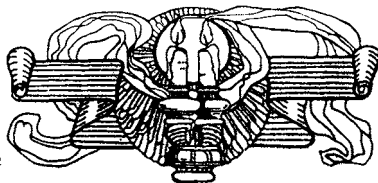


# Faith and Victory

Volume 6.  
Number 10.

God is  
Love.



Jesus  
Saves.

GUTHRIE, OKLA.  
December 1930.

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

If you would celebrate Christmas  
As the birth of the blessed Christ,  
Think of some way that would please Him—  
Consider the honor guest first.

Make the celebration a place  
Where you could invite the Master,  
Bring in the poor, the maimed, the blind,—  
You'll have joy—not much gay laughter.

Make them a feast, the very best,  
Yes, the best your larder affords,  
Ask God to give you the Spirit,  
To do all as unto the Lord.

Then, tell the Bethlehem story,  
Tell of Christ who died for our sins;  
And that He arose from the grave,  
Ascended to the Father again.

Tell how He came to deliver  
The captive, to break prison walls;  
Blot out sins remembered no more,  
The penitent, He forgives all.

All who will in faith believe Him,  
Give up their sins, and take His way;  
He will bless and renew and keep  
For His own in the Judgment Day.

Tell them His work He completed;  
Sat down at the right hand of God,  
Continues His intercessions—  
O, that we might believe His word.

Give presents to the needy ones,  
Wish them much happy Christmas cheer;  
Remember with food, clothing, coal,  
Reap their blessings throughout the year.

You'll remember the day forever;  
Great Christmas, try it and see,  
For as ye did it unto the least,  
(His voice) Ye did it unto Me.

How different the day you've kept  
All of your thoughtless, selfish life;  
The presents all went to your friends--  
What shame you'd the honor guest slight.  
— Jessie Benson Warmack.

## Gift, Giving

We notice that Christmas and New Year's day is fast approaching upon us again. We are one year nearer eternity. Many of our friends and relatives that were with us last Christmas have already passed on to meet their God. Perhaps it may be you or I that will be missing in the home circle as the next New Year approaches. May God help us to be prepared.

At this time in the season our mind is usually on the subject of gift, giving or some visit we intend to make, but do we ever stop to think of the greatest gift that was ever given to mankind? "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3: 16) Could there be a greater gift? "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for a friend."

If we could only think back nearly two thousand years ago, as the Bible tells us about the Christ child that was born in the manger on Christmas day, then how He suffered the cruel death of the cross that we might obtain life eternal, surely you could not think of celebrating the Lord's birthday as many do by dancing, drinking or any other such damnable sins. Friend, how can you plan some merry Christmas and merriment for Christmas when it is such a solemn day? The so-called Christians will have their dances and other 'no-harm' sins. But be sure you will find you out. Well, you may say, w

to have a little recreation. Now listen to the Word of God (Rom. 12: 2), "And be not conformed (fashioned according) to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Now another excuse is, my pastor does not object to our dancing etc. Turn to Gal. 1- 9 where our Bro. Paul says, "If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Our life must be straight and clean, for strait is the way that leads to life eternal. So taking Christ and the apostles' teaching we read, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, (1 John 2: 15) and whatsoever things you do, do all to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10: 31). Could you partake of these ungodly amusements to the glory of God? No! and a thousand times, no! The Word says, "Come out from among them, and I will be your God and ye shall be my people." Again we find in Matt. 6: 24, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?" (Jas. 4: 4).

Now you that prefer your intoxicating drinks, listen to God's warning (Isa. 5: 22), "Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink. (Prov. 23: 19 -30) Hear thou, my son, and be wise, for the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags. Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine." Now you may say that is all in the Old Testament, but turn to Eph. 5: 18, "Be not drunk with wine, \*\*\* but be filled with the Spirit." Some seem to think it smart to get drunk, but Prov. 20: 1 talks differently it says, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. (Joel 1: 5) Awake ye drunkards and weep. (1 Cor. 6: 10) No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God."

