark. The words of Jesus - chapter six, verse sixty-two: "For they considered not the miracle of the loaves; for their heart was hardened." Now here they were taking a little voyage with Jesus and they were distressed because they forgot to take some bread along. They were in a ship (about a dozen or thirteen men) and all they had was one loaf. Jesus said, "Have you forgotten the miracle? How many loaves did it take to feed 5,000? How many loaves the 4,000?" He said,

"How is it that you don't believe?" Now they had seen the miracle; they even carried up the fragments that were left. But their hearts didn't catch it.

Now verse fifty-two says, "They considered not the miracle of the loaves (and we could say fishes) for their heart was hardened." In this case, the disciples, the apostles, could not consider or evaluate the situation because of the hardness of their hearts. They were there...they saw the miracle...they watched...they were in the midst of it. But right in the midst of it these men had hearts that were too hard. They didn't consider it.

I think that is the way it is in our churches often times. I have seen time and again when God has done wonderful things but there was very little praise. The reason the people didn't respond with much praise was because their hearts were hard. Now I don't know how hard a heart can be and still be in line. These dear men were precious and were followers of Jesus, but their hearts were hardened, and this brought them short of the realization. Because their hearts were hardened this brought them short of spiritual insight, and they could not

evaluate the preciousness of the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

This has stirred my heart ever since I saw it - their hearts were hardened. We need to examine our heart daily to see how hard our hearts are, because what you experience either hardens your heart or makes it sensitive. It's the reaction; it's the heart itself...what is in the heart.

In another place the scriptures tell us "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked." Anything you want to think about, the heart of man - unless the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses it - is deceitful above that. Terribly deceitful - and desperately wicked. Our insight could be in proportion to the hardness of the heart. Our spiritual perception is in accordance to the condition of the interior life...whether or not our hearts are broken. God is not able to do very much with us till the heart is broken, surrendered, submissive. These precious men were dear. They had had great experiences. They saw the dead raised. They were there when Jesus caused blind eyes to immediately see. But I wonder how many of them were thrilled or said, "Oh, Lord - We are so glad we had this privilege of being with you. You are the Son of God. You have opened the eyes of the blind." I don't know how much they really got into it, but Mark says in the scripture "...that they considered not the miracle of the loaves because their hearts were hardened."

How hard are our hearts? What is it that caused the heart to be hardened? Of course the first thing is SIN. Any kind of sin will harden the heart. Any sin and every sin hardens the heart. (That witnesses in my heart). What causes the heart to be harder then? - When we know that we should do right and we fail to do it. That will have a tendency to cause the heart to be yet more hard and resisting.

Another thing I believe that causes the heart to be hard is WHEN WE QUESTION AND DOUBT. UNBELIEF is a hardening process. "They considered not the miracle because their hearts were hardened." Where unbelief is, the heart is hardened; and the longer unbelief remains there, the harder the heart becomes...day after day, year after year. You take an older man, he is harder to reach than a fifteen-year-old boy. Because the longer we have unbelief the harder the heart. There is more resistance.

The Holy Spirit can permeate the hardest heart, whenever the saints of God have faith and when they have a heart like God wants them to have. When the members of the Body of Christ have hearts like Jesus wants them to have, he will penetrate every heart - even the infidel and the hardest sinner in the country. So a nucleus of true hearts (letting the Spirit of God flow through their

hearts) goes into all hearts and brings them to the heart of Christ. Isn't that precious? Whenever God gets all the church completely pure and holy, surrendered, and rejoicing (not feeling sorry for themselves, but just rejoicing) and this heart of his body is pure and holy...then the great love of God flows through this heart and brings all the hard hearts in.

But this precious group here considered not the miracle of the loaves because their hearts were hardened. So our spiritual consideration pivots on the hardness of our hearts. If the apostles' hearts were hardened, how about all these 15,000 or 20,000 people? We don't know how many hearts in that whole multitude were able to perceive what Jesus did; but in this case here he said, "They considered not the miracle of the loaves because their hearts were hardened." If our hearts are hard, then we are not able to perceive what God wants us to do. If there is the slightest bit of hardness in our heart it is difficult to discern God's will. So the hardness of the heart is caused by sin and unbelief.

Then when we start to go with God, he begins to remove this hardness from us, this toughness, this self-reliance, (the more self-reliant we are the harder we are.) He removes this from us by his blood, by the purging of the Holy Ghost. Then, when he begins to reveal his will and we get a message from on High and he gives us a message to do this and we fail to do it, which is DISOBEDIENCE, then our hearts are hardened again. Every time a person is disobedient their heart is hardened.

Now there are remedies on hardness of heart. Praying in the Spirit is a remedy for the hardness of the heart. Assimilating the Word with prayer in the Spirit is a remedy. Waiting before God is about the only way you can tell how hard your heart is. It might require 1,000 hours of waiting before God before he could begin to reveal some of the things in us. It might require 500 hours before the Lord, or it might require just 100 hours. But as we wait before the Lord, he begins to reveal our hearts. There are many things in our hearts. Sometimes our hearts want some recognition somewhere. Our hearts want some esteem from somebody. Often we want to lean on somebody. We lean on our husband, wife, friends, parents, pastor and church. So God, in order to remove some of the hardness from our heart, begins to remove the earthly props from us. Sometimes if we don't pray enough our heart gets rather hard, so the Spirit comes within us and just takes that hardness away. But the longer doubt and disobedience are in there, the harder the heart becomes.

But as we wait before the Lord and he reveals our hearts, then we begin to see ourselves in true perspective and can see what he needs to do with us. IF we can get quiet enough. IF we can become

still enough, long enough. He won't show us too much at one time because we can't stand very much. We can only stand a little bit. Sometimes if people just receive a little bit it shakes them and they can't stand it. It excites them. So he never gives to any of us only what we can bear. This will come from God. Sometimes individuals will try to show us things to shake us a little and maybe knock us out. We must have wisdom to know how to do this. Sometimes we may see needs in our brothers and sisters. But we cannot just go and tell them, because they might not quite take the shock. So we just have to pray that they will get quiet before the Lord so that he will teach them - or that God will show us how to do it gently.

