

Madison Survey

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ALUMNI NEWS



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Danny Shelton
President of 3ABN

I want to talk to you tonight about miracles. I remember when we first began 3ABN a person asked me, "What's so miraculous about 3ABN? There are other television stations that reach a long way?" To me the word "miracle" has a certain connotation. A miracle is something that you and I can't do, but God can. Danny Shelton couldn't raise 3 angels broadcasting network to do what it is doing. God can and God has. 3ABN is reaching into many areas of the world. I praise God that He impressed me in 1984 to start 3ABN. I won't go into all of that story tonight. There are so many miracles to share with you and I don't want to bore some of you that have heard the story many times before. It took miracles to get 3ABN going but it is taking bigger ones

everyday right now. Last Friday I signed a contract that will take 3ABN, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, around the world starting June 25th. There won't be any spot on planet earth that, if people want to watch 3ABN, they can.

I tell people everywhere I go that I don't really have an education, I'm not a pastor, I don't have a communication degree. I travel so much and speak to so many people around the world that I'm no longer intimidated by doctors, lawyers or business people. But I am scared to death of English teachers. Some of you may be English teachers or you know an English teacher so I ask you not to identify yourself until after the program tonight. I don't have any special gift. I have this testimony, God is alive, He is on the Throne and He is coming back very soon to this earth. I believe this with all my heart.

When Jesus was hanging on the cross you and I were on His mind. He could look down the stream of time and see a people that would be willing to give their lives unto death, if necessary, for His cause, to get an undiluted 3 angels message, one that would counteract the counterfeit, into all the world. I'm sure you realize, most of our 3ABN audience is not Seventh-day Adventist. I tell them that while we believe God has people in all churches, He has always had a people that had a present truth

to give. God has blessed the Seventh-day Adventist Church with a special message found in Revelation the fourteenth chapter which is the 3 angels messages.

I'm a carpenter by trade. My background is very poor. My father was disabled with a heart condition when he was just 36 years old. He came from a family of 14 children. He was a country-western entertainer for a number of years and my mother was for a short time. My mother became an Adventist in 1951 through a series of miracles. My uncle had given her Bible studies for a couple of years. Then she contracted polio. She prayed and told God that if He would heal her she would never set foot in another tavern. God healed her of polio. She never had any after effects. We serve a miracle working God.

My folks quit doing country music. They didn't really have an education. They made a living in Northern Indiana picking tomatoes. We lived with the Amish people where they had no running water and no electricity. I was six weeks late for school every year which I enjoyed because I didn't like school anyway. I didn't think it was that important at the time. The tomato harvest or beets or whatever it was, we all picked. My folks thought that was more important than schooling. We had to eat.

My father had many opportunities to go back into the night clubs and make good money. They had a daily radio program for five years when they were entertainers. After they became Seventh-day Adventist Christians they committed never to go back into that life again. After my father's heart attack, people would come to him and say, "Thomas, if you will come out just one night we will give you a hundred dollars. I remember my father always said, "No boys I left all that behind. I have another life. That's not me. My walk is with the Lord and I'm not going to do that anymore." They would say things like "We know you need the money. We know you aren't able to work anymore but you could sing."

give God all honor, glory and praise for what's happening. It tells me that God can use anybody that is willing to be used. You see, sometimes we get caught up in the fact that we have gone to the seminary or because we have obtained a certain degree, that makes us special servants of God. I am of the conclusion, unashamedly, that God just wants people that are available. When I got out of high school I became a carpenter. I had worked with an uncle who was a carpenter, even while I was in grade school. One of my brothers was a coal miner and I talked him into quitting the mines and going into construction work. We built a house and continued to build for a number of years.

boy and I had a little blue suit and everything. They delivered the baby by Caesarian section. The nurse came down and said, "Congratulations you have a daughter." We didn't have a name picked out for a girl. I asked my wife what we should name her and she said, "I don't know, let's think about it and pray about it." The next morning when I went in she said, "Let's name her Melody as in music in faith that God would give her musical ability." So we did that. We dedicated her when she was six weeks old, telling God that we named her that in honor of Him and asked that He would give her musical ability. He has done that. He blessed her with a beautiful voice.

My real passion at this time was

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"Well, we'll sing for the Lord. He won't let us starve. We'll make it." I appreciate my folks commitment to God and to the church. My father became a Seventh-day Adventist in 1955. He was faithful until he passed away in 1974.

