

## *A. C. (Amziah) Christman, Sr.*

A.C. Christman, Sr. was born to Ollie and Ruby Christman in Caldwell, TX, on April 24, 1930. He was the brother of five sisters and three brothers. His childhood was spent in Dime Box, TX, and it was there that he received his early education, graduating from Fairview High School. He furthered his education in 1951 by being the first student to enroll at Southwestern Christian College.

His spiritual life in Christ began under the preaching of Brother Collis Gates. A.C., as he was affectionately called, was encouraged to begin preaching the gospel of Christ by Brother J.S. Winston at the age of eighteen and was blessed to do the work of the Lord for 40 years.

It was early in 1954 that he met and later married Ida M. Clark, who was his loving and devoted wife for over 35 years. A.C. and Ida were again blessed with six children: Carolyn (St. Louis, MO), Jeanette Faye, Larry Nathaniel, Amziah, Jr., (A.C.), Anthony Creig, and Delicia Monique (all of Dallas, TX).

Brother Christman distinguished himself as a preacher of the Gospel by serving congregations in Delhi, LA, Seattle, WA, Lubbock, TX, and Tulsa, OK. In 1981, he and his family moved to Dallas, TX, to begin working with what was known as the Hatcher Street Church of Christ. His life was such a blessing to the Christians in this area and his labor speaks for itself. The theme of A.C.'s ministry was "Come with us and we will do you good." His magnetic and electrifying personality and wise counsel did much to lighten the burden of those with whom he came in contact. He was respectfully known as the "smiling preacher." A.C. was a man who did not judge others, but instead chose to listen. He was a man of few words, but whose actions spoke magnitude.

Under his tireless leadership the church grew, and in 1985 was moved to its present location, 6969 CF Hawn Freeway, Dallas, TX, and became known as the Southern Hills Church of Christ.

Brother Christman was called to preach in gospel meetings in some 30 states. He spoke on numerous regional and national lectureships, serving as chairman of the National Lectureship's Advisory Committee from 1972 to 1988. He was a member of the Executive Board of Directors of Southwestern Christian College for a number of years. He was a board member and co-founder of the J.S. Winston Sound Doctrine Foundation.

A.C. was active in numerous civic affairs, Advisory Counsel Member of Tulsa Public School Board, and was always encouraging young people in the church and community.

Brother A.C. Christman, Sr. was called to rest on October 20, 1989. He is sorely missed and forever loved.



*By Ida Christman*