



Reverend S. G. Norris

July 16, 1901 - January 4, 1990

*He caught a
vision long ago,
Of things that
could be done...*

*Like Isaiah,
When God spoke
He answered,
"Here am I"*

"We are benefactors of so much this man has done for God..."

- Rev. Stanley Chambers
Former General Supt.
UPCI, St. Louis, MO



Stuart Greene Norris, Royalton, OH

"Extra! Extra!" rang the shrill youthful voice. Big brown eyes snapped apprehensively as the young salesman scanned the streets of Broad and High in Columbus, Ohio for prospective buyers.

In 1901, the sleepy town of Royalton, Ohio, boasted of about 200 people. Delighted young store owners, Frank and Susan Norris, increased its population by one on July 16, with the arrival of their first and only child, Stuart Greene. Early in his life, destiny marked this boy for great purpose. At the age of five, Stuart's father was killed in a freak electrical accident while he was on his job. Strong Presbyterian roots comforted Susan Norris, but she knew she had to put food on her table. There was no alternative. At age eight, her son became a salesman. On the streets of Columbus, Ohio, this small town boy from the heartland of America had his first encounter with leadership while selling newspapers. Many times, cold and hungry, he would get a fried egg sandwich from a kind restaurant owner and with the butter running down his fingers begin his paper sales job again - "Papers! Papers!"

In High School, Stuart fell in love with a vivacious Methodist girl, Jessie Alberta Dunn. Their romance continued into college. Upon completion of High School, Stuart Norris enrolled at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, taking a major in Business Administration. To support himself, he worked nights at Western Union, a job he had started while in High School.

Jessie Dunn's father became very ill. He sought medical help but to no avail. A man who worked for him at his company, invited him to attend a Pentecostal service. Mr. Dunn was healed and consequently converted. He invited Stuart and Jessie to church where they were introduced to Pentecost. There was a great difference in worship from their traditional roots, but each felt something special in that Pentecostal church.

One day at the bus stop where Stuart Norris and Jessie Dunn met and rode to college together, Stuart received shocking news. "I received the Holy Ghost last night", she stated simply. Decision time had arrived. Should he reject her religion and lose this girl he loved, or should he just go along with it? He decided upon the latter. As he watched her put her engagement ring into the offering plate for missionaries, he was astonished. But something gripped him in those Pentecostal services. After many months of struggle, he was baptized with the Holy Spirit during the dismissal prayer on a Sunday morning service.

Stuart Norris and Jessie Dunn were married in 1923. Drawing on the sales experience of his childhood, he joined the National Cash Register Company of Columbus, Ohio.

Very soon he was appointed branch manager which meant he was responsible to train men to sell their product. During one of his sales trips when he was alone and away from his family, God gave him a song which is sung internationally today, "Jesus, I Love You". He served God enthusiastically and assisted his great Bible teacher-pastor, Rev. W. T. Witherspoon. It was in the Columbus, Ohio church that S. G. Norris had the experience of preaching his first sermon. Here he learned a great love for the Word of God.

The Norrises had five beautiful, healthy children: James, Mary, David, Eleanor and Ruth. Life was so wonderful; they lived in a nice home and attended a solid church. But, one day, a letter arrived explaining that the company he worked for had sold out. Enclosed was a month's salary. What now? The Great Depression had just set in. He found a job as a salesman with a refrigerator company. That job required that he and his family move to New York City. They rented out their Ohio house.

Upon arriving in New York City, the priority was to find a church home. After futile attempts, Rev. Norris did the only thing to be done. He established a church in downtown New York City. Over this pulpit he exercised the training he had received from his pastor. On his knees, he gained a deep spiritual walk that would carry him through life. He and his wife received news that the renters in their Ohio home had moved out. When faced with the choice between giving up the church in New York City which required his salary, or saving their home, the Norrises chose God's work

over possessions. Again, destiny had touched their lives. Even though they lost their home, they gained true insight to the meaning of sacrifice. This would be a great aid to their future ministry. Thirty-two were baptized and eighteen received the Holy Ghost in this church.