I tell you a little bit about my background so you will realize where 3ABN has been, where it's going and what it is doing right now. I say that not to bring any credit to myself. I don't have a good business background. No one has ever told me I'm real smart. Education was not a part of my family history. My brothers, aunts and uncles, just made a living. With all that said I want to

In 1971 my wife, brother and I traveled in an old diesel bus and sang gospel music for about three years, on weekends. We traveled in several states. We always enjoyed music, but didn't attempt to do it full time to make a living. As I traveled around I didn't like a lot of what I saw in some quartets and full time musicians. My wife became pregnant. We sang on a Sunday night before the baby was born on Thursday. The doctor had told me that if heart beats mean anything this baby is going to be a boy. This was in 1971 and they didn't do ultrasound in our part of the country. We were convinced it would be a

sports. Singing was all right on weekends. I was a Seventh-day Adventist. I could and would argue with anybody about the Sabbath and "the state of the dead." What I really liked to do was play fast pitch softball in the summer. I played 100 games a year which means 3 or 4 nights a week. We were such good Adventists that on Sabbath when sundown was at 8:12 we would play until 8:11. Then we would take ourselves out of the game. On Saturday evening when sundown was at 8:12 we would wait until 8:13 and then come into the game. Of course, we would dress and go to the ball games in our uniforms and sit there

looking at the clock wishing that sundown would come so we could play ball. But we were good Adventists, we would never break the Sabbath. That's where I was in the 70s. If we won ball games or not my buddies would go to bars, drink, smoke and run around on their wives. My brother and I didn't do that so we felt we were all right. You begin to think like the man in the Bible that said, "God, I thank you that I am not like other men..." Luke 18:11 You begin to think like that because of the people that you are around. I had not realized that we were sound asleep.

Somebody wrote several years ago, "He is still working on me. " Aren't we all thankful that God is still working on us?

I loved gospel music and loved to sing. About 1980, we got a PA system. Melody was nine years old and we decided it was time for us to start singing. From the time we started singing and committed ourselves to do something for God everything seemed to go wrong. Before that everything went so well.. The devil got angry. We had a car wreck which wasn't even my fault. My arm was broken and I was out of work for several months. The insurance had expired the day before the accident. The car was totaled and I did not have money to buy another. It seemed like one thing after another began to happen. As it did, we became stronger and more serious about the Lord and His work.

One day in 1982, we came home from a trip and my wife said, "I am going to town for a few minutes and I will be right back." We lived 4 or 5 miles from town. She and my daughter, Melody, who was 11 years old at the time, took off in the van. About five minutes later,

I heard a horn that was stuck. I was out in the back yard, working, and a neighbor came and told me I had better come quick to the corner; your wife and Melody have been in an accident. Melody is going to be okay. She just has a lot of cuts and bruises, and it looks like her arm may be broken. I asked how is my wife, and she said "I can't find her." By this time other people were coming up to the van. I said, "What do you mean, you can't find her?" They said, "We don't know where she is." Some young fellows ran a stop sign, hit the van broadside, spun the van around. There was a big ditch and the van was sticking out toward the road. I found my wife face down in the ditch. The van was not on top of her. I called her name. She did not answer. I reached out to touch her. I am not a doctor, but the instant that I touched her I realized that she was dead. I backed away and a few minutes later an ambulance came. I rode with Melody in the ambulance to the hospital. I will never forget that afternoon. After the cast was put on her arm, we went home. People began to call us from all over.

I remember that a Baptist friend of ours called and said, "I am really sorry to hear about your wife's accident and that she was killed. Look at it this way. Maybe at this particular moment, God needed another beautiful angel voice in the angel choir." I'm hurting, my daughter is hurting and this wonderful Christian lady, tries to comfort me. I couldn't help but stop and say, "Excuse me, whoever told you that?" She said, "My daddy did I guess." There are many people who think that we serve a God up in Heaven, who looks down and gets bored with his angel choir and thinks I will steal this wife and

mother because I want to be entertained a little better. Basically, this is what they are saying.

That night, my daughter was running a fever, so I lay down beside her and we began to go over scriptures. 1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your cares on Him, for he careth for you. 23rd Psalm the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. John 10:10 The thief cometh not but to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus says I am come that you may have life, and have life more abundantly. As we began to go over these scriptures, I tried to tell her that her mother was dead, but it did not seem to soak in.

Even that day, she would ask me again and I would try to explain it to her, not able to say the word. She would continue to come back and I would say, "Well, she just didn't make it." She would say, "What does that mean?" Being an 11 year old child, she just couldn't comprehend.

We laid awake all night and talked. About dawn, I said, "Honey we have to get someone to sing for your mother's funeral. Who shall we get?" She said, "Well daddy, based on what you said and what we read in the scriptures, I think I want to sing. Mom would want me to and Jesus would want me to." That changed my life. It literally changed my life to see this Christian principle, the Word put into a child, 11 years old, and most of her vocabulary was "mom." Her favorite word was "mom" and number two was "dad." Then when she is hurt and sick, not knowing if she is going to be able to make it to the funeral, she says, "I will sing for mom's funeral." Her courage strengthened me tremendously. It was actually not until then that I became serious about the Lord and His work.

From that point on, we began to travel. The very next week we were scheduled to go to the Village Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan. They called to tell us they had heard about the accident, and were going to cancel the program. I talked to Melody and asked if she wanted to cancel the program. She said "No, let's go." So, we traveled, without her mother, just the two of us. We met the Burks shortly after that. We went to their place and Melody made her first album. That was fall of 1982. We didn't have a lot of money at that time and Helen used to take care of Melody's needs when we would be traveling through. We appreciated that and I am pleased to say that publicly.

We used to travel to different television stations and I had not realized the power of television. They would be Christian stations, not Adventist stations, but they were giving a message to hundreds and thousands of people. This was in the early eighties. I remember going one night to a TV station, in Asheville, N.C. where we were going to talk for ten minutes. Melody was to sing.

