### THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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### Death Notices

#### Winkler

Gaylon "Skinny" T. Winkler, 85, of Monahans passed away at home on April 30, 2020.

Gaylon is preceded in death by his wife, Dora Lee Winkler; parents, Frank and Zora Winkler; sisters, Ovie Kennedy and Lonna Wise; brothers, Leonard Winkler, Troy Winkler, Duward "Peanut" Winkler, Raymond Winkler, Joe Winkler, and Adon Winkler.

He is survived by his daughters, Barbara Bingham of Monahans, Texas, and Donna Bivins and husband, Ronnie, of Bronte, Texas; sons, Danny and wife, Nancy Winkler, Richard and wife, Annetta Winkler, of Monahans, Texas; sister, Zella Glover of North Little Rock, Arkansas; and brother, Billy Winkler of Odessa, Texas. He also survived by grandsons, two granddaughters, 17 great-grandchildren, very special friend, Gale Birks, many cousins, nephews, nieces, and

#### **Sallee**

Nevella Crumley Sallee passed away peacefully on April 28, 2020

She was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Russell Sallee; her youngest son, Charles Allan Sallee; and her brother, J.C. Crumley.

She is survived by two sons, James and his wife, Bonnie, of Pine Grove, California, and Roy and his late wife, Betty of Lakeside, Texas; one daughter, Judy Wright and late husband, Brownie of San Angelo, Texas; and daughter-in-law, Vidette Sallee Kennemer and husband Bub of Bronte, Texas; a sister, Verba West, and sister-in-law, Neva Crumley, both of San Antonio, Texas; grandchildren, eighteen greatgrandchildren and three greatgreat-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held at 1:30 pm, Saturday May 2, 2020, at the Eldorado Cemetery, arranged by Love Funeral Home. Because of the Corona Virus pandemic a memorial service will be planned during the month of June if conditions permit.

wouldn't go into the land. because they were afraid. Fear of the unknown. God had promised them that if they would put their trust in Him. He would go before them and clear their way. But they were fearful and forgot to trust in Him, so they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. And when they did come into the land of promise, told them Deuteronomy) that if they would honor and follow Him, keep His commandments, and teach them to their children. that He would bless and prosper them. But if they turned and forsook Him to follow after other gods, He would allow them to be overtaken with enemies, drouths, and diseases of other countries. He also told them that He loved them enough that when they turned from their wickedness back to Him with a whole heart, that He

few men and decided they

would restore them.

As I said, there are parallels. When you go back through history, especially the writings of the Founding Fathers, it is obvious that America was founded as a Christian nation. They thought that America and Christainity were inseparable. They all understood the consequences of not continuing in faith. They paid a great price for the freedoms that we have had for all this time. But we have become complacent in our

prosperity. We have allowed anti- God doctrines to permeate our schools, our courthouses, and our activities. We have murdered the babies that result from sexual sins. How can we possibly think that our liberties and freedom will be secure when we have thrown away and forgotten the One who gave them to us?

We are in a time of national trouble. But instead of turning to God, we are turning, out of fear, to the government. We have a President and many Governors who claim to be conservative, but who have brought us closer to socialism, communism, and nazism (they are all the same: the only difference is the amount of violent force the government uses in order to force acquiescence to its wishes), than the "liberals" who don't make any bones about wanting us to be controlled by the government. Perhaps their actions come from fear; perhaps they are not knowledgeable and listen to wrong advice; who knows why. But they have exercised unprecedented power and made unconstitutional edicts. Is life so sweet and peace so dear that we are willing to give up our freedom for the idea of safety? What kind of "safety" is that? Stopping the world and isolating ourselves in a bubble will not stop the virus. All we are doing is kicking the can down the

(Continued on next page)

### Letter to the Editor

### A Matter of Life and Death

As I have recently said, these are times that try men's souls. concern over coronavirus has caused turns of events that have spiraled to the extent that everyone has been affected in some way. Why is this virus so much worse than the flu, or other epidemics we have endured? A friend told me, "If you get it, you could be dead within 5 days." So that is it. Fear. Fear of death. Why are we so afraid of death? Death is part of life. We all have an appointment with death. We don't know when it

will be, because we didn't make the appointment. God knows the appointed day of our departure from this life; if we believe in Him we shouldn't need to concern ourselves with worry over it. That doesn't mean we should take unnecessary risks or deliberately put ourselves in harm's way. But panic over the dying isn't the answer.

Fear causes us to make bad decisions. Not only do we fear death, we fear life. We fear responsibility. We fear accountability for our actions. We hide our fear in drugs, alcohol, excuse-making and

blame-shifting. We seek help from psychology, science, and of course, from the government. We want someone to take care of us and make our decisions for us. But that's not the way it is supposed to work. I believe we are where we are because we have failed, as individuals and as a nation, to take the responsibility for our actions. I believe this is yet another wake-up call for us to turn our focus back to God our creator.

Reading the news today is a lot like reading what happened to the Nation of Israel in the Old Testament. There are a lot of parallels. After Moses led them out of Egypt, when they came to the border of the promised land for the first time, they listened to the report of a

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Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church 601 W. 10th, Robert Lee (325) 365-2687 Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Pastor Saturday Vigil Mass 5 pm Robert Lee Baptist Church PO Box 493 •22 W. 11th (325) 453-2724 Chris Walls, Pastor

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