"You will not be here long". This was the only time in his life that Reverend Norris heard the voice of God. Letters began to arrive. Reverend A. D. Urshan implored the Norris family to leave New York City and to go to a struggling congregation in the cold Northland - St. Paul, Minnesota. Finally, commissioned by Superintendent W. T. Witherspoon, the Norris family left for St. Paul in 1934 after two years of pastoral service in New York City. The church in St. Paul indeed had problems. Fourteen consecutive pastors had come and gone. Into this atmosphere came Reverend and Mrs. S. G. Norris and their family. It is of little wonder that they did not change their car license plate to Minnesota for six months. But Reverend Norris did not know the meaning of the word "quit". Knowing the way to lead, with great love and concern, Reverend and Mrs. Norris rescued the floundering church bringing great victory to Midway Tabernacle.

Just thirty-six years following the original outbreak of Pentecost at Stone's Folly, Topeka, Kansas, and twenty-four years after the great Oneness revelation on Azusa Street, in Arroyo Seco, California campmeeting, another stepping stone was laid in Apostolic history. Driving home one night from a conference in Spencer, Iowa, Reverend Norris received a call from God to train workers to carry the Gospel. In 1937, such an idea was considered absurd and even opposed. Yet this man held exceptional spiritual insight. Surely his earlier administrative experience had prepared him "for such a time as this". He answered unhesitatingly, "YES!" Motivated by this deep need to train Christian workers, Reverend Norris recruited a dedicated team - W. L. Hodge, a former High School teacher from Wisconsin, and Mrs. C. E. Lundquist, a teacher from Iowa. Later, Mrs. S. G. Norris added her expertise to this band of teachers. With small salaries, but with great resolve to follow a God-ordained call, Apostolic Bible Institute began.

Times were dark. The United States suffered repercussions of the Great Depression. People were lean and wallets were thin. Yet a torch was lit. On October 1, 1937, Apostolic Bible Institute opened its doors to men and women around the world to "work the works of Him who sent me while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work". (1 John 9:4 - motto of the Apostolic Bible Institute). The school was born through highly disciplined, intelligent, hard-working leaders driven by a dream. The foundation of this Bible School was built around the Word of God. Structured classes came into existence with four subjects: Public Speaking, English, Foreign Missions, and the Word of God. Great leadership excites great controversy, but this solid foundation withstood every problem and test.

These pioneers of the Apostolic Bible Institute from the very beginning, projected an inner strength which has been woven throughout a rich 50 year history. Reverend S. G. Norris spent many all night sessions in quest of answers to difficult Bible problems.

Experience led to growth. God blessed those formative years at 464 Pierce Street. Reverend Norris pastored Midway Tabernacle and also officiated as the ABI president. Students shared living and dining quarters with the Norris family and worshipped in the very same building where they studied and lived.

Recognizing a need for larger facilities, never believing in doubts, only certainties, Reverend Norris led a parade of prayerful believers around an occupied school building one night at 745 Grand Avenue. To his knowledge, this building was not for sale, but he had a tenacious sense of purpose. God responded to this confidence. Even though the owner of the school was surprised at Reverend Norris' offer to buy, he acquiesced. Soon ABI was moved from Pierce Street to the larger facilities at 745 Grand Avenue. Later the college moved to its present site at 6944 Hudson Boulevard North.

Students from across the world have filed through ABI halls to sit under the dynamic teaching of S. G. Norris and the ABI faculty. Time after time, Reverend Norris drew firm biblical boundaries. He had the ability to reduce the most perplexing biblical questions to a level we all could understand. Year after year he witnessed the fulfillment of his vision as ABI workers spilled around the globe.

