

# THE DEATH OF THE OLD SERGEANT

FAITH FLASH ARTICLE

NOVEMBER 27TH, 2008

I write to announce the death of the old sergeant referred to in my recent article "Radio me Down a Blessing". The old man died Sunday, two weeks ago.

While I was crying at the "funeral", a young Apostolic saint, Edmundo is his name, stepped over by my side and said: "I never, ever, thought that the old sergeant would die. He was a mean old man".

I just never realized how mean the old man was! While we stood there by the grave, Edmundo proceeded to tell me of the times that he was beaten senseless by the old sergeant. Three times, he told me, the old sergeant took him into a back room of the police station to "educate" him about the evils of gangs and drugs.

Then I suddenly remembered the first time Edmundo came to church... his face was swollen and eyes were black and almost shut. "Surely not..." I said... "You're saying that first time you came to church so beaten... surely not... it was the old sergeant that did that to you!?!?...". After a silent moment, while we watched the old sergeant die, Edmundo quietly nodded his head... yes, he was the man. He was the man that beat Edmundo within an inch of his life.

We both fell silent as we listened to the old sergeant's last words...

"Yes, I believe Jesus is Lord and the only God..." Then the old sergeant died!

Suddenly, we both saw a very unusual scene...

Edmundo and I saw a NEW MAN arise up out of the grave (To answer your question Nicodemus, yes, there is REBIRTH!!)

This NEW guy we saw looked like a sergeant too. Different though... he seemed to stand taller! That smile... there was something different about that smile... Edmundo noticed it first... the snarling smile is gone! A NEW SERGEANT! Wow! He stood so tall! Such a sincere smile!

Since burying the old sergeant, the NEW sergeant comes EVERY service! And he NEVER comes alone!

This last Sunday the NEW sergeant picked up two more gang kids off the street... instead of escorting them to the "educational wing" of the police station... he brought them to church and stood behind them, praying with them while around the altar... smiles.

Oh, by the way, his radio still squawks urgent orders to the (new) sergeant. But that doesn't bother him... he just turns the orders into blessings... **APOSTOLIC BLESSINGS!**



With Rev. John Bradley Lambeth