

# 213 TALES

by the late

Michael Dale Profitt

My name is Michael Dale Profitt, and I was born and raised in Estill County. I was the ninth child born to Charlie Elmer Profitt and Elsie Patrick Profitt and was the first born in a hospital. Mom was born at Cob Hill, the ninth child of twelve children.

Uncle Oscar Profitt went to work at Smyth Lumber Company. He worked in the sawmill, running a cut-off saw. He rode to work with Esco Crowe and James Shuler. He would come to the store all the time. He loved 16-ounce RC Cola. He would joke us and tell us about a lot of things. He had two thumbnails on one hand. They were both full size. Dad said Grandpaw was cutting wood and cut his thumb nail in half. Grandma was pregnant with Oscar at the time.

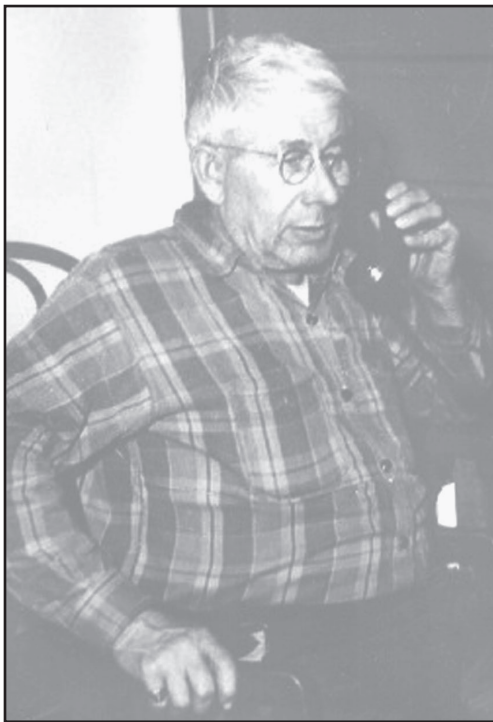
We used to call him Hoss all the time. I guess after Hoss Cartwright of Bonanza. He used to come out and buy chickens off of Chester. He also come and got the rabbits off Chester. I didn't like that because I played with them all the time.

He loved whittling as bad as Dad did. He would make little rolling pins out of red cedar sometimes. Most of the time, him and Dad just made shavings. They were always really curly and pretty.

Dad would get Oscar to come over to do some carpenter work for him. He was good about building things.

Oscar had a heart attack at around 40. He couldn't work for a long time. Finally, he got better and went back to work. Aunt Flora went to work at the nursing home in Irvine. Oscar had a drivers license now and could take her to work.

He worked a long time at the sawmill until he got sick again. He never got to go back to work after that. He still would come out to visit us. I had worked a few months with him after I got married. I quit and went to work in the old fields. When Mom passed away, Oscar cried. He said Mom was like a mother to him. He had first met her when he was eleven. Oscar passed away a few months later. In 18 months, I lost Mom, three uncles, and my sister, Betty Lorene Cornett. That was a bad time for us. I think they are all with the Lord in Heaven. They were all good people and good friends.



Grandpaw James Profitt

Grandmaw and Grandpa Profitt lived a lot of places. They had lived in the old log house on the Mary Puckett property. The old house was still partly there when I was 10. My cousin, Carl McIntosh, tore it down and built a small barn out of the logs.

Grandpaw and Grandmaw had lived on Tom Reed Point awhile but the old house there was gone. They also had lived in a little house at the Crowe place. Mert and Everett Arthur put the two little houses together and made one house out of them. James 'Batman' Tipton had lived in the other little house. That old house is still there, and all the Arthur children come up there and eat dinner on Sundays a lot. The house in the head of Crowe Hollow had burned down. They later built a small house there. My brother Chester said he didn't like going to see Grandmaw. He said she was grouchie and had whooped them for playing in sawdust. They said she was always mean to people but said Grandpaw was real nice to people.

They had moved to Crowe Hollow and Grandpaw passed away first. Grandmaw passed away a couple years later. They are buried in the Crowe Cemetery.

Grandpa Jim Profitt was born in Wolfe County. His mother was named Elizabeth Profitt. His dad was named Hall but I don't know his first name. She had a large family and most of them went by Hall.

After he got grown, he met Grandma and got married. He worked carrying the mail for several years. He delivered mail on horseback. I don't know which post office he left from, Furnace or some place I don't know about. I think they had a post office at Gum

Springs one time. It was called Union Station at one time for some reason. I don't know if it was an oil company name or way it was.

He also worked in the oil field as a pumper. He pumped on the Thomas Tipton lease. They didn't have electric then. They had 'powers' with a big one-clinger motor. Most of the engines were Bessemers and Spears. They run off natural gas. They had two big flywheels about 7 foot around. The spark plug was real big, and valve rods were on the outside. They had little oilers on them to oil the moving parts. They were cooled by water. They would have a big wooden tank outside the powerhouse to catch water in. They would catch water off the powerhouse. They had a 2-inch pipe running into the engine and another 2-inch pipe that pumped the hot water back into the barrel outside.

Grandpaw was well-liked by people. He was an herb doctor. He would treat people just like a doctor. He would mix up things for what was wrong with you. He had a book to go by. I don't know why Dad or one of his brothers didn't become a herb doctor, but they didn't. He would also treat farm animals, like a vet. He was a Mason and belonged to the lodge at Fitchburg. Chester said the Masons come to his funeral and said words over Grandpaw's body that he couldn't understand. I think Uncle Oscar was more like his dad than the rest of the boys. Aunt Mary was more like him, too.