Early in his Bible School administration, it was obvious that Reverend Norris possessed a special knack with people. He emphasized the uniqueness of each individual and discovered potential in almost every student. He attracted and kept the loyalty of subordinates. Maybe this is one of the

(continued)

*"The best way
to make history
is to write it."*

-Sir Winston Churchill
Prime Minister,
Great Britain



School at 745 Grand Avenue



Business Man - Preacher
S. G. Norris



Author - Editor - Publisher



Bible Teacher



Businessman



Pastor - Prayer Warrior



Musician



Athlete

secrets of the strong bond of the ABI alumni family. He could always break a tense moment with his sense of humor. His generosity and true concern is remembered by all who met him. Little children lined up at his door for the ever-present handful of candy. He supplied warm winter boots for needy students and food for everyone.

In May 1983, special recognition was awarded to ABI's pursuit of academic excellence. "I am impressed as I have been for the past four to five years. I work with the Department of Education in the State of Minnesota and have monitored this school closely as I do all other 75 schools that I have. This school has been in existence since 1937. It came under our jurisdiction for Veteran's Administration approval in 1947. I can assure you that since that time, no violation of law or intent of law has been filed. I approached Reverend Norris and Reverend Grant this past fall with the idea of the ever changing social climate, that if this school offered a Bachelor's Degree that the credibility that you carry back into your community as you do the work of the Church, would be much more readily accepted. After extensive research, the degree-granting authority was approved January 1, 1983. The degrees given tonight have all been through my office..." These words, spoken by Mr. Richard Shumacher, Minnesota Department of Education, introduced the Bachelor of Theology Degree in Apostolic Studies which ABI now awards to deserving students. Later on that same year, at the United Pentecostal Church General Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, the committed pioneers, Reverend and Mrs. Norris, stood in recognition of their efforts. Fifty prominent representatives of all classes of ABI since 1937 marched across the stage. They sang, "ABI Is the School We Love". The General Superintendent, Reverend N. A. Urshan, pronounced Reverend and Mrs. Norris, "Mr. and Mrs. Pentecost".

The shrill voice of a newspaper boy developed into the solid, patient voice of a widely-acclaimed Bible teacher. Reverend Norris has motivated young men and women for years to stand for the Truth and he refused to tolerate spiritual weaklings or liberals, a stand that endeared him to thousands of God-fearing individuals. The singlemindedness of purpose and total commitment for life, to hold high the standard of the Apostolic movement changed their world and the personality of an entire generation of Pentecostals.

We will remember this great leader, not only for what he has done, but for what he was; not only for his contributions, but for his character. His adept teaching of the Word of God and church administration is only outshone by his unwavering example.

Over 4000 alumni of ABI preach the Word around our globe. The impact of this great Christian who has embraced the Faith with his entire life remains immeasurable. Upon the pages of Apostolic history is imprinted fifty years of wholehearted service of a newspaper boy and his high school sweetheart.



Revs. A. T. Morgan, F. Kinzie, S. G. Norris



"Education is not what you hear, but what you remember."



Revs. Brooks, Gleason, Johnson, Chambers, Dainty, Newstrand, Norris, Kinzie



Rev. S. G. Norris preaches dedication of addition to UPC Headquarters, St. Louis, MO



Standing: Rev. Norris, Rev. A.T. Morgan. Seated: Revs. B. Urshan, G. Dainty, L. Mitchell, R. Davis, R. Reynolds



Rev. Norris in recording studio, St. Paul, MN for ABI Album



Rev. S. G. Norris with students, R. Young, M. Thompson, J. Stirnemann



Rev. Norris had a wonderful sense of humor



Rev. Norris oversees building project with friend Charlie Johnson

"Do we begin again to commend ourselves or need we as some others epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you? Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men..." II Corinthians 3.