Usually the Lord never works with hostile weapons. He works with tenderness and sweetness. Now the devil works with hostility, but God doesn't often work with this. It is very rare he ever uses that. The only time he does is with the person that can stand it...like Saul of Tarsus. He was a strong giant and the Lord smote him to the earth. But usually he doesn't make great blows; it's just a tender wooing, tender sweetness, compassion and gentleness. But our hearts can be hardened by things, reactions, by wanting recognition or by wanting something for us. **ANYTHING WE WANT THAT ISN'T IN GOD'S WILL HARDENS OUR HEARTS.** All desires outside of Christ's will have a tendency to harden our hearts. We will not be aware of it; so we must constantly persevere and press, to desire only his will. "Delight thyself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." So you see, this is the way to a sensitive heart. The way to the sensitive heart is to delight ourselves in the Lord, in the Word, in prayer, in his will, in testimony. If we delight ourselves in him, **THEN** he starts the surgery on us, to remove these tendencies from the heart.

There are many indications of a hard heart. One is that there is very little praise that comes out of you...just praises once in a while, (maybe once in two days). Now when the heart is tender it will come out spontaneously. Out of a heart that isn't hardened, praise to the Lord will flow rather frequently. But hardness will smother it out, even when the mind knows it ought to be. **WE** can have it in the mind and not have it in the heart. Our minds can know the orthodoxy and know we ought to praise Him; but if our heart is hard, how can the mind work the praise through there? **WE** know in our heads what we ought to do but the heart...if I were able to get that over to our hearts today it would be worth the whole revival...our heads know; we have the instruction, orthodoxy, the ideology; we have the outline, but if the heart isn't in line. The mind may have the information but the heart is hardened. Isn't that tremendous?

Confession to God breaks the heart. The more we confess the more the heart breaks and cracks. If we are used to praying, it's only hardened a slight little bit, on the fringe of hardness; but if we fail many times, there are layers of hardness. It gets harder and harder with resistance until it takes so much to pierce, break and peel it off. When you pray, confess to the Lord that your heart is cold and you will receive help. Confession breaks, permeates, and penetrates and begins to move the hardness away.

"And there hearts were hardened..." and they were precious men. If you sit and think about this a while you will want to weep because God hasn't had too many hearts since the fall in the Garden of Eden. The main thin that caused the fall was disobedience. God said to Adam and Eve, "You may have all of this; but he fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you cannot have." But they went ahead and took it. They disregarded him. They didn't listen to what he said in their hearts. They listened in their minds; we know because they repeated to the devil what God had said. They had it in their minds but not in their hearts.

Before they fell it was like heaven on earth. I doubt if things would freeze. They didn't need any boats, they would just walk on the water whenever they wanted to. I wouldn't be surprised if they couldn't just be suddenly right over there and suddenly over here. There was no disease, no sickness. The tremendous wonder that we lost in the fall we don't know; it cannot be comprehended. But Jesus could be immediately present anywhere after the resurrection. The Lord himself could be suddenly any place he desired to be.

Hearts are hard. Disobedience has caused the church to be so hard. But God is able to break this terrible resistance that gets inside us. Only the Holy Spirit can do this. God has been grieved with man just about all the time. I was praying six years ago in my room when we were in a union revival in my hometown. I was trying to cry out in the night and I started to say, "Oh God, I am sorry that we mortals grieve you most of the time." Now just that instant I started to say, "Oh God..." From that instant to the very last word of the phrase, a bird in a bush outside of my window began to sing. There he was sound asleep in the night, and all at once he started singing right at the split second I started to say, "Oh God: and sang just as long as it took me to say this one phrase. I heard a cardinal sing in Indiana in the night. The mocking bird in the states of Tennessee and Texas sing in the night, but this was not a mocking bird. We don't have any mocking birds in our country. It was a cardinal sitting out in a bush in our alley about sixty to eighty feet from my window. That little bird sang me a symphony while I was trying to tell God how sorry my heart was.

My heart was doing the praying. It wasn't the lips. But it was down in the bottom, in the corridors, on the inside of my heart. That little bird sang me a melody. God woke him up real quick and he sang to me, letting me know my Father was nearby. I know the Lord uses dogs to tell me. He uses birds to tell me a few things. He uses his Word to tell me. He uses many things to tell me of his kingdom. The only way you can tell it is by the inner Spirit; but he can do that. He will use everything around you to help you if you can get tuned in to know what he is telling you. I am just beginning to learn, but oh, how great is our Father.

And the Lord will help us when our hearts are free from hardness. We don't know how hard our hearts are. Sometimes I am with people, dear ones, and I can tell after I am with them a little while that their hearts have not remained soft and tender; so I don't say anything because it would discourage. But our hearts can get hard so easily unless we plead the blood of Jesus over our hearts a lot, resist Satan, and obey every leading. If we fail to obey every leading our hearts will become very hard. If we, by God's grace, obey every leading he gives us, our hearts become more and more sensitive. **THE SENSITIVITY OF THE HEART IS IN PROPORTION TO OBEDIENCE.** If we do everything God says to do, then he gives us the slightest little wavelength and here comes a message from God. Here is a revelation, a word from God. Each time you obey you become more sensitive, more alert to the alarm, to the call. The telephone doesn't have to ring so loud. You catch it on the inside. You hear. There doesn't have to be a lot of noise, a lot of hysteria.

When God lets you know, it is within you. He has certain ways to work within the body to let us know. Now if I can keep broken, give Jesus all the praise and honor and glory for this, then he can tell me again. That's for all of us. But we must praise him a lot. We can't take this on ourselves and say, "See what has happened"? We have got to praise him because, you see, it must be for his glory all the time from the heart of the individual that God is leading. He wants to lead every one of his sons and daughters. It's God's will to lead each one. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." He wants to lead all his children.

So I think the secret is, from the moment we are converted, to carefully follow each and every guidance of the Holy Spirit. If he says to pray, try to pray. If he says testify, just get up and try to say, "I love Jesus." Even if you only say "I love Jesus and God is faithful," it will be pleasing to God. You can always say that and not grieve the Lord.

One time I was eating in a restaurant with some people and after the meal, as we were preparing to get into our cars, I went over to talk with Brother Reece and Brother Stoner. All of a sudden I said,

"Oh, my brother. Jesus has just spoken to me, and he tells me that you are going to have something happen right down you neck and arm. We're going to have to pray and ask the Lord to take care of this situation."

Now this could seem strange to some people, but not to a Spirit-filled Christian. We're unworthy of every single revelation from him, and it's only by his grace that we ever know another thing. But he said he would guide us "into all truth." And true to the revelation of the Holy Spirit, eleven months later this conversation in Ft. Wayne, of which God had warned me of began to take place.

My brother suffered in his neck and arm all that day and into the next. Then, all at once it came to him...He said, "I remember by a restaurant in Ft. Wayne when God revealed to his servant this need in the future. Why, I've already been prayed for. This trouble is healed by the power of God!" And just as soon as he appropriated the faith of the prayer that had been eleven months earlier, the suffering was gone.

