

people must remove snow from roofs to prevent its weight from crushing their homes, and special care is taken to protect trees from snow's weight. In some towns, people used to tunnel paths to one another's homes, and streets were lined with covered sidewalks to ensure that people could get around. Today in areas where temperatures are high enough to make it practical, many roads are equipped with sprinklers using warm ground water to keep them passable by melting the snow. The most recent record snow was brought by the blizzards of December 2005 – February 2006, when well over 9 feet of snow accumulated (piled up over time) in many rural (farm land/countryside) areas.

One of the striking features of Japan's snow country are the snow monsters on Mount Zao. These are trees frozen by the winds from Siberia and covered in snow, giving a ghostly impression.



### “Most Snow Angels - Multiple Venue”

Students, parents and teachers from 60 schools in the London District Catholic School Board, in Ontario, Canada, made 15,851 snow angels simultaneously on February 2, 2004 at 2:00pm.



### “NEW COVENANT’S SNOW MEMORIES”



### VERSE OF THE MONTH

And set your minds and keep them set on what is above (the higher things), not on the things that are on the earth.

Colossians 3:2 (Amplified)

“Text from *'I've Got Heaven On My Mind'* sung by Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir”

I started out with Jesus at a very early age  
 yes I've known him nearly all of my life  
 well I'll admit there have been times  
 where I've faltered along the way  
 but I'll keep trying cause somehow I've gotta make it in  
 you see I've got a charge on my life  
 and I've got a job to do  
 and I can't stop until it's through  
 Chorus:  
 I'm determined  
 I've got made up mind  
 I can't stand around wasting my time  
 I'm gonna keep on working for Jesus  
 every day of my life  
 cause I've got heaven on my mind

### BIRTHDAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS IN

### January



# NCO Kids Monthly News

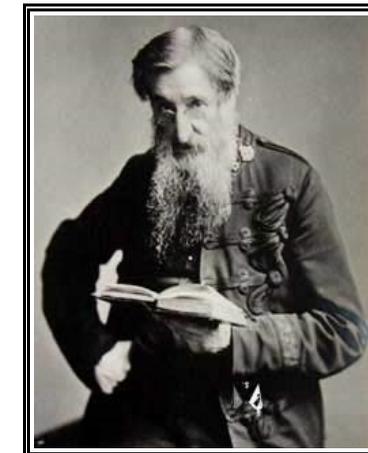
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## William Booth

William Booth was a British Methodist preacher who founded the Salvation Army and became its first General. This Christian movement, founded in 1865, had a military structure and government, that has spread from London, England, to many parts of the world and is known for being one of the largest distributors of humanitarian aid.

Booth was born in Nottingham (state), England. He was the son of Samuel Booth and Mary Moss. His father was an architect, which provided him with sufficient funds. William's father was married twice, his first wife Sarah died and so did their only child, a son named William, died five years after Sarah. Later on his father met Mary Moss, he



proposed to her but she declined. He persuaded her to change her mind and she excepted even though she was sixteen years *younger* than he. Samuel and Mary had five children together, Henry, Ann, William, Emma, and Mary. Henry died as a young child and Emma was an invalid from birth, she died at the age of forty having never married.

As Samuel was forced into bankruptcy by successive trade recessions, William eventually said of him:

*"My father was a Grab (a greedy man). He had been born in poverty. He determined to grow rich; and he did. He grew very rich, because he lived without God and simply worked for money; and when he lost it all, his heart broke with it, and he died miserably."*

Samuel Booth was not a religious man, and although he had little interest in his children, he insisted that they attend church regularly. He was baptized on his deathbed, after which he committed his wife and children to God. Those who surrounded him, including his son William, sang "Rock of Ages" as he died.

Due to his father's bankruptcy the family could no longer afford William's school fees, so at the age of 13, William was apprenticed to a pawnbroker (money loaner).

Two years into his apprenticeship, at the age of 15, Booth was converted to salvation and Methodism. He then read extensively and trained himself in writing and in speech, becoming a Methodist preacher. At the age of 20, Booth reluctantly left his family and moved to London, where he found work and lodging in a pawnbroker's shop. Booth tried to continue preaching in London, but the small amount of preaching work that came his way frustrated him, and so he resigned as a preacher and took to open-air evangelizing in the streets and on the Kennington Common (a large park in London, similar to our New York City Central Park).

On April 10<sup>th</sup> 1852, Booth's 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday, he left pawnbroking and became a full-time preacher. Just over a month after he started full-time preaching, on May 15<sup>th</sup>, William Booth became formally engaged to Catherine Mumford.

