

## License to complain



**Danny Wyatt**

Jobe Publishing Contributor

The decision has been made by the church where you attend to publish applications for a LICENSE TO COMPLAIN. In order to have the legitimate right to complain you must be in possession of a proper complaint license. To qualify, the applicant must certify to each item below. Complaining without possessing a valid complaint license will result in the complainer being completely ignored.

1. I attend ALL regular and special worship services of the church, as well as all Bible study periods.

2. I pray each day for all members of the congregation, the preacher, each leader, and teacher, that they may be strengthened and guided.

3. I see that my children take part in ALL activities and classes provided for them.

4. I volunteer for, gladly accept, and enthusiastically carry out any responsibilities in the church for which I have the ability to do so.

5. I visit the sick, the shut-in, the needy, and the wayward, and help in trying to reach those who are without Jesus.

6. I regularly, and systematically, give of my income to the congregation, always praying for God's help in making me aware of my financial obligations.

7. I firmly believe others

in the congregation are motivated by goodwill in their relationships to and actions towards me, even though at times I may feel hurt by their actions.

8. When I might have a concern, I will always go directly to the person with whom I have this concern, and discuss this concern with them privately before ever involving another person.

9. Although I may not always like, or agree with, the things done, or decisions made, I will not drop out and rob the group of my participation. Of course, this is true as long as no doctrinal error, as identified by scripture, is being taught/practiced. In such a case I will refer myself to number 8.

10. After receiving a valid complaint license, any failure to meet any of the above qualifications will result in a demerit for each instance. Each time requires a certified excuse. After five occasions of this neglect, your license to complain will be revoked for a period of two months at which time you may reapply.

I hereby certify that I qualify for a license to complain due to the fact that I have met and agree with all the above stipulations. Therefore, I apply for a complaint license and the right to use such. I must remember that this church is not just about me. To paraphrase JFK in his inaugural address, "Ask not what the Lord's church can do for you, but rather what you can do for the Lord's church."-See Matthew 20:28

SIGNATURE

## Father of a Rebellious Son



**Jason Abston**

Jobe Publishing Contributor

kill him just to take the kingdom.

The betrayal of his father began by turning many in Israel against King David. It was a slow process until Absalom had the support that he wanted.

During the civil war with the armies of Absalom against the armies of David, the greatest concern of David was the safety of his rebellious son. Even after all of the betrayal, David still cared greatly for his son and was crushed after hearing about his death.

What is the lesson of all of this? First of all, the Bible says that David has the Heart of God because of his caring and love for others, and for his concern of God's commands. David made many mistakes in his life, but so do we.

Looking at David mourning and weeping for the loss of his rebellious son leads one to consider what God does whenever someone rebels against Him. David said that he would have died to save his son's life; the Lord Jesus did die to pay the price of our sins and rebellion. He also rose from the dead to show His power over death.

We have rebelled against the Lord but He offers us pardon for our sins if we turn to Him in repentance.

II Samuel 18:32-33 And the king said unto Cushai, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Cushai answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do thee hurt, be as that young man is. And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

If someone ever travels to modern day Israel, they will find an ancient structure there called Absalom's Pillar. To this day, people from around the world throw rocks at the structure to show their disapproval of what Absalom did. The building has been greatly damaged because of this long time tradition.

As a son of the king, Absalom certainly had many privileges. He ate the best foods, lived in the finest house, and had servants to answer his needs. This wasn't good enough for Absalom. His lust for more drove him to rebel against his father, even trying to

## SMILES

By **WENDELL KENNISON**  
Jobe Publishing Contributor



I know I ride th' medical profession a little bit, but goodness sakes some of them doctors forgets that only th' Good Lord can walk on water!

A lot of funny things come out of th' medical profession. For instance, I have a bottle of medicine that reads, "Take one tablet 4 times a day, by mouth."

"How else would you take a tablet except by mouth?"