When I heard about Brother Norris' passing and was asked to speak at this funeral, I immediately thought of this text. I wish we could count the hours he taught scripture. When illness threatened to prevent him from doing what he wanted to do, he would still struggle to come and teach. I think that is tremendous. His ministry and his life brought to us the real understanding of the Word. What he has sown in hearts of those who have had the privilege of sitting under his teaching and preaching will never die. It is impacted forever in the human heart.

I remember when I was a young evangelist preaching in Midway Tabernacle. I had made a very serious mistake in judgement of character and Brother Norris was aware of it. I will never forget him sitting on the steps of 464 Pierce Street and talking with me like a father - "Don't spoil your future with bad judgment" and explained to me how important it was to hold fast to God in all seasons of life. On that day he made this statement, "Brother Urshan, you need to get a strong hold on God in your spiritual life, because you will be terribly disappointed in the weakness of people. Your eyes should not be on the weakness of people but on the strength of Almighty God!"

On another occasion before the General Board, Brother Norris made a significant difference. He did not have much to say until it was crucial during Board sessions. This time the problem was dealing with the fact that the Youth Department of the United Pentecostal Church was going to cut out Bible Quizzing because it was too expensive. There was a lot of discussion. Brother Norris was able to stand up in a situation like that and bring it to a culmination with a wise statement - "Why do we put up men who were at one time alcoholics, drug addicts and ex-cons to preach? I know it is wonderful that God saved them, but why are we afraid to spend a little money on our Pentecostal children?" When he made that statement, it was decided. Today, Bible Quizzing is one of the most outstanding programs in the United Pentecostal Church. We owe that to S. G. Norris.

Rev. and Mrs. S. G. Norris fought a courageous battle in an hour when education was not highly thought of in Pentecostal circles. The Norrises caught a desire to see this truth instilled into the hearts of individuals. They fought those early battles with very little finance and they battled through those dark hours in the discomfort of the close unit with students at 464 Pierce Street. I stand in this pulpit today and tell you to look around and see what the Lord has wrought through these committed people.

We must bring a combined force to preserve this lifetime effort and if we don't, we stand guilty before God. There comes a time when personal situations - our likes, dislikes, personal entertainments of any kind of bitterness, our preconceived thoughts - must be washed and sanctified. To lose any of our pioneer resources which have added strength spiritually and numerically to our fellowship, is a devastating tragedy. There comes a time when the cause is greater than the individual. The cause of Jesus Christ is a priority. This great movement must come to the point of the complete understanding that the pioneers who gave us a heritage of great and powerful ministerial position will be forever protected. We will never let the heritage go.

We must be sure that everything God has given us as a Oneness Pentecostal, God-fearing people will never be destroyed or lost. It was people like the Norrises who saw the need of schooling and put themselves in the direct flow of responsibility disregarding early days of discouragement and moving on to victory. I feel like shouting because someone got the vision and went on with it regardless of what other people thought!

This is a tragic loss. We will go on, but we must remember never to let his work perish. "For David (and I paraphrase)...Brother Norris..., after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers..."

-Rev. Nathaniel A. Urshan, General Superintendent
Spoken at Rev. S. G. Norris' funeral

*"I think it
would be
impossible to
realize the
impact this
pioneer has
made..."*

- Rev. Nathaniel A. Urshan
General Superintendent
United Pentecostal Church
International
St. Louis, MO



Rev. S. G. Norris greets Rev. & Mrs.
N. A. Urshan.

GET GOD BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR PROBLEM

Sermon, Rev. S. G. Norris

So many times we tackle our problems alone. We assume that God is automatically there but it is not that simple. The Lord is always trying to draw us nearer to Him and this calls for acquiescence on our part. Take a good look at these examples given to us in the Word of God. It could save you a few heartaches.

Hezekiah

Hezekiah was one of the great kings of Judah. A list of his fine deeds is recorded in II Kings 18. "He did that which was right in the sight of the Lord; He removed the places of idol worship; He trusted in the Lord of Israel; He smote the Philistines." However, it took a few sad lessons before he learned to GET GOD BETWEEN HIM AND HIS PROBLEMS.

