

A Note of Explanation: -- Even though this file is "about" and not "by" Paul King, because he was widely known, loved, and revered by many in the Bible Missionary Church and Conservative Holiness Movement, I have elected to place the file in a folder under his own name.
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PAUL KING -- AT HOME WITH THE LORD

By Spencer Johnson

Paul E. King was born to Rev. and Mrs. L. W. King at Pittsburgh, Pa. on Oct. 7, 1920. At the age of 18 he was genuinely born of the Spirit and a short time later was sanctified wholly. Soon after he was saved he answered the call to preach. He took his ministerial studies at Trevecca College. He continued to study after his college days and prepared himself that he might rightly divide the word of truth and proved himself to be a workman that needed not to be ashamed.

His father founded the Tri-State Holiness camp meeting at Clinton, Pa. In the early days of his ministry Brother Paul was a faithful and regular attendant at the camp meetings. It was there in the camp meeting that he met Lucille Hoffman, who at that time was a part of the spiritual Hoffman trio. The friendship between Paul King and Lucille Hoffman grew and blossomed into a beautiful romance which culminated in the wedding of Paul and Lucille on June 1, 1945. They were sweethearts until the day of his death.

They became a useful and powerful team for God. Before his marriage Paul had pastored at Dalton, Georgia. Soon after the wedding Paul and Lucille went into the evangelistic work and for many years were successful in the field, traveling the length and breadth of the land, singing and preaching old fashioned second blessing holiness.

God blessed their home with a son, Paul Daniel, affectionately known as Danny in his boyhood days, and now we call him Dan. Brother and Sister King entered the pastoral ministry and pastored churches at Crowley, Louisiana, Pauls Valley, Okla., Vivian, La., Muncie, Ind., Grand Rapids, Mich., and Lima, Ohio. They had been blessed as evangelists but they proved to be a far greater blessing as pastors. It was in the pastorate that Brother King's ministry seemed to reach full fruition. In the pastorate they touched many, many lives, and at the great and final day they will rise up and call Rev. and Mrs. Paul King blessed.

When God called the Bible Missionary Church into existence, Brother Paul King was among those pioneers. He accepted the challenge and cast his lot with those who had come out under the stars to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. He labored as the beloved District Moderator of the North Central District for 20 years. He served on the board of Clinton camp and on the Advisory Committee of the Inter-church Holiness Convention. From the early days of the Bible Missionary Church he was a member of the General Board and also on the Bible Missionary Institute board. He worked on many important committees of these boards. He was well qualified to have served as a General Moderator of the church, For the past 20 years Brother

King was in constant demand as a worker in camp meetings, holiness conventions, and preachers' meetings. His preaching brought good results and he gave God all the glory.

Brother Paul King was a loving, considerate husband. As a father and grandfather he was kind and generous.

He possessed a brilliant mind combined with a loving and friendly spirit. He was a man of deep piety, strong convictions and of great compassion for souls. He was one of the best men I ever knew and one of the greatest preachers I ever heard. His works do follow him.

"He was a man in the pulpit, divinely commissioned.
He poured out his whole soul in proclaiming the Word.
An old-fashioned preacher, a real Bible preacher.
A spirit-filled preacher who honored God's Word.
How thrilling it was just to see him in action,
This soldier of Christ, with his keen, trusty 'sword,'
Who wielded his weapon with zeal and devotion
And backed up each thrust with a "Thus saith the Lord."
No uncertain sound ever came from his trumpet,
His hearers were moved--yes, convicted and stirred;
And, bowing the knees in wet-eyed confession,
Accepted the truth as revealed in the Word,
By this old-fashioned preacher, this straight gospel preacher.
This spirit-taught preacher who honored the Word."

On Monday night, Feb. 2, the Lord called him to leave this world of suffering and sorrow and come home. So he left his earthly tabernacle and went to be with the Lord and with loved ones and friends who had gone on before.

To anyone who may be here today who has not prepared your heart for eternity, Brother Paul King's godly influence speaks and urges you to get ready.

A dear little girl had seen her beloved father lying cold and still on his coffin pillow, and had watched with wonder and fear the process of putting on the coffin lid and bearing it away to burial.

Afterward the grief-stricken mother sought to dispel the gloom which gathered about the scene in her young heart.

"God has sent for dear father to come up and live with Him, and one day He will also send for you and me, darling." "Do we know when He will send, Mamma? No, my dear; only God knows the time. He has it all fixed."