Now dear reader, with so much of God's Word against worldly amusements, and none at all in its favor, let us all stop and think seriously before planning our Christmas entertainment, and as 1 Peter 5: 8 says, "Be sober, (not drunk) be vigilant, (watchful) as your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." It is (evil) business to keep as many blinded as possibly can concerning the strait and humble way to the cross that leads to our home above.

— Mary Scribner.

## THE GATEWAY OF THE CROSS

Say, wouldst thou gain that land where comes no sorrow?

Wouldst thou live with Christ beyond the starlit sky?

Then sit thou down and count the cost all over,  
And know that thou must suffer with thy Lord,  
and die.

To gain that blessed land of Live-forever,  
We must count all things below as loss and dross;  
We must from earthly things all heart-strings sever,  
And feel, with Christ, the death pangs of the cross.

There is a beautiful, wonderful land called heaven. It is a place where people never sin and never sorrow. There are no tears there, no heartaches, no pain, no death. There is no night there, no sickness, no misunderstandings or disappointments. It is the land of Live-forever. We are intensely interested in this land of unending day. We have some loved ones over there and most likely you have. O man, think of it! It should concern you a thousand times more than any thing in this world where people sin and sorrow, where there is sickness and trouble, pain and death. This article has been written for the purpose of helping you find the way to this land of eternal light and love.

### The Open Gate

The gate is strait, but it is open. (See Matt. 7: 14). The term "strait" means a small, narrow pass. It is taken from the figure of a narrow pass in a mountain gorge hemmed in by walls of rocks on either side. Jesus tells us that but few will find this strait gate. This should put a great fear upon us. Oh, what if we failed to find it! If we failed to find this gate there is nothing left for us but the wide gate that leads to destruction. There is another very serious thing to think about. Multitudes think they have found this strait gate and they have not. Many people are blind and deceived. They are on the broad way and think they are on the narrow way.

We do not have to open the gate. It is already open; all we have to do is to find it. Remember, O soul, that there is no other gate that opens on to the way that leads to eternal life. We will never reach that glorious land if we fail to find this gate before we die. We tell you this with a serious, solemn feeling in our heart. We feel the awfulness of the fate of those who miss it. Lost in the blackness of darkness

forever. We beg of thee to be concerned and make doubly certain that you have found the way to heaven. Why concern yourself so much about the things of time and neglect the eternal welfare of the soul?

We need not be deceived or uncertain. The directions to this "strait gate" are very plain and clear. If we will but take time to study them we can find the way. Jesus says, "I am the door," and "I am the way." He is the door and the way and the gate into that wonderful country where people live forever and are always happy. He says, "Behold, I set before thee an open door." Rev. 3: 8. Through this open door is the way to heaven, and there is no other. To find this door and enter in is the all important thing in life. A man's life does not consist in the abundance of the things of this world that he might gain, but in finding this open door which leads into everlasting life.

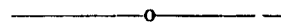
#### The Humanity of Christ

We are told by Christ that many shall seek to enter in and shall not be able, and that many will profess to have entered in and yet have not done so. He says, "Not every one that sayeth Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." (Read Matt. 7: 21, 23). For this reason we have asked God to help us make this subject plain and simple as we possibly can. We want you to understand it. It is needful that we think for a moment about the humanity of Jesus. When God made Adam He gave him a human nature. This human nature is what is called humanity. Humanity is not the body of flesh, but a nature that belongs to it. God also gave a divine life or nature to Adam. He had a spiritual or divine life. He was not God, but he did possess the life of God. Now divine life is divinity, and human life is humanity. In Adam there was a union or oneness of humanity and divinity. These were one in the other. When Adam sinned he lost the divinity or the divine life out of his humanity. Instead of the divine nature being in his humanity he now had carnal or fleshly nature. Whatever was the act Adam performed it was something that caused him to lose the divine nature and become fleshly. Now when we speak about the flesh, do not think of the flesh of the body, but of a fleshly nature. This helps us to understand the words of Paul when he says, "So then they that are in the flesh can not please God." Rom. 8: 8. He does not mean those who are living in the body or have humanity, but those who have the fleshly nature in their humanity. Remember this fleshly nature does not really belong to humanity, but came there by sin; in fact it is sin. Now when Jesus was born of the virgin Mary,

(see Matt. 1: 18 -23) He taken humanity upon Him. He, like Adam before he sinned, was both human and divine. He possessed humanity and divinity. He was God in humanity. To take on man's humanity He must take man's fleshly body. "The Word (Christ) was made flesh, and dwelt among us." John 1: 14. Just how humanity and divinity unite and become two natures in one we do not know. When man and woman unite in marriage they two become one flesh. (See Matt. 19: 5). In Christ there is a marriage of divinity and humanity and they become one. We will say at this time, and may repeat it later, that a Christian is one who is married to Christ, therefore has divinity dwelling in his humanity.

