

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2009

## The Soul of Springdale



Hard times require hard choices, and those decisions will reflect the more important values of a business, a government, or an individual. Seeking divine inspiration for solutions to Springdale's dire financial straits, Mayor **Doug Sprouse** and Alderman **Jim Reed** have been reading from the **Gospel According to John [White]**. They have proposed to save money by cutting funding to the things they find least valuable -- employees and a museum.

Mayor Sprouse says that denying raises to the city's 400 plus employees will save \$1.2 million in these tough economic times. Alderman Reed suggests cutting all funding to the outstanding Shiloh Museum of Ozark History. "I think spending \$570,000 for the museum is not a priority," he said.

Cost of living raises for loyal public employees, not important. Funding an institution that preserves and celebrates our heritage, not important. Continued cash subsidies for the local Cowbirds and a money-losing baseball venture at Arvest Park, not a problem.