Glory to God it's all through my body! It just came to him to pray, and he said, "Why, I have already been prayed for". And the healing was his! The Lord knows exactly how to guide his children if we will praise him enough. How much praise are we going to give? I feel praise right in my heart now. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Praise you, praise you. Glory, glory, glory, glory. Adoration, adoration. He says, "Adoration to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost." You see, I can tell, when I go through the praises which one of them is pleasing to God; which one is coming before the throne at any moment. It's "Adoration to God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost." Now it was "Adoration" for a few minutes! "Sometimes it is "Adoration to the Son."

Now only in the Holy Spirit are we able to discern, know, and relate this. We're nothing, but he is everything. It is wonderful how God has taught me in the last five or ten years that there is a praise that comes before the Throne, which he loves to hear for the moment; that is in divine order. Now as I talk, it thrills my body. It goes through my arms. Raise the Lord! And it is in my soul. So "Adoration" was in order just a moment ago. It is whatever particular praise is in the precious mind of the Spirit of God. So we just praise him and thank him. We glorify him and hold steady in the center of his will. WE try to hold dead center before him in his righteousness, in his purity and in his strength, so that we don't get either to the left or to the right. As we pray and wait upon him, we maintain spiritual equilibrium and are able to discern exactly by divine radar where he wants us, so that we aren't too far off our course in word, thought or motivation. We will just stay steady before him. It's only by his

grace that we will ever know anything again. It's only by his precious Holy Spirit, his lovely presence to teach us what we ought to do and not do.

One time we were coming out of a restaurant in Muncie, Indiana. We had just had such a fellowship with Brother and Sister Morgan. The Lord was so precious. We were simply overjoyed. But when my hand touched that door to leave the Holy Ghost said, "Wait just a minute." I said to Bob and Dorothy, "Let's just wait." So we just stood and I pled and pled and asked, "Lord, what are you telling me?" He said, "There is an accident ahead of Brother and Sister Morgan, and I want you to pray and talk to me about it." I said, "Oh, Father deliver, intervene, take care." And just as I said that, he told me, "I will take care of them." AS soon as I prayed what was in the mind of the Spirit, the petition was granted. He helped me to pray. We don't know how to pray as we ought, but he Holy Spirit can teach us little by little. After I prayed that, we went on out the door. The Morgans didn't hear anything prayed, they saw my lips moving and knew that I was crying out to God, but it was nothing loud. So when we went outside I told them. "The Lord was telling me about an accident ahead, and he was wanting me to pray so you could get through that."

It wasn't very long until the situation occurred. They were passengers, the snowflakes were large and the road was slick. The car was going at a fair rate of speed and they were uneasy. Have you ever been on the road when you were uneasy, when you didn't feel just right? You could tell some way within you that things just weren't quite right. You knew that you had to be awfully careful. Suddenly they met this truck and it was swaying back and forth. Sweeping from side to side all across the road like a pendulum. And when they got to it, the truck swung to the opposite side and didn't hit them. It just went on around them when it could have smashed them to pieces. When they got to the room Dorothy said, "Oh, Bob that is the accident God related to his servant there in the cafeteria." They related it to me months later, and then they told me my heart just went tat-tat-tat. It just jumped. Oh yes, it just jumped up and down. Do you think we didn't rejoice?

What if we had failed that leading and been untrue to the revelation at that door? You see, this leading pivoted back to my listening to him as my hand touched the door of the restaurant in Muncie. God spoke to me as I went out the door, and because of that they were spared from an accident. Isn't it wonderful? Every leading of the Holy Spirit never ends, but goes on and on and on, IF we will give God all the praise and all the glory. It is only by his mercy that we make it out of the room, out of the door, down the road. It is through him only.

We owe everything to Jesus, and so many of our experiences pivot on the sacred little leadings. I say little, but they are might, even though they seem insignificant. How intricately God guides and directs. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could just wait on him and let him direct us?...Not get off on tangents, or off into fanaticism but just stay right in divine order, in humility; walking slowly...not fast, but going slowly with God.

I trust that we will give Jesus the glory, praise and honor for his Holy Spirit that is here today to help us. Don't try to figure it out; don't analyze, but just praise him for it. Because analyzation will take us down. Faith will take us up.

So their heart was hardened. I don't know how hard the heart can become, but I do know through obedience, surrender, and prayer the heart is made more tender. But, if we don't obey, our prayers don't get through. If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me. Disobedience is iniquity. It's wrong. So if I don't follow what Jesus wants me to do my prayers will not go through to the Throne.

So about everything pivots on obedience, because the obedient will be praying while he is doing the task or before he does it. In fact, in the heart of obedience there is communion nearly all the time. When there is fellowship with God, there is a communion. In the hearts of those who obey him there is fellowship. You don't have to stop and get down on you knees always; you just have it in your heart, because he hears you. You may be going down the street, in the room, at the table; wherever you are, you are in touch with Jesus.

OBEDIENCE IS THE SECRET. To obey God. In obedience you are always hooked up. You are hooked into the line, plugged in. You don't have to ring the operator. IN the life of obedience you don't have to get a plug-in. You have already got it. You don't have to make any request to get plugged in. All you have to do is get your heart and voice going and you are there instantly - fast as lightning. Glory! When a daughter or son obeys, Jesus is there with them. He is within them. You have instant fellowship, instant knowledge, instant insight, anything that God wishes you to have.

Now we don't work this up in the mind and try to plan what we want here and there. We just wait on God and he moves through us a sit pleased him. If he chooses to have us sit quietly and praise him, we just try to do that as best we can. All God needs is a vessel that will completely trust him and be willing to be filled with anything he wants or be placed anywhere he chooses.

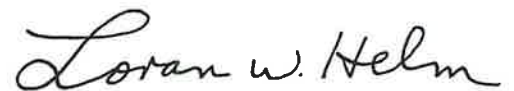
But the marvelous reality about anything that God is in is this - it never ends! Experiences in the world, pleasures of the flesh, all the things of earth - these soon fade and lose their freshness. Friendships

slacken, fond hopes dim, burning desires sputter out. But when you walk with God, everything is new and different. God never works the same way twice. So I never know what to expect and try never to make any demands. I don't know when any thing is going to end, but I enjoy while it is here. What delights me is that it never really ends; it just changes for a time. His Spirit is always with us.