"Then, Mamma, if God is surely going to send for us, and we don't know when, hadn't we better begin to pack up and get ready to go?" If you are not ready for Heaven, you ad better begin to pack up and get ready to go.

Brother Paul King will be greatly missed by his wife, Lucille, and by his son, Dan and daughter-in-law, Nancy, and by his precious grandchildren, Trenton, Jennifer and Barbara. His brothers, Robert and David, and his sisters, Mrs. Alex Walker, Mrs. Ruth McMunn, Mrs. Charles Jones and Mrs. Carl Evans, also mourn his passing.

He will be tremendously missed by the entire Bible Missionary Church and the Holiness movement, but he has left us a precious heritage and we sorrow not as those who have no hope. If we follow his good example by the grace of God we shall meet him again on the sunny banks of sweet deliverance in that city where the Lamb is the light.

The poet said:

"There is a land of pure delight,
Where saints immortal reign:
Infinite day excludes the night,
And pleasures banish pain.

There everlasting spring abides,
And never-withering flowers;
Death like a narrow sea, divides
This heavenly land from ours.

O'er all those wide extended plains
Shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns,
And scatters night away.

No chilling winds or poisonous breath,
Can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness and sorrow, pain and death
Are felt and feared no more."

-- Spencer Johnson

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A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE SERVICE

On February 5, 1981, one year to the day after Rev. H. B. Huffman's funeral service was held in Onego, West Virginia, an overflow crowd gathered in the Lima, Ohio Bible Missionary Church for the funeral service of Brother Paul E. King. Brother King was one of the main speakers at Brother Huffman's funeral.

Both of the General Moderators, Brothers Cook and Johnson and General Moderator Emeritus Elbert Dodd were present and took part in the service. Nine of the District Moderators and around seventy-five preachers were there besides a number of relatives and a host of friends.

Brother Richard Beckham led the congregation in singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." He then sang, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," as only Brother Beckham can. Following this Brother Bullock read appropriate Scripture and then Brother L. P. Roberts led in prayer. After prayer Brother Lowell Foster read letters and telegrams of tribute and consolation that are herein printed. Brother Beckham quoted the poem,

"When Our Ships Come Sailing Home," and then sang, "I've Anchored My Soul in the Haven of Rest."

Brother Spencer Johnson spoke words of tribute, read the obituary and then climaxed it all with appropriate and moving words. Brother Elbert Dodd then stepped to the pulpit, read Scripture and then spoke words of tribute.

The high point of the service came when Brother Rick Yancey, his wife and son, Steve, sang, "I'm Glad I Started and I'll Keep Going." The glory fell, folks shouted, some ran the aisle as the entire congregation was moved by the manifest presence of God. Sinners were convicted and saints were blessed. Following this Brother J. E. Cook brought a fitting message in memory of a man who had lived and served his Master acceptably and died in victory and in the faith. His text was taken from Psalm 116:15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

We who were privileged to have been present at this service felt, as we left to go our way until our summons comes to leave this world that we had not been to a funeral but to a coronation service of one of God's chosen saints. May God bless the memory of Brother Paul King to the hearts of that great number of people across this country who knew him. Our prayers are with Sister Lucille King and Dan, their son, and his wife and children as well as the brothers and sisters and other loved ones of Brother King.

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TRIBUTES TO BROTHER PAUL KING

The following was read by Rev. Elbert Dodd at the funeral service: The scripture that comes to my mind is Acts 6:5 "And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost " and also 2 Timothy 4:6-8, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Brother Paul King's death is a great loss to God's Kingdom, but we know all things work together for good. The scriptures I read to you, I feel apply to our Brother Paul King. He kept the faith and fought a good fight.

I first met him before he and Lucille were married. He was pastoring a church in Georgia and I was touring the Georgia District. We loved each other the first time we met. He heard me preach one time, then recommended me to his father, who was president of the Clinton Camp, as one of the preachers. I was called to that camp as long as Paul's father lived.

Paul had a wonderful memory and was one of the greatest preachers of this day. He had a sense of humor and liked to joke with those he loved. That is one way I knew he really loved me.

The greatest day of his life was the day he surrendered his life to Jesus. The next greatest day was the day he met and won Lucille to be his wife. The next great day--his crowning day. Paul and Lucille were a wonderful, fully consecrated couple. They loved each other and made a wonderful team.

Paul was a great preacher and a great church leader. He thought a matter through before he expressed himself, but when he knew the right he would take his stand without fear or favor. He was a man of mercy and always desired to go the second mile. He loved the Lord, a lost world, his family and God's people. He told me every time I talked to him that he prayed for me every day and he always said he loved me. He was a wonderful companion and friend.