When Grandpa would carry the mail, the kids would be waiting for him. He liked to joke with them. He liked to trade knives and guns. He would 'drop knives' with the boys. Dropping knives is when you hold the

knife in your hand and not let the other one see it. You try to get a better knife than you give them.

A man from Lone Oak Road named Ben Barnett said he used to drop knives. He runs the EZ Stop Market in Clay City. Lone Oak Road is off Hardwick's Creek Road in Powell County. You can get to Marbleyard from there. Ben said he thought he was going to 'burn' Grandpaw. He had a knife with all the blades broke out. It still had handles on it. He dropped and got a knife with all the blades broke and no handles. He still got burned by Grandpaw.

Grandpaw was a big man who wore overalls. He went down Hardwick's Creek sometimes and the water would be high. There wasn't a bridge over the creek. Someone told him to go on across. He said he could, but might lose the mail bags. The post office would be mad if he did. He would turn around and go back home.

Grandpaw had a full head of hair when he passed away. I must have took after him. I still have all my hair. The Crowes and the Patricks both have a bad problem of going bald.

Grandpaw also had a blacksmith shop. He made horseshoes, stove pokers and other things with it. Somebody stole it when Uncle Oscar moved to Ohio.

Grandpaw retired and lived at the old homeplace at Crowe Hollow Road. He passed away in 1955 after a long life. He was in his seventies. I wish I had got to see him. I bet he would have been fun to be around.

*"In loving memory of Elsie Patrick Profitt and Charlie Elmer Profitt. I love you and still miss you a whole lot."*



A power unit with a separating tank near Furnace, Kentucky

## BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

PSALM 91:14-15

"Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him."

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 O E X L O R D Z R M  
 R B H O N O R Y O I  
 T D E L I V E R F H

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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## Americanisms



"It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark."  
 —Howard Ruff

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## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

But "he who glories, let him glory in the Lord." For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends.

2 COR. 10:17,18



Detail of "Portrait of E.H." by Erich Heckel (1917)

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## Preacher or Teacher

by BOB CASEY, preacher  
 Cornerstone Church of Christ  
 70 Bond Street at Camp Avenue in West Irvine

In Matthew 4:13, "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people."

Another preacher once asked me this question, 'Do you consider yourself to be an evangelist type or are you more of an elder-pastor type person?'

He explained that if I was more of a preacher who preached a great deal upon The Plan of Salvation, The Name of the Lord's Church, Heaven or Hell. Then, he said, 'When I come (for he was coming to conduct a week-long series of sermons), if you have covered the Plan of Redemption fairly well, then I will preach mostly upon the First Principles of Christian Service.' I remember still his instructional sermons, even today.

Then, another time someone challenged me on a statement that I had made in a sermon, that there is quite a bit of differences regarding the term, 'to preach,' and the term, 'to teach.' He had decided that they were both the one and the same. Well, I thought I knew Matthew 4:23 pretty well, but being put in the position to defend my statement, I researched it again. This is what I learned: Teaching is a Greek word (Didasko) meaning to proclaim for the purpose of instruction as in a classroom situation, to cover a broad application of things, and to include the first principles of Christian activity among new and older converts. The example Jesus said, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have

commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matthew 28:20)

There are some folks who do not believe in separate classes for children. But the Lord's instruction to Peter sets the standard. In John 21:15-17, Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." (baby sheep). Then twice afterwards, he says, "Feed my sheep." (full grown)

The first principle for all new converts is: To attend all the meetings of the church -- including Bible classes, personal study, prayer, others. So, we must always be students of the Bible.

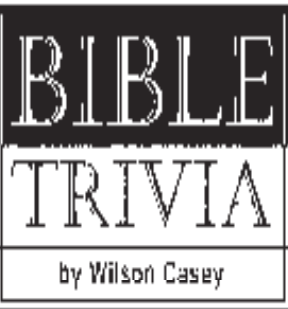
Now, to the word preaching, a Greek word spelled (Knovorwod) to cry out as the old town crier in Europe and early American, one who would toll a bell to get the attention of everyone in ear shot, standing in middle of the town square, loudly proclaiming the news. Then, the printing press of 1600 replaced him. This man was called the herald of truth.

So today, in all faithful churches across the world, there are those who still teach and there are those that stand in the pulpits and loudly proclaim the Gospel to a lost world, encouraging them to obey the Gospel by believing, repenting, confessing, baptism for the remission of their sins. So, this is still the most needful thing to do, because unless we can get men saved first, we will never be able to successfully teach him. But, one is as important as the other! This is the way the church still operates, even today.

In Luke 14:23, our Lord says, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." So, yes, you can say we are in a compelling business.

Visit with us, learn and obey the truth. I will be the best step you will ever undertake.

Sincerely, Bob Casey, (1-859-369-4165), local



Divided the oceans, Named the animals, Rested

4. From Genesis 33, where did Jacob build a house and make booths for his cattle? Beersheba, Succoth, Jerusalem, Kidron

5. On which "Mount" did Moses receive the Ten Commandments? Sinai, Zion, Carmel, Pisgah

6. Whose two sons were Hophni and Phinehas? Ichabod, Eli, Jehoiada, Mattan

Answers on bottom of Page 9

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers from TouchPointPress.com

1. Is the book of Hebrews in the Old or New Testament or neither?  
 2. From Ecclesiastes 4:9, two are better than ...; because they have a good reward for their labor? None, One, Few, Many  
 3. On the seventh day of the creation week, what did God do? Created man,