We ended up talking for over an hour. They said, "You have lost your wife and mother. How is it that you can stand up and not blame God for this?" So we began to talk about what happens to you when you die. They said, "At least you know she is in heaven." Here I am on live television and I said, "Well, actually, no, according to the Bible when you die you are just asleep." They said, "What about your soul?" So we began to talk about it. They said, "What about hell?" I said, "Hell doesn't come until later and it is not an eternal burning hell." People began to call from everywhere. I told them, as Christians, we are the

ones who are misrepresenting God's character. Atheists aren't keeping people from being Christians. The secular minds, humanism, it is not that. It is Christians, who turn people who are potential Christians away from God because we accuse God of being worse than Hitler. "Oh really," they said, "How so?" I said, "We say, Johnny be good, Jesus loves you, He died for you, He made a plan of salvation for you, He's coming back very soon in the clouds of glory." Johnny says, "Great I want to serve Jesus. I love Jesus." By the way Johnny, if you are not good though Jesus will burn you for ever, and ever and ever and ever. Johnny decides he doesn't want to serve a God who is going to burn him forever and ever. Hitler at least killed the people, but God is made out to be a torturer. Ellen White says the last great attack against God will be on His character; that He is not a God of love. You and I have a distinct opportunity to give His message, an end time message for an end time people. You and I were on Jesus' mind when He was hanging on the cross.

Someone wrote me several years ago, "We see what is happening, many miracles, we hope you will never let this go to your head and will stay humble because do you realize that when Christ was hanging on the cross, he could look down the stream of time and He saw you and the work you would do and part you would play at 3 ABN." I can say that to each of you. The Lord could look down the stream of time and see each of you. You are not here by accident. Some of you feel you are too young to do something, some say I am too old, I am retired. God has a purpose for you. We are living in the closing moments of earth's

history. I will share that with you in a little bit. People say, "How do you know? Everybody says the Lord is coming back very soon. They have been saying that for hundreds of years. What is different now? Why do you think He is coming back now? My mother, my father, my grandparents, great grandparents thought He was coming in their time." The last events we are told will be rapid. Daniel says knowledge shall be increased, men shall run to and fro.

I want to tell you that through technology today in the year 2000, as we keep time, not God's time, right now when we go on the air the 25th of June, 8 or 9 more days, from Southern Illinois, in a little former corn field, I can say, "Hello, and welcome to 3ABN presents." What happens to that signal is this. It goes immediately up through satellite 22,300 miles to space. It hits two satellites, one is G4, which covers all of North America. A new satellite a little 24 to 30 inch 3ABN system. It just gets the 3ABN channel. Then we have another satellite that picks it up called Dominion Sky Angel. You can have it just about anywhere in North America. Beginning the 25th it is going to a satellite called Intel 806. 806 takes the signal down to Central America from there to Europe. In Europe it is down linked in Paris, France and there it goes up again, hits another satellite, comes down into Jerusalem. Isn't that interesting? From Jerusalem it goes up to Tycom 3 which covers all of Asia, Indonesia, China, literally the rest of the known world that is not being reached, the Philippines, Australia.

In the Philippines we are building a full power station, right now as we speak, that will reach 22 million people. Virtually every person will

get it, whether on cable or not on cable. The signal travels all those ups and downs, probably 100,000 miles, and does it as fast as you can snap your finger. This signal, video and audio, am I losing you? My pastor says I speak 250 words a minute with gusts up to 550. Hang on tight so I don't lose you. It travels 186,200 miles per second. Does that figure ring a bell? That's at the speed of light. It can travel around the world 8 times in one second. Isn't that amazing?

John in Revelation the 14th chapter saw how many angels? Three angels flying in the midst of heaven. Three satellites today can reach the world. I believe John the Revelator saw three satellites flying in the midst of heaven. An angel is just a what? A messenger. How else can the earth be lightened with the Glory of God? By you and me hollering through megaphones or by telephone? How can the earth be lightened with the Glory of God? Revelation 18 says and the earth was lightened with the Glory of God. What happens after the earth is lightened with the glory of God? Jesus comes back. That's all we're trying to do, isn't it? He said go into all the world and preach the gospel to how many nations? All nations, every nation, kindred, tongue and people. When that happens what happens next? The second coming.

Jesus comes back to earth. Folks, we are right there, don't give up now!

The 3ABN Board of Directors has committed, to give an undiluted "three angels messages" unto all the world. One that would counteract the counterfeit. This particular year when Uncle Olan sang we were \$250,000 short at the end of the year. We get into December and my accountant came to me and said, "If

we don't get \$250,000 in two weeks this will be the first time we have been in the red. My first thought was Oh Oh, we put \$250,000 into Romania. If we hadn't done that we would be okay. But I remembered that Mrs. White had written when we work in the third world countries God will bless us on the home front. Even more when we reach out to the rest of the world. Then I thought no, that was God's will. We have seen a lot of good happen over there. Linda and I prayed and said, "Lord, you are going to have to bless us because we have never been in the hole, never gone in the red. It is getting near the end of the year with only a week or two left."