You see, I expect to be thrilled with God. I don't worry about not being thrilled, but I simply seek him. All blessings are but the outpouring of this search. "My goal is God himself: not joy nor peace, nor even blessing, but himself - my God." The person of God; Jesus; the Holy Spirit: this is heaven. Glory to God! It's all through my body, because our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost. Where a body is completely yielded, the Holy Spirit lives in that body like the current in a light bulb, the water through a brook. The body is like a typewriter: if you are yielded he can tell you what is going on. The piano has eighty-eight keys, but God's operations in the body are innumerable. God knows all things and we don't know anything. We are little and nothing, but he is everything. We give him praise, glory and honor for all his blessings and directions. Praise the Lord.

So when the heart is tender to obey each little leading of the Holy Spirit; when the heart is kept soft by humble prayer, reading of the Word, and witnessing...then the life is filled with the unspeakable delights of his presence. There are no words to describe the sweetness of the abiding Christ. THE HARDNESS OF THE HEART. I can hardly take it all in. It is like sitting in the center of an enormous hub with truth shooting off in all directions. I marvel at the enormity of this. I would like to take it all in; but I am looking at something far too big for me. I need more of Jesus, more of the Holy Spirit, more of his compassion for souls. Heavenly Father, we pray for a tender, pliable heart; a heart that will do always and only what you choose. Help us, Oh Lord, for we are far weaker than we could ever realize. Our flesh is far stronger than we could possibly imagine. So we come knowing that thee alone can help us; for we are so helpless apart from thee. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

In Jesus' Name



Loran W. Helm

Revival For Our Day

May 2006

Dear ones who are following the Lord Jesus, greetings in His holy name. We praise the Lord for His faithfulness and for seeing us through every trial, situation and test. We are nothing and needy, but He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. Praise the Lord. We thank each of you for your prayers, sacrifices, helps, petitions and thoughtfulness on our behalf through these recent years. We are unworthy, but grateful and give God all the glory, praise and honor.

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The message I want to share with you is found in Matthew 8:1, which says, "When He (Jesus) was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him." The question we need to ponder about this verse is, "How far did they follow?" What distance did they actually go with Him? How far did they go in their inner life to follow His teaching? It says that they followed Him. But how far did they actually go after Jesus and His will within the inner life? Did they follow Him as far as the city of conviction?

Have you ever lived in the city of conviction? I want to tell you that when I was in the city of conviction, it was a miserable place. Nobody could get along with me and I could hardly get along with myself. I lived in the city of conviction. The city of conviction is a place where you find out you are a sinner, lost and undone. You are so miserable and rebellious that you don't know what to do about it. You feel like you don't have any friends and that you are desolate. The city of conviction is where the Holy Spirit reveals we are lost. When I lived in the city of conviction, I was not a very good person to know.

What is the distance from the city of conviction to the place of Calvary? How far is it? (It said that the multitude followed Him.) How many miles would it be or how many steps or how many breaths would you have to take to get from the city of conviction to the place of repentance? What kind of place is it? Well, it is a glorious place.

When we finally arrive at the place called conversion, Jesus comes into our heart and we become a new creature, the old things pass away and all things become new, and we see a new perspective. Our eyes are opened at the place of conversion. The scales fall off and we begin to see the wonders of the glory of the abiding Jesus. Here we are in the midst of this wonderful experience of transformation and the glories of God are coming down and then all at once I am not able to follow Him any longer until I testify. What does it take in the city of conversion to get us to deny self and to

witness when people are there who are saying, "He is a fanatic and a crank."

Sometimes you will be in a place where there are a lot of people and the Holy Spirit will say, "Witness for me." How far do we have to walk in the inner life after the place of conversion in order to come to the place of witnessing? What is the distance to follow Jesus there, to be willing to become a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, to stand and say to unbelievers, "The Lord has changed my life. He took my burdens away." There are people living in the carnal mind who don't know what this means. We have to follow a good distance to ever find the place of conversion and witnessing. But if you ever follow that far, you know what it means. A great joy comes into your heart like a fountain leaping up when you witness for Jesus and tell what the Christ, the risen Lord has done for your own soul in transforming it! Hallelujah!

I prayed with a man that was sixty-three years of age and who was a promoter of his community. He had not been in church for years and he didn't know anything about salvation. I stayed in his home for three weeks and then they asked me to leave because he was going to be doing some construction on the home and it would be noisy, so I left there to go to another home and stay. I learned years later that during the three weeks I was in his home with him and his wife, Ida, he would get out of bed at two in the morning and say, "Get this preacher out of this house. I can't stand it! He is driving me crazy!" I never said a word to him, but he was in the city of conviction, it was all around him and he wanted to get me out of there. He thought if he could get me out of the house that he could get out of the city of conviction. I hadn't said a word.

When I walked through his door years later, the Lord told me to only talk about the things he liked. His heart began to throb one night and at about midnight he said, "Lord, if you will take this throbbing out of my heart I will go to church tomorrow night", and the throbbing stopped just like that. He was in the city of conviction. He did come to church. We were in a series of meetings at the time. I went home with him the next day for supper and that night he was converted. When he came to the altar that night and God saved him I had to tell him (even though he was shy and backward) that unless we witness we can't keep the victory. I had to tell this backward, shy man that unless we witness for Jesus we don't keep the victory, we lose it. There are very few people in church who have the victory, because they don't obey God at home so when they get to church they don't have anything to talk about. They don't have any joy, victory or word from God. They don't have anything in prayer because they have not obeyed God the past

six days. But I had to tell Orville Williams (this sixty-three year old man who was shy) that unless he witnessed he would backslide. How far do we have to follow Jesus to do this?

The scripture says that a large multitude followed Jesus. What was the distance from the time Orville asked Jesus to forgive him of his sins right there with me to the place that he was willing to witness when he can't even talk to his neighbors or his relatives? (He would go to the woods and stay until they went home whenever they would come to visit.) How far does that man have to go with Jesus to witness? What distance is that? Did I have to have courage to tell him that? I really did, because I knew he was backward and shy. I said, "Brother Williams you just gave your heart to Jesus and He has forgiven you, but now the next step to follow Jesus is to witness." He said, "Brother Helm, I can't talk." I said, "I know you can't, but we've got to." I told him we have to witness or we cease following. Many people have never followed Jesus after conversion because they did not deny self and witness about what Jesus did for them.

