

In Remembrance of Bobbie Ann McCurry

The first impact of the life of Ann McCurry to me came in October of 1984 when I became a co-worker of her two sons Ronnie and Troy. From the outset I quickly became friends with them both, because I could tell that we both came from the same background and had very similar raisings. As the years passed and my friendship grew, I came to know we also served the same Lord and Savior Christ Jesus and that we both had Christian parents who raised us and educated us in the ways of the Lord.



Bobbie Ann and Cecil McCurry

I don't remember exactly the first time I met Ann, but it would have been in the early 90's. While I don't remember the particulars, I do remember this. There has never been a time that I did see her that she didn't light up with a huge smile and hug me like I was one of her own. Even as her health declined and I was able to visit her when she had to stay in her bed, she still smiled that big smile when she saw me. She couldn't speak that day, but she nodded and smiled that she recognized me. All of her children are loving and caring adults now and that doesn't happen by accident. That happens because of loving and caring parents and the special love that comes from a mother who loves you with all her heart.

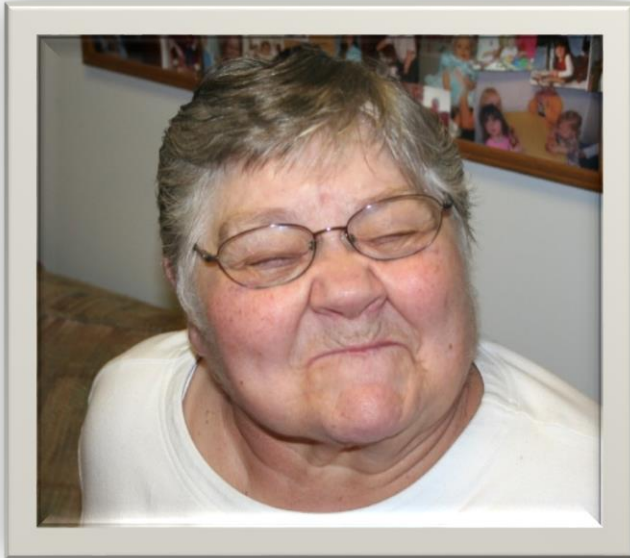
I've been fortunate in my life to be with this family on special occasions such as birthdays and 4th of July celebrations and any other excuse for the family to get together and enjoy each other. And from these experiences I can say that these are genuine and caring people for their family and friends alike. And again, this comes from a foundation laid by loving parents.

Ann has had a difficult journey on this earth, but she has never wavered on her belief in the power of the resurrection of her Lord and Savior Christ Jesus. As the Apostle Paul says in 2 Tim 4:7 and 8

2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

2 Timothy 4:8 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.

Over the years, I've had the pleasure of being in the same bible study group as Ann. We were a "home group" way before home groups were cool! We would meet at each other's homes and with studies led by Ann's husband Cecil or her son Ronnie I have had an opportunity to learn God's Word, rightly divided. Ann has been blessed to live most of her life with one of the best Bible teachers around.



Ann knew that she in and of herself was not immortal. And she knew this from the Word of God that she read and studied. In first Timothy 6 with the apostle Paul speaking to Timothy...

1 Timothy 6:13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and *before* Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

1 Timothy 6:14 That thou keep *this* commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the **appearing** of our Lord Jesus Christ:

1 Timothy 6:15 Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

1 Timothy 6:16 Who **only** hath **immortality**, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom *be* honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Yes, only the Lord Jesus Christ has immortality. So does this mean that Ann will never gain immortality? No, for she believed again the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 15 where he states,

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1 Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1 Corinthians 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

1 Corinthians 15:55 O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

This sting of death is hurting us all greatly today. However, God has given us a way out. In the future death will have no sting and the grave will no longer have the victory.

Because in Col 3, we read...

Colossians 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Colossians 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:4 When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Ann died looking for this blessed appearing of Christ and thus she will be there in glory to appear with Him. And not only will Ann just appear but she will be smiling her million dollar smile with her crown of righteousness because of the love she had for Christ.

2 Timothy 4:8 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.



Bobbie Ann and her daughter Tammy

In the Bible you will see that God makes many choosings of people. He chose Noah and his family to survive the flood. He chose Abraham to be the father of all nations and he chose Israel to be his chosen nation above all other nations.

I think he also chose Ann to be the faithful and supportive wife of Cecil. He chose her to be the loving Christian mother of four children and the loving and supportive

grandmother to eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. But most importantly God chose Ann before the foundation to be one of the members of the Church the body of Christ.

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

As pertaining to faith, the bible says in...

Hebrews 11 That faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

And in **Romans 10:17** Faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.



Ronnie, Lori and Bobbie Ann McCurry

Ann lived her life with faith. By faith she hoped for things that she didn't have the evidence of while here on earth. She gained this faith not of man or men's religion. She got her faith from hearing the word of God.

As it says in **Romans 4** that Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Just as Abraham did, Ann heard the word of God. Ann believed God and it has been counted unto her for righteousness.

Chip Winchester, May 27, 2017