After he had reigned fourteen years, the king of Assyria threatened to capture Jerusalem. Hezekiah pitifully apologized and gave that wicked king three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold, plus all the silver in the House of the Lord. As if that was not enough, he cut the gold from the doors of the temple! What happened? What had caused the humiliation? Hezekiah forgot to seek the Lord and GET GOD BETWEEN HIMSELF AND ASSYRIA. Did his gifts satisfy Sennacherib? No! This is an example of a heartbreak of this good king which could happen to any of us.

What Happened?

Assyria was, of course, a type of our troubles. All the silver, gold and humiliation did not stop another invasion. At that time, Hezekiah rent his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth and went to the House of the Lord. He also sent word for the prophet Isaiah to help him. Isaiah helped by prayer, and assured Hezekiah that the enemy would return to Assyria. This all took place but Hezekiah had not yet learned God's special lesson. (It is wonderful to have others pray for us but God deals with us first of all, on a personal basis.)

Proverbs 3:1,2 5/6/62

Keep my commandments -
For length of days, long life
and Peace, shall they add
to thee

How can the 10 Commandments
help fulfil the above promise?

1. - No other gods before me
- This keeps us honest -
We are wide open before ONE
GOD - Our minds are
neither confused or muddled
We go direct to Him!
There is a divine fellowship
that simply cannot be
enjoyed by those who try
to acknowledge a Trinity

2. Shall not bow down to
any graven image
- This again keeps a man
honest - If he has gods
and images - It makes
him deceitful - dishonest
in his soul -
Your God will not forgive
perhaps another will - (ex-muni)
Then the idols and images
- all this is bound to affect
both his heart and health
It is not a peaceful life

North Central District
UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, INC.
745 Grand Ave., St Paul 5, Minn.

3. Thou shalt not take the
name of the Lord in VAIN
- This checks terrible
tempers - smooths out
other uprisings of spirit
- brings Peace - long LIFE!

Rev. Norris often wrote or typed out his sermons on the back of an ABI or other envelope. Above - original notes.

The Third Invasion

II Kings 19:4. When gold and silver and even the prayers of Isaiah failed, Hezekiah's back was to the wall. At the third invasion, he went to the House of the Lord alone and spread the threatening letter of war out before the Lord. Note his prayer - "Lord, bow down thy ear and hear; open, Lord, thine eyes and see; and hear the word of Sennacherib which hath sent him to reproach the Living God." Hezekiah put God between him and Assyria. Look at the result. II Kings 19:27 - "I know thy abode and thy going out and thy coming in and thy rage against ME." The Lord sent just one angel and destroyed 185,000 Assyrians in one night. They never came again during the reign of Hezekiah. It cost some heartaches, but he learned the lesson.

God saved you and me personally. We say that people "prayed us through". This is only partially true for when we made up our minds that no matter what the cost, we wanted to be saved, then the Lord sent His wonderful Spirit and "deep answered to deep". Even in sickness, the first law of recovery is, "Is there any among you afflicted? Let him pray." Try to get God between you and your sickness first, then call for the elders of the church for help.

When David fought Goliath, he placed the LIVING GOD between him and the giant. When Daniel faced martyrdom, he prayed three times toward Jerusalem until God's angel stood as protection between him and the lions. The Lord wants us to try Him first. Matthew 25:9 talks about a time before the Bridegroom comes at the rapture of the church when we will have to know how to pray for ourselves. The foolish virgins had depended on others' prayers. "Give us of your oil" - but it was too late. The wise answered, "Not so, lest there be not enough for us and you." The door was shut. The foolish virgins heard, "I know you not" for they never learned to place GOD BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THEIR PROBLEMS.



Pastor and Mrs. S. G. Norris



Outstanding Bible Teacher



Rev. S. G. Norris and Mark Harris '79
 School dismissed early for a ballgame. Who would dare
 strike Rev. Norris out?