Brother Orville stood up and testified. His words were, "I thank the Lord for this wonderful day," and he sat down. His family marveled that he would open his mouth to say even that. His daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Keith and his wife Ida all thought it was great. Well, I did too. He followed from the city of conviction to conversion and then he followed from conversion to witnessing. What is the distance? How far is it? Is it as far as our willingness to go? The next night he came to service and I wish you could have heard his testimony then. How much did he grow from that night to the next night? I wish I had written down what he said the next night. And then the night after that I wish you could see how far he had followed Jesus from the night before. This backward, shy, timid man that couldn't talk much and stayed in the woods all day until his relatives left to go home, began to write poetry. This man that was all bound up for sixty-three years in a captive spirit was liberated because he was willing to do what Jesus told me to tell him to do.

In 1946 I prayed with two girls who were sisters. I prayed with them at an altar in front of my father's pulpit. I prayed with one and then with the other. When I got home I said to my mother and father, "Lillian got through, but the other one didn't get through at all." I never saw the other one the rest of the years I was there and Lillian is still faithful to that church to this day. How far was one willing to go and at what point did the other one decide not to go?

It said that great multitudes followed Him. How far is it to the place of witnessing? What is required to follow Jesus? What is the spiritual law of following

Jesus? For Jesus said, "Follow me." If I could get written down what is required in the following of Jesus it would be a wonderful thing. People talk about following Jesus, but they just talk it and don't actually do it because they do not obey Him. The only way I can follow Jesus is to trust Him with all of my heart and lean not to my own understanding. That is the first step to follow. Most all men and women lean to their own understanding. If we lean to our own understanding we do not follow Jesus, we follow self when we do that.

It is a battle! This is **why** lots of people who have been in the church for thirty, forty or fifty years have never followed Jesus at all. They can pray and read the Bible, but they have not followed Jesus in their spirit, in their inner life. It is so important to follow the spiritual law required to follow. We can know all theology, all the Bible, exegesis, sermonizing, we can know all about religions of the world and actually not take one step in following Christ.

Orville had to have a lot of courage to believe me that night. If he had not believed, he would not have taken one step after Jesus. I told him, "Brother Orville, in my experience in walking with Jesus since 1933, unless I witness I do not follow and I don't have the victory. There is not any joy." So I have got to trust the Lord with all my heart and lean not to my own understanding in order to take one step after I am converted toward the city of victory. I have to do that by the grace of God. When I take that first step of trusting, then I must take the next step of obedience. If I don't, then I do not follow Jesus any further than that. I stop right there until I repent and am willing to take that step. We need to be obedient to what the Holy Spirit tells us in our heart. Brother Williams was willing to do what the Lord told him in his heart, and then he went on and on and became a precious follower of Jesus.

"And great multitudes followed Jesus." How far did they go? Many people do not follow after Jesus because they fail to pray. We must pray in order to follow and we must read the Word in order to follow. Prayer, scripture, witnessing and obedience are essential in following. We must die out to ourselves and to the things of the world in order to follow Him at any point that He so designs and desires for us to follow. For He said, "My sheep hear my voice, my sheep know my voice and they follow me." When I got to thinking about this sermon, I thought that the multitudes in this scripture followed Him as far as the loaves and the fishes. They followed as far as they were blessed with signs and miracles. But He has been trying to find a people who would follow Him to death, inner death. I don't know whether very many in the whole church have this vision or not, but I am grateful for everyone who has it.

In order to follow we have to have the inner revelation of the inner death. That is why Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." That means the inner self of us must be crucified! I can't follow Jesus at all until the self in me is crucified and it has got to be done second by second. It is a moment by moment death from morning to night every day. I have got to die from morning to night to follow Jesus or else I will follow self. I will follow a religious pattern, which many of us have followed through the years, a pattern of reading, praying, singing and so on.

How many would dare follow Jesus to the place of forsaking all? How many in the entire church would follow Jesus as far as forsaking all? What does that mean? It means all. *If we are willing to forsake all, then we are ready to really put it in low gear. It is low gear, not high gear. Self will be in low gear, but the Lord will be in high gear.* If we have forsaken all then we are just ready to put it in low gear. If we are willing. Jesus said, "Unless you forsake all, you cannot be my disciple." That is after conversion. Forsake our ideas, our opinions, opinions of others, our desires, our anticipations, our plans, our all. He said we are to forsake it all. Unless we forsake all, we cannot follow Jesus. Very few people have forsaken all, and yet Jesus said that we are to do it.

If we will do this from morning to night then God will help us to climb up Jacob's ladder. He will help us to be in low gear so we don't miss anything and the clutch won't slip. The clutch slips if we look around at circumstances. We are in low gear, but if we look around at other things the clutch slips and we are not getting anywhere, only standing still. We have to keep our eyes upon Jesus all the time (Not upon the circumstances or the problems.) If we get our eyes off of the faith and the Christ, then we get our mind upon the circumstances and problems and then we stop following. We just lay around in the place called neglect. You know that city is awfully crowded. Everyone takes up residence there. How far is neglect from the place of victory?

This is just simple, but Jesus preached in simplicity, not complexity. How far is the place of willing service? How far is it to the place called yieldedness? How far is it to the place of entire sanctification? It is a little ways, but it can be taken in a breath, just in one act of obedience in following Him.

I am so thankful that Jesus never fails. He has wanted us to follow Him for all these years. He died with a broken heart because He could see that not very many people knew what He was talking about, doing His will in the earth as it is in Heaven. This encourages us doesn't it? Just say, "Lord, not

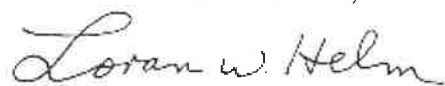
my will, but your will be done." How far is it from my will to His will? What is the distance from the will of man to the will of God, the place of sacrifice?

It says that great multitudes followed Him, yet Jesus was often lonely. If we are really with Him, then we have communion with Him and fellowship. And when we have fellowship with God, then we have fellowship with all the peoples that follow Jesus.

Praise Him for the work of the Holy Spirit. Just let the Lord lead and guide. He will lead us if we will follow. Most people want to follow on their own terms. Most people want to follow when it is easy or when they are happy or when it looks pleasing to people. That is not truly following Jesus. May the Lord encourage us, give us strength, and give us a determination within us so that our heart can actually follow what Jesus says – and not get into fanaticism because many people start out but they get off the track. They get into some idea and they are sidetracked. Do you know how you can tell when people are on the side? Do you know the difference between a person that is on the way and one that has gotten off on the side? Anyone off on the side sees the same thing all the time – the same old barn, same old cow, same old tree. They are off on the side and they don't have anything to talk about. They have no victory, no power because they haven't followed. But if you take someone that is following Jesus they will be saying, "O, I have had a great time, God just helped me in prayer! Here is an answer to prayer over here. Look at all the wonderful things over here." When you are following Jesus you almost never see the same thing twice. And if you do, you see it in a different perspective. My burden has been that great numbers in the church are on the side. Some people say that they are just hardly making it. Well bless your heart, if you are following Jesus you have to pray for grace to keep quiet. You will want to share what is in your heart because it will be so great.

