



A PROMISE KEPT

By Kim Hines

Psalms 91:1 – “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”

For years this has been my favorite scripture. I’ve not always dotted every “I” nor do I cross every “T”, but during this trip I learned the importance of abiding under His shadow. Making this ride cross country reminded me of the dangers of living life without



Christ. He permitted me to experience the most extreme weather elements. It was His grace that carried me through. When I decided to make this trip, I knew that I would need the Lord’s grace and strength and the many prayers of the love ones left behind.

No one could have told me that when I decided to fulfill a promise to a dear friend, Frances “Smiley” Peters, who died three years ago, that I would return empowered, motivated and encouraged to accept the next facet of my life. I had carefully planned every step of this trip and was confident of the success of the ride. We would ride 5,571 miles in nine days and have 5 days of rest

Smiley was the Road Captain for a motorcycle organization I joined after getting my motorcycle license. I wrote in my journal, six years ago that I believed she was going to be my motorcycle mentor. And she was. She took time to teach me how to ride the monstrous bike that I had bought from Elder Enoch Perry. We spent countless hours learning and perfecting my riding skills. We become each other’s confidant and often talked about our relationship with the Lord. The Thursday, prior to her death, we had gone to dinner to talk about an issue she was having. In my driveway we prayed and she had made her peace with God. The Saturday of the death, she called me three times begging me to ride with her to Virginia. She told me she was leaving work soon and would be on her bike within the hour. I asked that she would wait a few hours until I was free to go with her, but her promise to those whom she was riding with would not lend her to waiting. She left without me. That was the last time anyone would see her alive. For months, I blamed myself. She and I had planned to make this ride in 2006. It was always her dream to ride cross-country; so I made this ride to honor our love, our friendship and to fulfill my promise; to my friend “Smiley”.