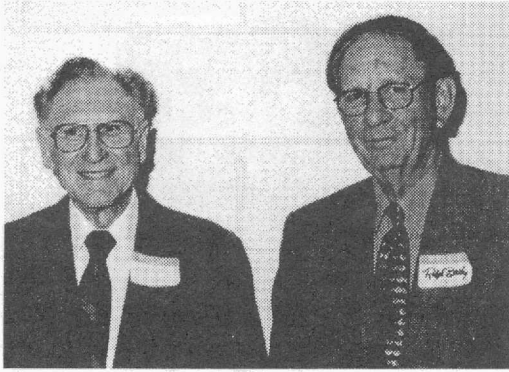
I was at home one evening, we have an unlisted phone number, but I got a call. When I answered a man said, "Hello Danny, I'm Bob Ford I am a physician on the west coast. You don't know me, but two weeks ago I bought a satellite dish. I had been hearing about 3ABN and I decided to put a dish in to see if it was something I wanted to support. Last night I heard a man on there, I think his name is Uncle Olan, singing "Life is like a mountain railroad" I thought oh boy, that's all I want to hear. Here's this physician and he is going to give this money and he's listened to Uncle Olan. He said, "You know my wife was so touched by that singing and I was touched. (That song had been sung at grandmother's funeral.) I have read where Mrs. White said, "Men will be called from the plow to give the message." That is so touching and timely for me to see that. I believe God is going to use this tool because people will come from all walks of life. Everyday average honest people reaching people that some of us may not reach otherwise. I am impressed

to give you a donation. What are some of your needs there?"

Instantly my mind wanted to say we need,— but then I thought, no, I don't want to let him know how far we are in debt, he'll become discouraged. \$250,000, he may not want to give anything if they are that far in debt. I said, "Well, we have lots of needs. I don't know what they all are. I know what some of them are." He said, "Well, I'm impressed to give you some money." I said, "Let me do this, why don't we pray and ask the Holy Spirit to tell you how much to give us." He said, Well, I never had anyone tell me that." I said, "If the Lord gave you the money and He is impressing you to give it, then He'll tell you how much we need." He said, "Okay, I'll do that. I'll call you back Monday morning."

On Monday I got a call. "Danny, this is Bob Ford. You remember I called you on Friday?" "Yes." "I just want you to know I did something I never did before. I prayed and asked God how much it was that He wanted me to give you here at the end of the year. I have some money I need to give. The Lord actually impressed me with a figure. He has never done that before." I said, "That's wonderful. I appreciate it." He said, "Don't you want to know how much it is?" I said I'm dying to but I didn't want to seem too aggressive. I don't want to scare you off." He said, "No, you can't do that. The Lord has impressed me. I put a check in the mail this morning for \$250,000." That's amazing to me. Isn't that amazing?

Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. The 19th verse says "my God shall supply all of your need (Continued on page 7)



L-R Elder Luther May, BS '50,
Elder Ralph P. Bailey, Ph. D., BS '50



Nursing - Class of 1950, L-R Carl Eddie Baker, BSN 50, Louise Burk McDonald, N '50, Eloise Page Surdal, N '50, Audry Bursley Trevor, N '50, Elsie Stinchfield Brownlee, N '50, Violet Stewart Lang, N '50 Mavis savage Sutherland, N'50, Joyce Jones Merrifield, N '50,



L-R Lloyd "Joe" Wilson, MCA '48,
Russell Myers, MD, BS '48,



Mary Peek Kurzynske, BSN '59, Patricia Mitzelfelt Silver, BS'60, Albert Isom, BSN '59, Anes.'61 Virginia Greenlee Isom, N'60, Marie Benchly Brodersen, BSN'59, Delphia Ladner Baybarz, BSN '60, Esther Edmonson Scott, N '60, Nadine Myrick, BSN '60, Margaret Anaya, BSN '60, Terry Brown, BSN '58, Helen Leitsinger, BSN '60, Lila Ring Adams, BSN '60



Dollie Russ Bowen, LPN '50, Recently turned 94



L-R Elsie Stinchfield Brownlee, N'50, Violet Stewart Lang, N'50, Mavis Savage Sutherland, N'50, Freda Davis Zeigler, N'35, BS'48, Stella McMasters Sutherland, S 42,'45 Joyce Jones Merrifield, N'50, Betty Louise Burk McDonald, N'50, Eloise Page Surdal, N'50



L -R Dorothy Swanson Santini
Robert V. Santini, N '42, BS '54

(Continued from page 5)

according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Folks, what we are doing today and the message that God has given us as a church and as a people is real. You don’t have to worry about it . You don’t have to get discouraged. God is in control. I want to share with you how God is in control. How much He loves people. Lots of things I could tell you. I never decide what I am going to talk about before I get up front. When I got up here I didn’t know what I was going to talk about. My concern used to be what am I going to say for 30-45 minutes? Now, it’s what do I have to leave out? There are so many miracles. As I talk I ask the Holy Spirit, “Lord, what will you have me leave out. I want to share with you how much God loves people. He loves people that He will go to any honest length to see people saved. We’re seeing miracle after miracle.