May you be encouraged and strengthened in the inner life to come after Jesus wholeheartedly in submission, obedience and surrender. May your burdens be lifted and your heart lightened as you dwell upon the love of God, the promise of God and the faithfulness of Him who calls us unto Himself in righteousness, purity and holiness. Thank you for your prayers on our behalf, for your faithfulness to follow Jesus and for all that each of you have done for us. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In Jesus' Name,



Loran W. Helm



Reverend Loran W. Helm
February 3, 1916 – June 13, 2006
Obituary

Long time Parker city resident, Rev. Loran W. Helm, surrounded by members of his family and ministry, died quietly in his sleep Tuesday morning. He was ninety.

Loran William was born in Muncie, Indiana, February 3, 1916, the first of six sons born to A.E. and Mary (Dickson) Helm. He graduated from Parker City High School in May of 1934. On the twenty-seventh of that same month he married Florence Spence, also of Parker. She was a gifted pianist and vocalist, a graduate of Ball State Teachers College in Muncie.

That fall he entered Taylor University to begin his preparation for the ministry. At age 21 he and Florence accepted their first pastoral assignment – a small Methodist circuit in the Redkey community. A year later they were transferred to Whitewater, near Richmond, Indiana, and he continued his undergraduate studies at Earlham College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree on June 16, 1941. In May of that year, they were assigned to pastor three small congregations in the Shideler Circuit just north of Muncie.

Their first daughter, Joyce Lee, was born in January of 1936. Twin girls, Nancy Marie and Martha Louise, were born in Richmond on May 24, 1939. It was, therefore, an unusual decision when Loran felt led to resign the charge of the congregations he so deeply loved, to embark on a pilgrimage of absolute trust in God. The year was 1943.

Over the next sixty years Loran and Florence ministered in Evangelistic services in tent meetings, tabernacles, country churches, as well as large urban sanctuaries throughout Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas, California and other states. In the years following the war, Loran and his five brothers often participated in local song fests, accompanied by the gifted accompaniment and soprano voice of his wife.

They were fairly well known in Central Indiana as the Helm Brothers Sextet.

In December of 1969 Loran and Florence made their first pilgrimage to Israel. He would return thirty-two times over the next quarter of a century, affording free pilgrimages to many individuals who, otherwise, could not have made the journey. This included a number of deserving young people, some of whom have stated that their journey to the Holy Land was life changing.

Five other tours abroad took the Helms to various nations in Europe, Africa and India to simply love the world for Christ...one person at a time. Over the course of these journeys, deep and lasting friendships were forged with outstanding individuals in each country, reaching beyond language, race, religion and culture. He was honored a number of times by the Department of Tourism in Israel, including the Shalom Award: "...in appreciation for outstanding efforts in promotion of tourism to Israel." In 1981 Rev. Helm was presented an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Christian Learning Institute of Denver, Colorado, "...in recognition of outstanding service and demonstrated competence commensurate with the expectations of the Christian ministry."

An autobiography of his life, entitled "A Voice in the Wilderness", was published in 1973. It has subsequently seen several reprints in English and has also been translated by loving individuals into Spanish, Korean, Russian and Hindi. In May of 1982 a local constituency of individuals who had been helped by the ministry of the Helms over the years, formed Parker City Christ Fellowship. Some of these faithful members met Loran and Florence in the 1950's and '60's. Years later a sanctuary was constructed on the same land where Loran and his parents lived when he was converted in January of 1933. This little congregation is now shepherded by his first grandson, Rev. David and Jane Miller, with Rev. and Mrs. Tyler Garth assisting.

Florence, his beloved wife of 68 years, preceded him in death on March 5, 2002. All of his five brothers, Richard, Terrance, Warren, Edwin and Edward, died at the age of seventy-seven.

He is survived by his three daughters and their families: Jack and Joyce Miller of Yorktown and their four children: David and Jane Miller and Thomas and Melodie Curtis of Parker City; Andrew Miller and Bill and Angela Riha of Clearwater, Florida; Nancy Flora, of Parker City, and her daughter, Angel, of Indianapolis; and Jon and Martha Cullum of Parker City, and their daughter, April and Steven Martin, of Greenfield, Indiana. He is survived, as well, by fourteen great-grandchildren.

Rev. Helm leaves an international legacy of the simple love of Christ actively dwelling in ordinary people. His passion from an early age—to trust and obey God—was the fingerprint of his public ministry and his private daily life. His faithful, consistent ministry of gentle love is celebrated by many in several nations.

Visitation will be Thursday, June 15 from 4pm to 8pm, and Friday, June 16, from 12pm to 3pm at the Parker City Christ Fellowship Church, 12201 W. 150 N., Parker City, Indiana. His Memorial service is scheduled to follow the Friday viewing at 3pm in the sanctuary with burial immediately after at the Union Cemetery. Those choosing to send memorial gifts may direct them to Parker City Christ Fellowship, PO Box 11, Parker City, IN 47368; e-mail address: parkercitychristfellowship@verizon.net.

Dear Follower's of Christ Jesus, our Lord and soon coming King.

Some of you may be unaware that Rev. Helm went to be with Jesus and all His saints on Tuesday morning, the 13th of June.

The celebration of his home-going on Friday, the 16th of June was like a "Waiting Upon God." Surely, he would have wanted it to be such.

There were some 750 who came for the visitation on Thursday and the service on Friday. The enclosures of this letter will share some of what was said and done.

"...whatsoever things you have seen, and heard in me – do,
and the God of peace will be with you..."

The Home Going...

Loran William Helm slipped peacefully from us with his family and friends around him on Tuesday, June 13, 2006 at 4:18 in the morning.

People from all over the United States, began the journey to say farewell. I was in a dilemma about whether I should attempt the trip due to some breathing problems that had escalated in the past few days resulting in a diagnosis of asthma. I couldn't talk without frequent fits of coughing and couldn't rest well at night. The day before the funeral, we got the call from Martha, Brother Helm's daughter, requesting us to sing. How could I possibly sing when I could hardly talk? I asked Jesus if He would please let me sing for Brother Helm one more time.