Rev. Norris with friend, Rev. T. F. Tenney



Rev. S. G. Norris teaching



Rev. and Mrs. S. G. Norris with Mrs. Paul
 Gregory at the Paul Gregory Library dedication
 at A.B. I.



"The rewards of the faithful are many"



L-R: W. Pitzer, S. G. Norris, F. Rubin, W. Carter, E. Maki, D. Guillory, E. Johnson



Rev. Norris with Rev. J. Yonts



Revs. Whalen & Norris



Revs. C. A. Nelson & Norris



Revs. Norris & Jun Murari, President, Tokoyo Apostolic College, Japan



Rev. Norris at desk, 745 Grand



He encouraged us to praise God.

Excerpts From Reverend S.G. Norris' "Homegoing"

We are not celebrating defeat, but victory - a homegoing, a coronation. The memory of his distinguished life and ministry crown this generation. Brother Norris was one of God's greatest gifts to the 20th century for the furtherance of God's kingdom throughout the world. His homegoing is an international be-
reavement and all sections of this world, wherever the Gospel is preached, will say of him as it was said of another mighty preacher - "It is better for the sun to cease shining than for Brother Norris to cease his preaching." His life, from early ministry to his homegoing, was Apostolic in zeal for Christ's cause and His kingdom. He could say with Henry Martin - "I am born for God only and for God only will I live." Great believers are always great doers.

Brother Norris assumed any one of many roles - pastor, shepherd, prophet, administrator, teacher, evangelist, leader, trustee, counselor and confidante, but above all a mighty preacher. The pulpit was his throne and he occupied it like a king. He could say with the Apostle Paul, "I magnify my office."

He possessed and was possessed by the great Apostolic truths of the Bible and imparted them with authority and power and with simple clarity. His earthly life was literally burnt out teaching and preaching this book. And when this great patriarch of the pulpit passed over, one does not doubt, all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side and the devil breathed a sigh of relief. Brother Norris wrought enough in one short lifetime for a dozen strong men.

Let it be known and remembered to all generations that the prince of teachers, a mighty man, a great oak, has fallen this day in the United Pentecostal Church.

-Rev. Anthony Mangun, LA
ABI Board of Directors

Those among us who were taught by Rev. Norris will never forget our own personal for instances. We will never forget those solemn assemblies, four bellers - those times when it was necessary for him to explain it to us a little better, which he was very capable of doing. I remember those wonderful Public Speaking classes when we thought that we had prepared something fit for a General Conference only to hear him say, "My God, Lumpkin, sit down!" The bishop was loved by scores of people and we will never forget our fond memories!

-Rev. James Lumpkin, AR
ABI Board of Directors

We know Brother Norris as a teacher and preacher of the Word, but he was also a man of praise; his very life praised the Lord. He was so dedicated to his Heavenly Father that he didn't know much in life besides God's Word and the work of God.

Psalm 148 speaks about praising the Lord. "He delighteth not in the strength of a horse and taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man; the Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him and those that hope in his mercies." It is not what we can do for God that He is concerned about, but what He can do for us. Brother Norris gave God pleasure - he feared God and hoped in the mercy of God. Verse three says - "...praise ye him sun, moon...praise him all ye stars of light..." I don't know if praise meant the same thing to David as it does to us today, but I ask you, how can the sun, moon and stars praise the Lord? It is very simple - by being what God created them to be!

This man was a man of praise. He lived, worked and breathed being what God wanted him to be - a son of God.

We have hurt, but we don't have emptiness today. Brother Norris left us a spiritual legacy. He did not live a life for himself, but everything that God gave him, he put into us. He loved the Giver more than the Gift. And today, I not only love the gift of this school, but I love the giver!