We are going to write a little pamphlet and title it “Stuck Dishes.” That means peoples dishes and TV channels stuck on 3ABN. They couldn’t get any other channel! That has happened over and over again. A man in Kentucky, awhile ago, called me and told the secretary, “I just have to talk to him.” They let him talk to me and this is what he told me. “I’ve been watching 3ABN for about six weeks. I had a real void in my life. Yet everything I saw on 3ABN I knew must be true and I would check it with the Bible. I am so happy about what I’m learning. I decided the other day I wanted to go to an Adventist church. I looked in the phone book but I didn’t see any numbers for a Seventh-day Adventist church. I’m not used to praying but the other day I knelt down to pray. Let me give you a little background.

I live at the end of a dead end country road. I have signs up because I have a little turn around and people invariably try to turn around and get off on my flowers and that is my pet peeve. So I put up signs that say Private Drive, Dead End Do Not Enter. People will invariably come and I run out and really tell them off. The other day I decided to pray. I’m not good at praying don’t really know how. I said, “Lord if this is the church you want me to go to send somebody to me.”

As I was praying I heard a loud motor. Sounded like a big engine. That really gets my goat because I know there isn’t room for trucks. So I had to excuse myself. I said, “Lord you know I’m new at this but I’ve got a problem here. Excuse me and I’ll get back in a few minutes.” I got off my knees and threw back the window and sure enough there is a great big truck trying to turn around. There isn’t enough room and on the side of it was “Seventh-day Adventist Community Services.” I couldn’t believe my eyes. I was just kneeling telling God He would have to send someone to me and here is this truck. I ran outside. The guy sees me. He sees the truck is too big to turn around without messing up some of my flowers. He starts apologizing, saying, “I’m sorry. I didn’t know this was a dead end. I didn’t see any signs.” I had three signs and he couldn’t see them? I said, “That’s okay. One thing I want to know, are you a Seventh-day Adventist?” He said, “Yes, I am.” I asked if there was a church near and he said it was actually about forty miles from me. I asked if he could give me directions to that church and he said he could. I said, “That’s fine, don’t worry about my flowers, thank

you for coming.” Then he told him this story. That he was literally in there praying.

The Lord impressed me in 1984 to build a television station. I want you to build a television station that will reach the world with an undiluted three angels messages. One that would counteract the counterfeit. Now that’s not me. At the time I had to go back and read the 3 angels messages. I was too busy in sports. I was an Adventist. I knew the Sabbath and the state of the dead but if you want me to talk to you about the 3 angels messages I’d better go read them, find out if this is what the Lord wants. What did He mean undiluted? I didn’t know there was a diluted but there must be if He said give an undiluted 3 angels messages. Those thoughts weren’t mine. I knew they weren’t mine. So Isaiah 8:20 “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” When I went through this I thought, what would the devil have to gain if there were a television station that could reach the world with the 3 angels messages? Nothing. He would have everything to lose. This must be of God.

I said, “Lord, I don’t have anything. I don’t have money. I don’t have property. I don’t have equip-ment. I don’t have an education. I live from week to week but I will go forward if you supply every need. I want to tell you something folks, if God is not blessing you and you feel like you are just spinning your wheels and you are waiting on God to pour out blessings, you are going to wait until He comes or until you die. I didn’t know it but God is so desperate for anybody that is willing to be used He

will do it for us. He just wants us to be available. He impressed me to say "Lord, I'll go forward and you supply every need." Our tendency is, you supply the need and I'll go forward. See the difference?

So when I stepped forward God has been blessing ever since. The first time somebody gave \$50,000 was awesome. When people gave just enough money for the road. That was awesome. Now we are looking at millions of dollars a year. People I don't know, in many cases haven't even met them, sending money, coming at the right time just when we need it. The miracles are only much bigger. Now we can be a part of it or we can choose not to be a part of it. It's my prayer each of us will choose to be a part. Say, "Lord use me in greater ways than you have ever used me before."

A lady in Condon, Oregon got our signal, called in, said, "I want the Revelation Seminars that I just saw on the screen. I've been praying and asking God to send me some studies on Revelation. My pastor doesn't know anything about it. For the first time, I'm getting your channel and there was your phone number so could you help me? My cousin who had answered the phone, asked, "Where do you live ma'am?" "Condon, Oregon." "Oh we don't have a down link there so you are watching from satellite. She said, "I don't have a satellite." "Well, you are over a hundred miles from Yakima. We have a downlink there but you couldn't get that, the signal only goes out about thirty miles. Ma'am you couldn't be getting it because you are over a hundred miles from our nearest station." She said, "Sir, How do you think I got this phone number to call you right now? It was on my screen."