The morning of the departure day, I was praying in bed when a sweet assurance that I was to go settled over me. God soon gave confirmation.

We left that evening at 4 pm due to a graveside Robert had to do. One hour down the road I was having such difficulty breathing that I was tempted to ask Robert to drop me off at Women and Children's hospital and just go on without me, however the assurance God had given about going held me steady. My breathing settled some and I didn't talk much on that trip due to the coughing. I began to think about everything carefully before I said it - making sure it was important. And a realization occurred that I was using the breath that God had been giving me to too hastily spout opinions and make unnecessary comments that were not helpful. I began to consider how I might better use my breath if the Lord would give it back to me.

We arrived about midnight and I had a restless night. The next morning I got up before the family and went to Bob Evans for breakfast and then to Payless shoes to look for

dress shoes that I had forgotten. They were not open yet. I fell asleep in the car waiting...I was so tired. I walked in and found a tan and gold pair of slip on shoes that matched perfectly my outfit for very little money. Rather a miracle considering my size 12 wide feet. I noticed I was feeling better too. On the way to the wake Robert and I tried to sing. It went fairly well - although we sang very little in an effort to save my voice. I could tell God was touching me and giving me my heart's desire. Later that day, Jewell Helm gave Heidi a beautiful little lap harp. So, on the day of Brother Helm's home going celebration, Heidi and I received, between us, gold shoes and a harp....seems fitting somehow...doesn't it? Little touches of God's love...sparkles...

In the parking lot we discovered our van of gentlemen from Fayetteville. They were in a sacred prayer meeting - the kind that when you go over and say 'hello' you feel like you just shattered glass or something. I guess they had a tremendous time coming and going and in-between. They left that morning from WV, drove about 8 hours, did both the 3 hour funeral and the graveside, didn't eat from 9 a.m. to about 9 p.m., and returned home that night - arriving at 2:30 AM....! David McKinney, David Sorrell, Charles Payne, Andy Hambrick, and Donald Treadway.

The foyers of Parker City Christ Fellowship had beautiful pictures of Rev. Helm and his family from years past displayed artistically. Also, there were items that were special to him that were given to him or from his travels. A flat screen slide show was playing that had pictures we remembered and many that we had never seen from way back...like Brother Helm playing the saxophone, enjoying laughing moments with Florence, holding huge fish he had caught as well as preaching the word and traveling abroad to Nigeria, Israel etc..

When I stepped into the sanctuary Beverly was playing the piano. In the last few days Jon Cullum had been on my heart so strong. I hadn't seen him for years. Robert and I have loved he and Martha and have been loved by them for about 33 years. They were very important spiritual mentors for me when I was a child. The age of my parents, yet they always treated me as an equal and vested so much love and time in me as though I were someone important and I was just an awkward 4th grader when we met. Within moments after coming through the door of the sanctuary Jon and I were weeping softly in reunion. There were no words to describe the memories flooding in on me. Then I began to have one precious meeting after another with so many people I love. Rev. Helm did not look like himself in the casket except for the top of his head and his hair. They said he changed much in the last few days. It kind of kept people's focus from being on the casket because it was like that wasn't really him. People were just fellowshiping so sweetly with each other with some of Brother Helm's favorite pianists playing in the background. There were two viewings, one the night before and one three hours before the service. About 750 people signed the book between the two days.

About 450 gathered in as 3 PM neared. The service began with pictures and video clips playing on the large screen of Rev. Helm. The first video was him leading Amazing Grace as only he could. And they had pictures of him laughing and shouting and running across the platform. People were chuckling and weeping and at least one time they all broke into

applause. There were pictures in Nigeria and Israel as well. And a video clip of him preaching powerfully on the phrase, "We can have instant victory, right now if we say, 'Jesus I give myself away to you'...we can have victory, right now!" Tears and soft grieving sounds were surging up from deep within me like a fountain finally opened. I hadn't been able to cry or even touch the fact that he was gone for three days.

Joyce and Jack Miller came up and welcomed us all. Joyce reviewed the family prayer that happened no matter what every evening - no matter if you were tired or even asleep. And how he would go in after the girls were in bed and sometimes asleep and put his hand on his little girl's heads and pray that they would be pure and holy women. Blanche Rouintree, such a prayer warrior for Rev. Helm for years, came up and prayed once again. She prayed that we have a greater responsibility now. And that Brother Helm has showed us how to do what we need to do.

David Miller read the story of the 4-year-old Rev. Helm walking down the lane with a ball jar in the curl of his arm when God first spoke to him saying, "You belong to me. I will use you in my Kingdom someday."

Then the music. First Floyd H. Lacy - that black evangelist that the Helm's loved back in the 40's or 50's. They had an old recording of him singing "Satisfied With Thee." Jon Cullum read a poem, reviewed about Uncle Billy and sang, "How Tedious and Tasteless the Hours." Tyler Garth came up to sing "I Want to Know Christ," and the people gave him a standing ovation for taking care of Brother Helm so faithfully.

Martha Cullum shared in the way only she can about being a "Nineveh Boy," being willing to go wherever God sends you. She shared that we need to love the people and let the Holy Spirit do the convicting. She reviewed about Robert and Dorothy Morgan responding so sweetly to her father's sharing. The people gave a standing ovation to Robert Morgan. Then we all sang, "When we all get to Heaven," led by Jon. He had the women and men sing separately on a couple of verses and he was wonderfully free in his directing. Then Martha had the Helm "preacher boys and girl" get up and lead us in "The Lord's Prayer."

Reverend Helm had requested many songs for his funeral. To a stranger or newcomer, the music would have been beautiful perhaps, but to some of us, each song had volumes of memories attached. Sandra Whittaker got up and sang Psalm 150. Powerful and beautiful - but to those of us who remember - she was singing that song in the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth when the rains, held back for months in Israel, began to hit the high vaulted roof of that church in fulfillment of a prophecy given by Rev. Helm just days before to his Israeli guides. They were so distraught over the draught in Israel. The Sea of Galilee had receded to nearly unprecedented lengths until they even found a fossilized shallow fishing boat from Jesus time because of it. Rev. Helm prayed and told them which day it would rain (some 3 or 4 days later,) and that is the day it did, while Sandra was singing, "Praise ye the Lord!" I remember distinctly the sound of her echoing liquid gold penetrating voice doing that butterfly thing in my ears in that vaulted church and the sound of torrents of rain starting on that roof at the same time. And I remember coming down the hill from that church and water was running over our shoes - on a hill!