Booth remained a pastor at a church appointed to him by the Methodist headquarters,

but he was dissatisfied with his work as a pastor in a single church. He knew he was called to reach the multitudes as an evangelist. He requested to be appointed to evangelistic work but was denied. He therefore resigned his position and became an independent evangelist. For this, he was barred from campaigning in Methodist congregations.

His doctrine remained much the same, though; he preached that eternal punishment was the fate of those who do not believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the necessity of repentance from sin, and the promise of salvation. He taught that this belief would manifest itself in a life of love for God and mankind. Eventually, each of Booths' children became involved in the ministry.

In 1865, at the age of 36, Booth and his wife Catherine opened The Christian Revival Society, where they held meetings every evening and on Sundays, to offer repentance, salvation and Christian ethics to the poorest and most needy, including alcoholics, criminals and prostitutes. Booth and his followers practiced what they preached, they were self-sacrificing Christians. They performed a lot of social work such as opening "Food for the Million" shops (soup kitchens), not caring if they were scoffed at or mocked for their Christian ministry work.

Thirteen years later they changed the name of their ministry to "The Salvation Army", modeling it in some ways after the military, with its own flag (or colors) and its own music. He and the other soldiers in God's Army would wear the Army's own uniform, this symbolized 'putting on the Armour,' for meetings and ministry work. Booth became the "General" and his other ministers were given appropriate ranks as "officers".

Though the early years were lean ones, with the need of money to help the needy an ever growing issue, Booth and The Salvation Army persevered. In the early 1880s, operations were extended to other countries, most profoundly in the United States, France, Switzerland, Sweden and others including most of the British Empire like Australia, Canada, India, South Africa, New Zealand, Jamaica, etc. During his lifetime, William Booth established Army work in 58 countries and colonies, traveling extensively and

holding, "salvation meetings". Booth regularly published a magazine and was the author of a number of books; he also composed several songs. In his books the convictions and principles behind the ministry really stood out. Booth proposed a strategy to apply the Christian Gospel and work ethic to the problems. The book speaks of abolishing vice and poverty by establishing homes for the homeless, farm communities where the urban poor can be trained in agriculture, training centers for prospective emigrants, homes for fallen women and released prisoners, aid for the poor, and help for drunkards. He also laid down schemes for poor men's lawyers, banks, clinics, industrial schools and even a seaside resort. He says that if the state fails to meet its social obligations it will be the task of each Christian to step into the breach. Booth's ultimate aim was to get people saved! Booth once said,

*"I have no intention to depart in the smallest degree from the main principles on which I have acted in the past. My only hope for the permanent deliverance of mankind from misery, either in this world or the next, is the regeneration or remaking of the individual by the power of the Holy Ghost through Jesus Christ. But in providing for the relief of temporal misery I reckon that I am only making it easy where it is now difficult, and possible where it is all but impossible, for men and women to find their way to the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

In his later years, he was received in audience by kings, emperors and presidents, who were among his ardent admirers. Even the mass media began to use his title of 'General' with respect. In 1899, Booth suffered from blindness in both eyes, but with a short rest, was able to recover his sight. Later he had to have his right eye removed and had a cataract in his left eye. William Booth was 83 years old when he died, He was buried with his wife in the main London burial ground for 19th century ministers and tutors.

William and Catherine Booth had eight children together, Bramwell, Ballington, Kate (Catherine), Emma, Herbert, Marian, Evangeline, and Lucy. All his children, except for Marian who was sickly, served in the Salvation Army with their spouses in various countries.

*(Read about his children in next month's edition).*

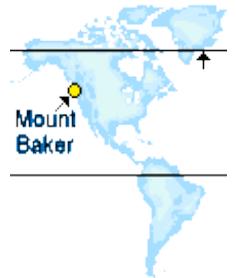
## SNOW FACTS

Although the Arctic is know as a snowy place, it is in fact a desert where very little snow actually *falls*. The snow that does fall, however, stays around a long time, giving the impression of *much* snow. So where did the MOST snow fall?

The world record for the most snow in *one year* is now held by Mount Baker in Washington State, USA. The Mount Baker Ski Area reported 1,140 inches (95 feet) of snowfall for the 1998-1999 season.

The mountain also beat its own record for most snow in a month with 304 inches / 772 cm.

Snowfall can be difficult to measure because it settles, melts, or drifts from place to place. Strict standards must be observed - a flat surface is used to measure daily snowfall amounts along with a snow stake to measure depth.



### "Snow Country"

Snow country refers to areas in Japan due to their heavy, long-lasting snowfalls. Easterly winds blowing off Siberia bring moisture-laden clouds down through Japan and the Japanese Alps, a series of mountain ranges which creates the island's backbone. These clouds bump up against the mountains and as a result, the region is one of the world's snowiest spots. The locals are frequently visited by avalanches. The snow is so deep in some places that buildings have special entrance on their second story;