

THE FAMILY OF LOVE! NEWS - BY YOU!

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..THE CROWN DESCENDING!

BROTHER IN AFRICA GOES TO BE WITH THE LORD!

Dearest Dad & Maria, 10 Jan. 78
Late two nights ago we received a phone call from Corny Black in Nigeria, telling us that one of our brothers there, Stephen Apollos, had gone to be with the Lord at 9 p.m. on January 4th. He died of an enlarged heart weakened by malaria.

Our first reaction was a bit of a shock, and almost like your mother's when she heard the news of that missionary slaughter in China: "Why, Lord?" And we felt that perhaps it was in part "because My people pray not for My missionaries".

Then, the next morning in devotions, we were in desperate prayer for our brothers in West Africa, and the Lord really spoke clearly to us about His purpose in calling Stephen Apollos to be a spiritual helper for the



Photo of Stephen Apollos, age 22, taken just before his return to Africa.

work in West Africa.

Corny's message said Stephen and his wife both had dreams of his going to be with the Lord in Africa, and apparently he had said in France just before he left that he was going back to Africa to die!

He'd been in the Family in South Africa and had a long-standing burden to return. I believe Livingstone

had said something similar on his second and final trip to Africa.

The battle there is so much in the Spirit that our teams really need this extra helper! I had a vision of two hands descending from Heaven and placing a crown on Stephen's head—and his face shone like Stephen's in Acts 7! PTL!

Love in Jesus' Name, Kenaz Acts.

PROPHECY received by Kenaz, the morning of January 9, 1978, while praying during morning devotions:

The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord. Surely the Lord God will do nothing save he revealeth his secret unto His servants the prophets.

This one I have chosen for My purpose, for he has been called for many battles in the Spirit for him to fight. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Be strong in the Lord, for we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far greater reward of eternal glory.

Weep not for this one, but for those that know me not. For surely I have gathered him unto My bosom—to eternal glory! Precious in the sight of the Lord is the blood of His Saints.

Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin...

... THAT YE MIGHT ALL RECEIVE YOUR CROWNS AS THIS ONE HAS!

"Lovest thou me? - Feed my sheep!"

ARE YOU FAITHFULLY ANSWERING LETTERS FROM THE GP? - THE SAD RESULTS OF UNANSWERED PLEAS!

Dearest Dad & Maria, 2 Feb. 78
I love you so very much and want to thank you first of all for all the Letters which you have been sending our way!

The reason I am writing you is because I have been so burdened about a certain situation in our Family regarding answering letters from little sheep around the world who write in after they have received the literature on the street. I would like to share an excerpt from a letter I received from a dear brother-in-bonds in Spain, with whom I have been corresponding:

"Recently both Keith and I have been through a depressing period, related entirely to the fact that our letters to Children of God colonies in England and Jerez, Spain have gone unanswered... We understand that your people are busy bees, winning souls, etc. for Jesus, but feel rather disappointed that our letters remain unanswered or acknowledged. I, especially, am disappointed in the lack of response from my home country, England. I'm still a mere baby in the Spirit and Family, so a little comfort will surely be advisable in the first days of my freedom. Also, can you send us some other Children of God colonies in this area for us to contact close to this prison? Love, Ian."

At the bottom of Ian's letter,

Keith, who is an American and has been a catacomber since last November, writes that the unanswered letters have undoubtedly been an attack from the Enemy and asked if he could please continue to correspond regularly with me, as I have been the only one that has been answering their letters and requests for literature. This pitiful heartcry broke my heart, and of course I will be writing to them.

I just received another letter today and thought I'd enclose it as another sample of sheep not being able to get the new wine!

"We are not able to live in the colony but we are just disciples in the Spirit and really would like to suck from the new wine. Our local shepherd here doesn't give us all the Letters. We have literally to keep begging for them. Please send and keep us on your mailing list. It's nearly three months since I got any new Letters. We are still students, final year students studying to be doctors. Yours in Christ, Gabriel David; Kashmir, India." (Editor: If the local colony doesn't have enough copies, the least they can do is xerox some for these hungry souls!)

Often I receive letters to C.P. 748, Rome, requesting information and more literature and asking for an address near them to write to or

visit. My usual procedure is to answer the person writing in, sending also the requested literature and an address near him, after which I also write the address I have given them, asking the brethren there to please write or visit the person that wrote in.

It seems that very few even answer these sheep, sad to say, and as a result they continue to write to me, knowing that I will answer them. I now have a mailing list of over 60 people around the world, 30 of whom I write on a regular basis, answering their questions personally and really making them feel loved.

We now have three catacombers through this ministry, and one girl in America recently joined a colony there after corresponding with me for several months.

I am also corresponding with quite a few backsliders, former members of our Family who still want the Letters. I have received letters from these brothers and sisters, saying that writing to this address is their only hope because they have written to the colony where they used to be for lit and fellowship, but no one answers them. Many times when they do find a colony in the States, they are told that they don't have extra copies of the MO Letters and they can't even obtain the latest news from right where they are!

It just breaks my heart! Of course, I love to write letters and minister to these precious sheep. Yet, by doing this, I feel we are not really getting to the root of the problem:

That each colony should be responsible enough to answer a few letters from sheep! You have made it so

clear, Dad, how important our mail ministry is, in "Lovest Thou Me?", Letter no. 311A, paragraphs 56-66:

"... We are personally responsible for their souls... How these are handled may determine their eternal fate at the most, and their friendship at the least!... You're going to have to face these souls in Eternity some day and give them an answer then! ... Their pitiful cries... that we read nearly break our hearts! - And we agonise in prayer that these pitiful pleas for help are being diligently answered by your offices! - Are they? May God help you to take care of and feed His little sheep!"

Boy, those quotes really frighten me into being faithful to God's little ones, and I pray that in some way this letter may help make our Family feel more responsible to answer these little pleas for help in the mail. I would like to feel at peace and assured that when I forward a letter to a local field that it will be answered properly, instead of feeling like I do now, that I'd better do it all myself, otherwise these sheep will never be taken care of!

I know God will bless diligence and faithfulness in answering the mail with fruit and support and with a great satisfaction that through taking just half an hour to personally love up a sheep by letter, you were able to shed a little light in his heart and maybe even save his soul! PTL!

Thank you, Dad, once again for all the love. Love, Adar David's. (DAD: I heartily agree! Any H.S. who refuses to minister to a nearby sheep at least by letter ought to be replaced by one who will! God help us!)