County Corrections Gospel Mission

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December 10, 1991

Mr. Leverne Alford
SESTU
1824 W. Strasburg Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Dear Mr. Alford:

"The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against His anointed, saying: Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He who sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, the Lord shall have them in derision." Psalm 2:2,3

"For of a truth against thy holy child, Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the nations, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, to do whatever Thy hand and Thy counsel determined before to be done...And now, Lord, behold their threatenings; and grant unto Thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak Thy word..." Acts 4:27-29

I want to sincerely apologize for neglecting to send a letter off to you in November. You remained constant in our prayers, but schedule and temporary loss of office staff caught me a little short of hours.

The above quotes are selected from two separate but related portions of sacred Scripture Written almost 900 years apart, one is the fulfillment of the other. Although it can be generally said that man has always wrestled with God for control in his own life, here specifically one sees the all-out battle of man against God's anointed SON, OUR SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST (the anointed One). The very word of HIS BIRTH caused Herod the king to order the slaughter of all male children under the age of two years old, by one fatal blow hoping to destroy this promised KING.

This event of Messiah's birth was not done in a corner. It was announced by angels, heralded by shepherds, recognized by Magi and answered by the terrible slaughter of the innocent! When finally coming into public view, this anointed One, this "holy child, Jesus" was nailed to an executioner's CROSS! As stated above, THE POWERFUL were "gathered together, to do whatever God's counsel and God's hand determined to be done!" THE ANOINTED KING LAID DOWN HIS OWN LIFE TO PAY THE AWESOME DEBT OF OUR OWN SINS! HEREIN IS THE GLORIOUS MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS! As the angels said that holy night, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS; for He shall save His people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

You, Warden, are among "the powerful". Would that you answer the hymn writers beckoning, "O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST, THE LORD!"

With warmest wishes for a blessed New Year,

Jack Crans
Director