We went on the air that night and said, "If there are any Adventist ladies in Condon, Oregon who would like to give Bible studies please give us a call." Three women gave us a call from that area. They gave this woman Bible studies and she was baptized. This lady never got 3ABN after that day. Never got it before, never got the channel afterwards. One day was all she got it. You see the Lord is to seek and save all that are lost. He said it is His will that none should perish but all should have everlasting life. We don't have to worry. What if we go forward and it doesn't work out. It's not you and me on the line. It's not about us. We can't worry about ourselves and how we look. I don't really care about myself. People do all sorts of things. You can't take any of it personal. A guy wrote me awhile back and said, "Danny your singing is improving. You used to sound like a lost donkey braying in a cornfield but you're sounding a little better now." With it he put a check for \$10,000. I went on the air and said, "If anyone else wants to say bad things about me please send your \$10,000, \$5,000 or \$2,000 and we will read all the negative things you want us to." People say, "Doesn't that bother you? You mean you actually told everybody on the air? Wasn't that embarrassing?" I said, "No, I'm not on the line. This is not about me. God's work is going to go forward, I just choose to be on His side. Don't you want to be on His side? Do you want to go forward?" Then God is going to bless you abundantly more than you could ever ask or think. Whatever you touch, in secular terms, is going to turn to gold. I could talk to you for another hour or two telling you one story after another.

I will tell you one more dish story. A man has a big screen television, he is a construction worker, loves sports, comes home every night, has a big recliner, has a six pack of beer every night, and a pack of cigarettes. After supper he sits in that chair, reclines, smokes and drinks and watches all the sport channels until he goes to bed. He is watching TV, the Super Bowl, the biggest game of the entire year. At half time he decides to check other channels and see what the other commentators are saying. He is flipping down the satellite, gets to 3ABN, it stops. He can not get it off of 3ABN. He begins cussing and throwing things around the house, just furious. He had to go into his bedroom and turn the radio on and listen. Who wants to listen to the Super Bowl? You want to watch it.

He had a satellite because he lived in the country. He told his wife to get the satellite repairman out, and fix the system because it was stuck on a stupid channel. His wife agreed to call. The next day he came home in the evening and asked if she had called the satellite man and she said that she had but that he was covered up and it might be a week or so before he could come.

Two weeks went by. Every day he would get his cigarettes and beer and recline in his chair and make fun of every preacher and singer on 3ABN. How they wore their hair. If they didn't have hair, how they looked, how they talked, what they did. He said, "What else am I going to do? I'm a couch potato. It's the only thing I know to do. Smoke and drink my beer." At the end of the two weeks he is still watching. He came home at the end of the two weeks and asked his wife if the TV repairman had come. "Yes, but there

is good news and bad news. The bad news is that there is a part inside the receiver that is bad and it is special order and could take several more weeks," she said.

He wrote me a letter. I called him because I wanted to talk to him. In the letter he said, "It's been six weeks and praise God for the stuck dish because tomorrow, pray for me, I am visiting an Adventist church for the first time in my life." Isn't that a miracle? That's a big amen isn't it?

God loves us folks, you don't have to worry about putting yourself on the line. You don't have to worry about failing. If the Lord is impressing you to do something don't think if I can get enough support I'll go and start this ministry. Church Boards get together and say, "Do you think we can do an evangelistic effort this year." Well, if we don't let's shut the doors. Why do we have church? Just to come here and have a party together or are we here to evangelize the world? I'm stepping on toes now. Somebody got mad. I see that all ready. Someone got upset about it. That's the good thing about traveling from church to church. Your preacher has to be careful what he says but I'm here and I'm gone. You can get mad at me all you want to but I have to tell you the truth. We need to get together and not worry about what something costs. We are afraid to go forward because we don't know where the money is coming from. I want to tell you something. Anytime you put something on paper and look at it and get experts to come in, you are going to be in trouble because people are going to discourage you from doing because the physical and the spiritual won't match up.

When you look at 3ABN the

physical can not work. It is impossible for it to work and everything be paid for but guess what, my auditors came to me and said they wanted to talk to me. It is an outside firm, everything is above board we have a board of directors, we send an audited copy to the Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists because we want to work with the church. 3ABN is not a church. Has never claimed to be. We are not the only ones. Revelation the 14th chapter isn't talking about 3ABN, it's talking about technology. ACN can use those satellites, AGCN can use those satellites, John Doe can use those satellites, you can use those satellites.

I don't want to be misunderstood. I'm not saying that Danny Shelton and his group think that they are the three angels testified of by John the Revelator. But I'm convinced that John saw technology to get this message into all the world. The auditor came and sat down a few months ago after he finished the 1999 report and said, "I want to tell you that we do a lot of firms, but the rate at which you are going is absolutely phenomenal. When I look over the assets of 3ABN world-wide and I see what you've done I want to congratulate you on your business prowess. I know your background is that of a carpenter, you're not educated but I've never seen a business like this. How do you do your budget? Last year you added in a remote truck, \$1.3 million and you paid for it. How are you able to do that and plan that far ahead and get all this paid? My hat's off to you. When I look at your long term debt I am amazed. Zero long term debt! That is phenomenal. Everything you own is paid for. How do you keep it so that you never

have money in the bank but there is always just enough? Your budgeting skills are tremendous." I listened to him for a little while and asked, "Are you finished?" "Yes!" I said, "I don't even plan my day let alone a year."

