

a very high position, but in heart and spirit, they are the keepers of God's law. When all else have failed, and when most everyone has finally come to destroy God's law, they are thinking that they will be the ones to reteach the moral values, the principals on which life steadfastly, is kept on a solid foundation. And that, to the Cherokees even though that may not be rich, nor they may not have clothes according to standards of some people, they are rich in the spiritual way. They are closer to God than the rest of the world. Even though the rest of the world, have had in the scriptures the same thing that the Cherokees have kept sacred. For some reason or another, the Commandments have been destroyed and disobeyed. The next story has a lot to do with in the way that man has disobeyed the commandments, and it will explain the labeled superstitions of the Cherokees and will prove that maybe they are not so superstitious. Thank you, my name is Crosslin Smith, tribal field specialist for the Cherokee Nation.

CROSSLIN SMITH EXPLAINS CHEROKEE RITUALS AND BELIEF IN GOD

September the 7, 1967, I am again at my father's place, Stoke Smith, and I am-- at the home of Stoke Smith who is Chief of the Kee-too-wah Society and I am Crosslin Smith, his son and working as a tribal field specialist for the Cherokee Nation, office located in Tahlequah. The legend we are about to recall is again taken from my father. He has again decided to let me listen to his story and then record it in my voice. This particular legend is about the rituals that the Cherokees do. There are many, many rituals in the Cherokee life. Suppose there is a ritual for every sacred prayer, for every purpose that you can imagine. The origin of these rituals, we believe, is coming from the age old story of people. When the creation of the holy building took place in the early dim times of history, certain rituals was given to man by God himself. This must be before the birth of the Son of God because there's no mention of the Son of God. Only God himself, is always appearing in these visions and legends. The leader of a certain group of people, he decided to stay away from