-Rev. William Connell, FL
ABI Board of Directors
Alumni Association President

*"Rev. S.G. Norris
was one of God's
greatest gifts
to the 20th
century!"*

- Rev. Anthony Mangun
Pastor, The Pentecostals
Alexandria, LA



ABI Board of Directors, L-R: Rev. A. Mangun, LA; Rev. G. Grant, MN; Rev. W. Connell, FL; Rev. J. Lumpkin, AR with UPCI Director of Christian Education, Rev. A. Glass, TX.



Rev. S. G. Norris and Rev. O. Crabtree, FL



Rev. Norris and Rev. J. Hugh Rose, OH



Rev. S. G. Norris and Rev. J. Lumpkin, AR



Rev. Norris, a student of the Bible



Rev. Norris encouraged a well-rounded curriculum for students including outdoor sports.

"Elder Norris was a giant among men. We know of no one to compare him with in this generation..."

-Rev. & Mrs. William Schmidt, IN

"Brother Norris has had a call to 'Come up higher'. He has kept the faith, taught it all these years and has not denied Jesus' Name. He was a faithful soldier of the Cross!"

-Mrs. Paul Gregory & Mae Wyant, CA

"Rev. S. G. Norris was a prince among men. His foresight in investing his life in the training of men and women was remarkable, and his influence will continue for many years to come. We sorrow over the loss of a giant in the faith, but we know he is now in the presence of the Lord."

-Rev. Kenneth Haney & Daniel Seagraves
Christian Life College, CA

"We are seeing the passing of a great man, a legend and an era..."

-Rev. Jack E. Yonts, MO

"We feel the loss of a great leader and personal friend. Brother Norris' contribution to the ministry and work of God can be fully realized by God only..."

-Pastor & Mrs. Leroy Buller, OH

"S. G. Norris was a legend in our time. His unique ministry will never be replaced among us. There will always be an unfilled void in the United Pentecostal Church left by the absence of this stalwart of the faith. However, though absent in body, he continues to live among us in the thousands of lives he has touched. The essential truths of New Testament salvation imbedded in the hearts of young men and women then passed on to others will live as a memorial to him as long as time exists...he made an indelible impression on my life personally..."

-Rev. T. F. Tenney, LA

"So many treasures from the Word are mine because of his teaching. What a legacy he gave so many. May the power of his life and teachings help sustain us..."

-Claudette Walker, OH

"Brother Norris and his ministry still live on through all of us who were touched by his life..."

-Rev. & Mrs. Jerry Burns, MO

"Brother Norris influenced his world - not just his generation. He was a Daniel of the 1990s. One day that "image" he drew thousands of times will have the last of the prophecies fulfilled. He did his part to set up the earth's stage..."

-Rev. Edward Kozar, OH

"Brother Norris was a great man of God and has done a great work..."

-Missionary Else Lund, Ghana

"Brother S. G. Norris had one of the strongest, most positive influences on my life...he was one of the greatest preachers who ever lived..."

-Rev. James Wolfe, FL

"We loved and appreciated Brother Norris. We will never forget his teaching and his meek and gentle spirit..."

-Rev. & Mrs. David Coomer, NC

ABI IS THE SCHOOL WE LOVE

Andante *Russell Walters*

A B I is the school we love A B I is the school we love For pro
claim - ing the mess - age Sent from a bove Where young and old may learn the truths
of God! A B I is the school we love A B I is the school
we love May God's rich bless - ing Ever be resting On the school that we love!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The score includes lyrics for each system. There are some handwritten scribbles over the piano accompaniment in the first two systems.

"I can remember our entire class rejoicing over great truths in Rev. Norris' class..."

- Rev. and Mrs. Bob Addington Missionaries

"Brother Norris spent his life for God and people. I can still hear him say, 'Never give up on religion until you have tried Pentecost'."

-Madaline Wilson, IA

"Brother Norris will be forever in the great ministries of those he taught and ministered to. We rejoice in the crown Brother Norris has won!"