That's the truth folks. I go in in the morning. I don't know what I'm going to do. I just show up. When I get there people have things they need. This one needs to talk to you, that one needs to talk to you. Oh, we've these contracts for these satellites or these cable companies want—I just show up. Linda says, "Honey, in 30 minutes we have an interview." "Who with?" "I don't know we'll find out." I run out to the set, "Hello, What's your name and they will say here's some questions." I say, "I don't have time to do that. We'll find out on the air. We'll ask you some questions." So I run out and do the program. Someone told me today that they kind of look organized sometimes.

So I told the auditor, you were asking about the remote truck. The honest truth is I was impressed half way through the year to build this truck. I asked Moses Primo, my engineer, how much it would cost. He figured awhile and said, "Probably \$1.3 million. I asked what would it cost just to get the chassis for the truck. He came back after awhile and said, "That would be \$150,000." I asked, "How long will it take to get that built for us?" "About ninety days." I said, "Let's order it. By faith the money will be here." When the chassis was ready the \$150,000 was there. Then I asked how much it was going to cost for the box and all the wiring etc and the response was \$250,000 more. "How long will it take?" "Three months." "Let's order it. The money will be here." The time came that

payment was due, it was paid for. We did that truck like you eat an elephant, one bite at a time. When we go forward and God is in it, He is going to bless us. So I told my auditors, "This is a great opportunity for me to give you a testimony. I said, "I only show up in the morning. I don't plan anything. I don't even plan a yearly budget. My Board used to want me to do that years ago but now they don't even care. We built brand new studios. We just built a sanctuary. We are continually building. We are building a new Call Center. The Board says, "Fine, go to it. Praise the Lord." There is no one saying, "Well now, I don't think you ought to do it, there's no money. "You're not borrowing money are you?" We are forced to build. We have 85 employees and in the next couple of months we will have over 100 full time employees. This doesn't include those in our Russia offices and people we have over there."

So I told my auditor, "None of this is me. All of this happened in spite of me. I'm as shocked as you are. I just stand back and watch what God does. All I do is pray and say, "Lord, this is your project. You tell us what to do. In Psalms 2: 8, Look it up when you go home, He says, "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.." We have asked God for the heathen. We have asked God for the inheritance of the world because we want Jesus to come back very soon and I know you do too.

Don't get discouraged. Everywhere I go people get discouraged. A pastor came and said, "I've been a pastor 34 years and never knew Jesus until I started watching 3ABN." He had retired already. A

lady said, "I've taught Sabbath School over 40 years and never knew Jesus. Never had a relationship until recently. I knew all the do's and don'ts." So many times in our church there are people living on their mother's and father's Christianity, on their religion. They don't make the religion themselves.

Our young people can't live their religion through us. They have to be introduced to the Lord Jesus Christ and submit and commit to Him. Sometimes, folks, we have to let these people go. I've gone through that. It's not easy to let them go. We can't protect them, we can't bring them in on our shirt tails to heaven with us. We've got to let these people go and pray for them.

As a people we need a revival and reformation in this church. We don't need to worry about people arguing over what format, Why do we do this or my thing is... Hey you can change the cover of a book but it is going to read the same. There is no need to send somebody down to the nearest Assembly of God Church to bring back their style of worship. If we had revival and reformation nobody would need to tell us how to praise the Lord.

That's enough for tonight. In closing I want you to think about your life. I want you to look back over the last several months. The things of this earth that you once loved, are you now beginning to hate? Can you honestly sing "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus, look full into His Wonderful face and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of Christ's Glory and His grace?" That's where we need to be today. It is more important now than any time in your life. I don't care what your age is. It has never been as important for you to be committed

to God and to His service as it is today. All of you. The alumni of this college. We praise God for Madison College; for the people who lived, worked and graduated. We are thankful for what you have done in the past. Many of you are retired but God is not finished with you yet.

HONOR CLASSES 1950

Ralph Bailey:

"My name is Ralph Bailey, what's left of him. Class of 1950 Madison College. My wife Dorothy is with me. She's my first wife. We had the gracious privilege of serving in the Lord's work in one facet or another since we left Madison. I have never regretted the beautiful education and training, there is a difference you know, that we received at Madison College. The wife and I were just young Adventists. I was just a few weeks old when I went into the army in the second world war and when I came out we came here to Madison. Some folks, Luther and Eunice May, kind of took us under their wings and we actually owe them much. You know the temper of Adventism, the nurture. You have to be nurtured either by mom and dad, friends or someone by and large along the way or else it takes a long time to get it otherwise. We've always appreciated that. They are great friends of ours or were, we haven't checked lately.

We were in the educational work for several years and I was also ordained to the ministry during those years. We were at Battle Creek, Michigan. We were ordained in 1957 the same year our young son was born. We had a little daughter when we were here and twelve years later we had this son. Two families. I

remember a bit of education I received at that ordination time. Elder H. M. S. Richards Sr. shook his finger in our faces, there were five of us men being ordained, he said, "Now, Brethren, you are not being ordained to ride hobby horses for this denomination and he went on. I remembered that, it has helped me through the years to stay off that hobby horse trail.