"Now if I had got them pills from a vet, th' label may have made some sense."

So somthin' else I ain't figured out yet is why when you check into a hospital, they ask you what your ma's maiden name is.

What in the cat-hair does it matter what my ma's maiden name is when I got somethin' busted that needs a fixin'?



## LET'S TALK ABOUT

By **CAROL PERKINS**  
Jobe Publishing Contributor

## Romance Novels

A person I didn't know well discovered that I had authored several books. She asked what type and assured me I was in the wrong genre. "If you write dirty, trashy love stories, you will make a fortune." She knew this to be true. My ears perked up. "You mean like ....?" I asked.

"All I know is this I know someone who makes a fortune and uses a pen name," she said. "She cranks them out once a month and her readers can't wait."

I thought about her words, which took me back to my youth when my teenage friends and I sneaked to read True Story magazine at the beauty shop while our mothers were under the hairdryer. Compared to today, those stories were Disney worthy (almost) but back then they were read in secret. Modern Romance was another magazine we sneaked to read.

When I was a young woman in my twenties, popular novels with edgy love scenes were the rage, and ladies passed them from one person to another.

We had no Amazon and the library would never have books like these on their shelves. My first real "trashy" book (to my naïve eyes) was Forever Amber. It was filled with romance, heroes, and damsels in distress. To this day, I can still say that was a memorable read, not because it was "descriptive" but because it was

a romantic story. There is probably not a person over fifty who hasn't read Gone with the Wind or seen the movie - one of the best love stories ever written!

A few years ago, as I was watching Good Morning America, the ladies were gaga over a new book. If it were THAT good, I needed to read it, so I did. It started out as a typical love story: rich man, average girl, the pursuit and the doubts, etc. As the chapters progressed, I couldn't believe what I was reading, so I kept reading! By the end, I couldn't understand the infatuation with the book. (Maybe I'm too old.)

Every writer has an audience and romance sells. That GMA promoted book made a fortune, as did the next one, proving women never tire of stories like that.

However, most of us want a "feel good" romantic story that reminds us of a good movie like "When Harry Meets Sally" or "You've Got Mail" or "A Star is Born" (although that one doesn't end the way I wanted).

What has made the Hallmark Channel the number one cable "movie" channel on TV? Romance, happy endings, bakeries, florists, and wedding planners. As for a good romance story, I am working on it. As for one that boundaries go beyond romance, I'm looking for a pen name!

## Get your Social Security benefits statement (SSA-1099/SSA-1042S)



**David K. Smith**  
Social Security District Manager, Bowling Green

Tax season is approaching, and we have made replacing your annual Benefit Statement even easier. The Benefit Statement, also known as the SSA-1099 or the SSA-1042S, is a tax form we mail each year in January to people who receive Social Security benefits. It shows the total amount of benefits you received from us in the previous year so you know how much Social Security income to report to the IRS on your tax return.

If you live in the United States and you need a replacement form SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S, simply go online and get an instant, printable replacement form using your personal my Social Security account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount). A replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S is available for the previous tax year after February 1.

If you already have a my Social Security account, you can log in to your account to view and print your SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S. If you don't have access to a printer, you can save the document to your computer or email it to yourself. If you don't have a my Social Security account, it is very easy to do and usu-

ally takes less than 10 minutes.

If you're a non-citizen who lives outside of the United States and you received or repaid Social Security benefits last year, we will send you a form SSA-1042S in the mail. The forms SSA-1099 and SSA-1042S are not available for people who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

With a personal my Social Security account, you can do much of your business with us online. If you receive benefits or have Medicare, your personal my Social Security account is also the best way to:

- Request a replacement Social Security number card (in most states and the District of Columbia).
- Get your benefit verification letter.
- Check your benefit and payment information.
- Change your address and phone number.
- Change your direct deposit information.
- Request a replacement Medicare card.
- Report your wages if you work and receive Social Security disability insurance or SSI benefits.

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