The pulpit was his throne. His home was his castle. He was loyal to his family, his church and friends. I never have had a better friend. If he had any faults, I never tried to see them. He died with great victory and no doubt he is in Heaven with Jesus his Lord and his loved ones that are in Heaven. I expect to meet him in the Rapture. He no doubt has been rewarded with the crown he deserved and is shouting glory around the throne. -- Elbert Dodd

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TELEGRAM:

Dear Sister King and family: Received a call this morning informing us of the death and homegoing of Brother King. The message came as a real shock, as we were not expecting news of this nature. Immediately I was made to think the words of King David, "Know ye not there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?" I am sure this can be said of our departed brother, as he was a true warrior of the cross, also a contender for the faith once delivered unto the saints. He shall always be remembered for his great messages and Christ-like spirit. Knowing that God never makes mistakes, let us look up and trust his infinite wisdom in this time of sorrow and bereavement, I regret that we cannot be at the funeral; however, our prayers and heartfelt sympathy are with you.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. George I. Straub and
fellow ministers of
God's Missionary Church

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TELEGRAM:

To Mrs. Lucille King, Daniel and family:

More than four decades have passed since Heaven's lapidary found Paul King, a diamond in the rough. February 2, 1981 was the culmination of the grinding process. God's grace and tribulation wrought a preacher of unusual excellence and a Christian of sterling character. Christ's coronation day is nigh. A jewel of rare beauty and brilliance is needed in the royal diadem. Paul King is His choice. Farewell, dear Brother, we will meet you in the morning.

The I H Convention family extends sincere prayer and sympathy to the Paul King family and friends.

H. E. Schmul, General Secretary

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Paul King was one of my greatest earthly friends. He was a brother beloved. Two things impressed me-his ability as a preacher and his deep spirit of humility. No man of our times meant more to the holiness movement. His godly life will be my ideal and inspiration. To you, Lucille and Danny, I would say, He's not here, but over there today, striking hands with all the saints who have gone before. He awaits your coming. Our prayers will be with you in this time of bereavement.

A. J. Hoof, Moderator of Louisiana-So. Texas Dist.

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Even though we have watched prayerfully the sickness of Brother King, we were shocked at his homegoing the churches of the Southwest District extend their deep sympathy to Sister King, Danny and all the family in their sorrow. Brother King's life will continue to be an inspiration for many years to come.

In perfect love,
Foy Bullock, Moderator

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The pastors and people of the Northwest District feel keenly the passing of Rev. Paul King. We sorrow with Sister King and Dan and family in their great loss, but we sorrow not as those who have no hope, for Christians never meet for the last time.

Rev. Lowell Foster, Moderator

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Brother Paul King stands tall among the true friends and Christian brothers of our life. In our churches I have wanted my congregation to have the privilege of his ministry in revival. My own soul has been enriched during those times we could work together. His fellowship in our home was always so meaningful to our family.

One of our most desired requests to God in recent times was that He would heal Brother King. But we remain as convinced as ever that God always does best.

Sister King, Danny, Nancy, Trenton, Jennifer and Barbara--we are praying for you. And we want to thank you for sharing Brother King with us.

Rev. and Mrs. Rodger L. Moyer

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A tribute to Rev. Paul King:

One of the finest Christian gentlemen I have ever known.

I have known Brother Paul King for over thirty-five years. One of the greatest preachers I have ever known. He will be greatly missed by one and all. I feel I owe much to Brother Paul King; he was a very dear brother and friend in the Lord.

Rev. George E. Roberts,
Boise, Idaho

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Dear Sister King, Dan, Nancy and children:

A great warrior has fallen. We must close ranks and march on.

Rev. and Mrs. David Campbell

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Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Ray extend sincere sympathy to the family of Paul King.

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A Tribute to My Friend and
Brother, Rev. Paul King Farewell

We do not question thee, Dear Lord,
For calling home our friend,
It's just that it was hard to see

His life so quickly end.

The race he ran was swift and sure,
The fire within him burned,
The battles fought were hard but just,
The victor's crown he earned.

The seed he sowed was not in vain,
Nor the tears he shed for others.
Now his soul doth rest in peace,
Farewell, dear friend and brother.

We have bright hope for the future
When we shall meet again,
Where fellowship is forever
And happiness never ends.

-- Melvin Shiery

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THE END