Years later we ended up at Southwest Adventist College. I was chairman of the Department of Psychology for eleven years. There is no gracious way to get rid of an old professor so they just sent us to Eastern Africa. We served there for ten and a half years. That brings me to a very beautiful story, yet a heart-rending story. During the time we were there I was supposed to deliver the commencement address at the Tanzania Adventist College. It would take us several hours to drive down to the border from Nairobi, Kenya. We were to be met there by a Pat Scott. We spent the day waiting for him. He had had a very serious accident which almost took his life and did cripple him for life. He was not supposed to live or walk or anything else and he has done all of those things by the grace of God.

Pat is here today. Didn't know we were going to meet. We have always just missed him somewhere, he and his wife. So we had the privilege of meeting them today.

We spent ten and a half years in Eastern Africa. I worked as Educational Field Secretary and served as development secretary for the University of Eastern Africa. Believe it or not, all that background and training in education from Madison and on through to my doctorate, all that I had done, just unfolded and came into play in

developing that university.

Later we were selected to be the secretary of the East African Division. We moved down South and spent time there in Zimbabwe. The North side of Eastern Africa is cut off by a "no man's land" between Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, and Zimbabwe and all those. They are oriented to South Africa and the others are oriented to European trade, India etc. There is no railroad or road in between. You go by airplane to get across there so we kept a sub-Division office in Nairobi and the main office Rhodesia.

We came home in 1994 in retirement. Since then we have been traveling most every Sabbath taking appointments as pastor for the day in churches all over Texas and part of the Texaco Conference. We have a very enjoyable time at that because we meet former students who are Elders, Deacons, Sabbath School Teachers, and parishioners.

I want to say that I am very, very pleased to have seen the quality that I have seen here today. You know ordinarily you go to these kind of gatherings and people look rather old. My, you look so good! Adventism must be agreeing with all of you. We live at Keene, Texas and operate out of there. It is nice to be here."

Luther May: "If you expect me to only talk three minutes you had better signal to me because I get started and I don't know when to stop.

We came here in 1946. We tried to get into Collegedale. That was right after the army. We got out of the army and decided we ought to get back to school. So we chose Collegedale but since I had a wife they said, "We have no housing for married students." We had to find a

college that had housing for married students. They didn't have that here but they said, "If you can provide your own housing we will be glad to take you." So we got us a trailer and pulled it in right back of the laundry. We lived in that trailer until the hospital arranged for a house so that my wife, who had been supervising, would continue to work. We got a cottage right across from the boys' dorm and sold the trailer. Ralph and Dorothy Bailey bought a trailer and moved in across the street. We got an army telephone set and strung it up between the two trailers. We happened to have a phone because Eunice was nursing and she had to have a phone. When anybody wanted to talk to Ralph I would whistle into this telephone and Ralph would answer and I said, "Ralph, you've got a telephone call."

One night our six weeks old baby, Sherry, was out on the porch in her carriage and brother Peck, who was Dean of Boys, came across the street. It was dark, and just as he walked up on the top step there was a board that was about six inches short and he stepped in the hole. The first thing he could grab was the handle of the baby carriage and when he did, it flipped that kid out on the ground. We were so shocked! She didn't cry a bit but she woke up. It didn't hurt her at all but we were scared stiff thinking that he might have killed our baby. I had been preparing for the ministerial work but the field was full. Pisgah needed a hospital administrator. They asked us to go over there and we agreed. From there we were asked to be the administrator at Hialeah Hospital in Florida. I was the first administrator of that hospital. In a few years Donald Welch followed me there. We next went to Sand Mountain,



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between Alabama and Georgia. We lived in Alabama and my wife drove all through the state of Georgia and worked in Tennessee at Erlanger Hospital.

From there we were called to Berrien Springs, MI. Dr. Spaulding got word that we needed a hospital/sanitarium close to the college there and Mrs. Spaulding said, "I know where you can get an administrator." She called us. I said, "I'm not interested, unless these doctors are willing to follow the blue print in the Spirit of Prophecy." She said, "They absolutely are." I said, "I am interested." So we went up there. We were there 2½ years and they never did a thing. We were just living there on an eighty acre estate. Al Capone's body guards place. We were living on a former gangsters estate and we had a lot of company while we were there.

Since this didn't pan out I was

asked to come to work at the college and was there ten years and Elder Johnson called me into the ministry in Iowa. I was there 8½ years and got a call to come South. Back home! I'm a southern boy. We came to Jackson, Tennessee and pastored the church there. Then we moved to Murray Kentucky and pastored the church for 17½ years, then retired. We are still working.



Buttermilk Pralines

- 2 ½ cups sugar
 - 1 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 cup buttermilk
 - 3 tablespoqns margarine
 - 2 ½ cups pecans (I usually use more and always toast them first)
- Mix first 4 ingredients. Cook over high heat in large heavy pan for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Add margarine and nuts. Cook and stir 5 minutes more or until soft ball forms

when dropped in cold water. Remove from heat and let cool for a minute or two. Stir with spoon until creamy and loses its shine. Drop by tablespoon quickly onto foil or greased cookie sheet. Note: This really pops while it's cooking, so I cook in a good sized soup pot and wear rubber gloves while I'm stirring.

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