

## ABOUT ME



I was born in Oklahoma in 1940, and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior at a very young age. I was raised in an exclusive Plymouth Brethren fellowship where I gained a solid foundation in the Word of God and learned to love worshiping Him. Although I generally tried to serve the Lord, I struggled with my own reality to the extent that I never really had a settled peace about my own salvation until my mid teens. I remember leading one of my playmates to Christ and going away musing, “Now he’s saved. I wonder if I really am.” Finally, while reading a book on Romans, I realized that I could reckon my fleshly old doubting self dead with Christ and consider myself alive to God to walk in the Spirit. What a relief!

I got a B.A. in chemistry and math at Murray State, in Kentucky, and taught in high school a couple years. I enjoyed teaching immensely, but just couldn’t feel satisfied until I felt prepared for missionary service, so I went back to school and got an M.D. degree at the University of Illinois in Chicago. I met Shirley Erisman at our exclusive assembly in Chicago; and we were married while I was doing my internship at Cook County Hospital. Ten years and six boys later, we sold our family practice in Delavan, Illinois and went to Zambia as missionaries at Loloma Mission Hospital.

After four years in Zambia, we returned home for the children’s education. I could have kissed the ground when I stepped out of the plane, but I was just too tired from the trip. The kids’ teachers assured Shirley that she had done well with their home schooling, and all of them did well in school. We had a daughter and a seventh son after returning home.

I retired from my active “Country doctor” outpatient medical practice late in 2007, some twenty-one years after we returned to the United States. We still live in the home we built in Delavan, a town of about 2000 people right in the center of Illinois.

Shirley and I now attend the more open [Grace Bible Chapel](#), in Springfield, Illinois. I help out with some of the preaching there, and am increasingly invited to fill other incidental pulpit vacancies in the Delavan area. As my retirement approached, [GBC](#) recommended us to a wider sphere of ministry; and I end up speaking one place or another fairly often. I love it!

I wrote my first real poem during a study hall in high school, but didn’t write much more poetry until I was in medical school. Most of my early poems had too many forced rhymes, inverted word orders, and cadence violations to be salvaged. After we came home from Africa I began to realize that if I couldn’t make something fit naturally into the rhyme and cadence of a poem, it was best left out. *“If it’s not right, don’t write it!”* was a definite turning point for me, although learning to look for alliteration has also helped a lot. I’m a bit short on imagination for creating good metaphors.

I enjoy riding my motorcycle along country roads looking for wild flowers to photograph for backgrounds to enhance my poetry and favorite Scriptural texts. The scenery we enjoy on our family vacations also serves that purpose well.

You will notice that I put my address and phone number on every download on this web site. I would like nothing more than to help some struggling soul find peace with God through faith in the substitutional death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Call me!

Morton C. (Bud) Morris  
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