-The Rev. Norman Paslay I & II Families, OH

"Reverend Norris was one of the finest men I had the pleasure of sharing my life with..."

-Dr. James Pecchia, MN

"We cherish the memory of years spent in the District under his fine leadership. He was a great minister and a real friend to us..."

-Rev. & Mrs. Carl Stephenson, Ontario, Canada

"Brother Norris' ministry has left an impact upon our organization that will linger until Jesus comes. His love for the truth will march along with our memory of him as long as God gives us breath..."

-Rev. & Mrs. Wendell Gleason, OR

"How we rejoice in the great man of God Brother Norris was!"

-Rev. Harry Scism, MO

"I asked my pastor this morning - 'I wonder what Brother Norris is doing right now in his new place?' How he loved to preach and teach the Godhead and he made it so plain a child could understand."

-Mary Wasco, WI



Our Founder

BIBLE INSTITUTE'S REV. S. G. NORRIS DIES

Services will be held Monday for the Rev. S. G. Norris, founder and president of the Apostolic Bible Institute in Oakdale. Rev. Norris died Thursday of congestive heart failure at St. John's Northeast Hospital. He was 88.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Rev. Norris attended Ohio State University and was called to the ministry about 1925, said the Rev. Gerald Grant, son-in-law and institute vice president.

Rev. Norris established a church in New York City before moving to St. Paul in 1934 and pastored the Midway Tabernacle Church on Pierce Street, Rev. Grant said. Rev. Norris established the institute at the same location in 1937. Both the church and institute changed locations before moving to their current 40-acre site at 6944 Hudson Boulevard.

When Rev. Norris established the Apostolic Bible Institute to train young people as Christian teachers, pastors, evangelists and missionaries, it became the first of its denomination in the Twin Cities, Rev. Grant said. He remained president of the school from 1937 until his death.

Until October, Rev. Norris continued to teach three days a week, said Rev. Grant, who estimated that Rev. Norris taught about 4000 Bible students during his 53-year career at the school.

He was a presbyter on the Presbytery Board of the United Pentecostal Church International from the late 1930s until 1971 and remained an honorary member until his death.

In addition to his son-in-law, Rev. Norris is survived by his wife, Jessie, of Maplewood, two sons, James of St. Paul and David of Oakdale; three daughters, Ruth Foster of St. Paul; Eleanor Grant of Maplewood and Mary Norris of Long Boat Key, Florida; 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 3 to 9 pm today at the Holcomb-Henry-Boom Funeral Home, 536 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul, and at 12:30pm Monday at the church, 6944 Hudson Boulevard North, Oakdale, preceding the 1:30pm service. Burial will be in the Roselawn Cemetery.

Rev. S. G. Norris fell in love with the Bible and that love affair has gripped the hearts of thousands for decades. The buoyant zeal of this Apostolic enigma coupled with intense dedication to his Lord paid off a thousand times.

Rev. Norris' lessons resound around the globe daily through the ministry of his students who caught his vision and unwavering conviction for Bible principles.

This sentiment rings in the hearts of all alumni and friends:
"TRULY, A GIANT IS GONE!"

*The last words
of this patriarch
were to his wife.*

*"Jessie. We must
be very careful."
he said in his
Weak, hoarse
voice.*

*"Careful of what,
Stuart?"*

*And he said -
"The Plan of
Salvation!"*



Rev. S. G. Norris, 1901-1990



Rev. S. G. Norris doing what he loved to do best:
teaching a Doctrine class.

“START A BIBLE COLLEGE!”

*This flaming call
of God launched
a lifelong mission
of this Bible
School pioneer,
Rev. S.G. Norris.*

A scholarship fund has been established in memory of Rev. S. G. Norris to **KEEP THE FLAME ALIVE**. Your contribution to this fund will help men and women with the call of God on their lives receive an ABI education.

In appreciation of your generous contribution, video and audio cassettes of the Rev. S.G. Norris homegoing service are available upon request.

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