Emory Reece read such meaningful scriptures that highlighted key moments in Brother Helm's life, followed by Brother Helm's great granddaughter, Elizabeth Curtis, singing, "Bridge Over Troubled Waters." Sabrina, Greg, Joybell and Tony Cox sang, "When the Roll is called up Yonder." in a wonderful swing style. William Carey Helm reviewed Brother Helm taking him out to McDonald's as a boy and consequently slipping money into his hand over and over in the years following. He prayed.

Timothy Helm preached the funeral message at his Uncle Loran Helm's request. He shared that Rev. Helm has left us a "Paul-ine" legacy - one of reverence for the word of God. Timothy shared that Rev. Helm was a man of one book, pursuing holiness and possessing a sweetness about him because of the power of God within him. This sweetness was not just there naturally, but because of God working in him. Timothy reviewed that he, Rev. Helm, preached self-denial and obedience, holiness and believed the best of everyone.

Michael Douglas who has sung the song about the old man on the corner who used to sell the carnival show sang, "New Lives for Old," again for maybe the last time. He has sung it about every time he has been with Rev. Helm for about 20 years. When he followed his GPS into Parker City on this spring day, it led him smack dab into the carnival being held on Main Street, Parker City, on the day we buried the old man on the corner. The song says, "Thank God that crazy fool finally up and died last spring...." And the answer..."Well....I'll take up where he left off then....cause I'm pushing the same thing!" May we all be fools of this kind.

Jon led, "Isn't He Wonderful," and the Freeman Brothers sang, "First Day in Heaven." James and Angel Flora shared two poems written by James and a writing by Angel about her grandfather having time to really enjoy Florence without having to carry the burdens of so many.

Robert and I sang the chorus of "Show a Little Bit of Love and Kindness," and also "Hold the Fort." How encouraging it was to see those wonderful people waving their answer back to heaven once again. And guess what...my throat didn't even have a tickle in it when I sang. That help lasted until late that night – so I was able to talk freely with my friends with almost no coughing. And that night I slept the best I had in probably weeks.

Daniel and Jenny sang, "No One Ever Cared for me Like Jesus." It was like old times - it's been sooo long since I've heard them sing together. Jon and April sang, "A Mighty Fortress" together.

They had asked John Langdon earlier if he was up to singing and he answered, "If ya hurry up...!" So he came up and said something like, "Rev. Helm wanted me to sing this song...and I don't think I've ever sung it before...that's what he used to do to ya...he would just say, 'Come and sing...!' whether ya knew it or not!" People chuckled. So he sang, "My Task." It was wonderful. Then he prayed a John Langdon prayer, "Lord...I lost a

friend. A friend to many. Everywhere he went he preached the gospel. We have lost a great spiritual leader. If we do what we're taught - God will help us."

Then about 48 of the Helm family came up and sang, "Home Sweet Home." And as we were being ushered out row by row, Tyler sang, "The Hills are Alive with the Sound of Music," which used to bring Brother Helm to tears.

We gathered in our vehicles and the long line of 116 cars began to wind through the countryside. We went over the little Windsor bridge and just past there stood Rodney Dunn, at attention, with white gloves, holding a ball jar, standing like a statue, at the spot where God first spoke to Rev. Helm at the age of 4 years when he was walking with the ball jar in the curl of his arm. A little further down, the hearse passed a large coyote, perfectly silhouetted against the evening clouds tinted with color on a knoll to the right. It stood at attention while the hearse passed, and then about the time our car came - maybe 12 - 14 cars later, it started trotting down the pasture toward us. It was very large and many saw it including our car and my parent's car. When I saw it silhouetted I hollered, "What IS that???" I had never seen a coyote in the wild. You usually don't - even where they are plentiful from what I understand. You are much more likely to hear one than see one.

Then almost immediately following, a pasture with five horses turned to face the hearse and bowed their heads as it went by. The person who first saw it said, "That's exactly what happened!" As our car came by they were prancing excitedly back and forth. An hour later on our return, they were lazily grazing.

We all know how much Brother Helm loved horses. And the coyote has much spiritual significance to the American Indian. An animal representing great wisdom I'm told. And one that teaches lessons that one hardly knows are being taught. So much of what we have learned has been caught rather than taught....because there was a life to watch.

About 250 people gathered around the graveside. The setting sun was in our faces and I wept over the tenderness, longing, and love that I saw reflected there. Emory was so broken up over the privilege of doing the graveside that his voice was breaking in a certain way I can't describe. He read out of the little black Methodist service book, like one that Rev. Helm had used. Audie Whitaker prayed in a way that would have made Brother Helm chuckle and rejoice. Kim Gilbert later said that Audie prayed about how the angels who helped him to get up and go on when he was battered and knocked down in the long battle were the ones who came at 4:18 that morning to escort him to glory! Tyler and Rebecca sang a great going home song. When they started singing I felt my daddy's arm go around me and we stood there and shared that song together. I wept quietly. We sang "Amazing Grace" with Jon leading and I felt like we were at a site in Israel singing together. I whispered that to someone and they whispered back matter-of-factly, "We ARE at a site...".

People seemed reluctant to leave and were gathered in little sweet groups of fellowship scattered in that little country cemetery. I remember hearing an eruption of laughing and

praise from a group that had Robert Johnson in it. My mother took me to their new Toyota car/truck. She got out a little box of the first pickings of raspberries and lots of mulberries that she had carefully carried on ice. I wept looking into her loving and giving eyes again. She just loves. She doesn't criticize or try to change people - she just loves everyone like a child and just believes. When I grow up, I want to be just like her.

I got into the truck with my dad, Reimar Schultze, who was showing it off to me. "You can feel the quality of it by pressing the buttons..." he said. So I was punching buttons on his dash and finally hit the CD button. The player had 6 random CD's in it. Immediately on came Florence's voice talking while she played. And it was exactly at the place that said;

"...whatsoever things you have seen, and heard in me....do....

...and the God of peace...will be with you..."

My father said absolutely awestruck..."It's a benediction....amazing...." he said.

And I cried...again.

"Well....

....let's take up where he left off then...!"

Ester Morey

The Board of Directors of Revival For Our Day believe that God wants us to continue the message of Reverend and Mrs. Helm. We invite your prayerful consideration of the enclosed letter about the finances of RFOD.

We hope you will want to continue to be part of Revival For Our Day because it is God's revelation that, "The best is still to ahead for all who trust and obey God moment by moment;" and that does not mean in Heaven only.

Further information about the continuation of RFOD will be shared in future newsletters.

In Jesus name,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emory Reece".

Emory Reece