The humanity of Christ was humanity in its original purity. It did not have the fleshly nature in it, but had divinity in it. The fleshly nature and the divine nature can not dwell together in humanity, no more than light and darkness can dwell together. The thought to get impressed upon our minds here is that the humanity of Christ was as humanity was designed in the mind of God to be and as man had before he sinned.

— C. E. Orr.



The secret of a holy life is a close walk with God. Enoch walked with God three hundred years. His testimony was that he pleased God. Do we have the same testimony? Are we sure our lives please God?

— G. W. Stephenson



Dear Brothers and Sisters: May God bless you and your work. I found a copy of your *Faith and Victory* over six months ago and after reading some of it I put it away. I came across it a few days ago again and am very much pleased with the way it sounds.

I am a very small money maker, therefore, what I can do is very little. Kindly send me a sample package containing one each of your tracts. I have adopted a very novel plan and suggest it also to others. I "write a letter a day to show sinners the way and help the righteous not to stray." I pick out addresses from a phone directory or whatever I can and do not sign my name. I put some tracts in each letter and also suggest them to do the same. Sunday schools may take up the plan also; the children will give up some little things like gum and candies and give that to the Lord, and who dare estimate the harvest? Follow and suggest the plan and you will find that God will bless your efforts.

Yours in the Master's service,

— M. L.

# “FAITH AND VICTORY”

This paper is edited and published by Fred Pruitt, assisted by his wife, Mary A. Pruitt, and other consecrated workers at Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.

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- Single copy, one year . . . . . \$ .25

A complete religious paper printed and sent out monthly in the interest of all Christians everywhere. It teaches salvation from sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17: 21 and manifested by the apostles, Acts 4: 32. Also healing of the body through faith in Christ, James 5: 14, 15.

Free-will offerings sent in to us will be thankfully received as from the Lord and used in the furtherance of the gospel work as God directs. All personal checks and Post Office money orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt or Faith Publishing House.

### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE,

920 W. MANSUR ST. GUTHRIE, OKLA.

Phone No. 1523-J.

U. S. A.

### EDITORIALS

More than nineteen centuries ago there was a little babe born in Bethlehem which is not far from Jerusalem. The mother and foster father of this child were poor people. They had come from a distant town to Bethlehem to be taxed, as they were of the lineage of David. Because there was no place found for them in the Inn, they were compelled to take sleeping quarters in the stable part where the cattle were kept and the Child was born there.

In appearance this child was like any other child, yet there was a great stir among the people when this Child was born. The shepherds who were on the hills nearby saw a great company of angels and they declared great and wonderful things concerning this Child which was just born in Bethlehem, and they hurried over to the town to see Him of whom the angels had spoken.

The wise men in the East saw the star, saddled their camels, laden them with gifts and presents and came to Jerusalem in search of this Child. When King Herod (who represented Satan) heard of the star and the Child which was born to be king of the Jews, he was greatly stirred and all Jerusalem also;

but being subtle and cunning, (as the devil always is) he got busy and gathered all the chief priests and scribes together and demanded of them where Christ should be born. They told him in Bethlehem of Judea. He told the wise men to go and find the Child and bring him word that he might go and worship Him also. He lied to them as the devil will do, for he had it in his heart to kill the Child. God foiled the plans of the wicked King, warned the wise men not to return to Herod and sending them back another way. He also warned Joseph to take the young Child and its mother and flee into Egypt. The King was furious and sent forth his soldiers and slew all the children in Bethlehem and in all the coasts that were under two years old; then there was great lamentation, weeping and mourning, mothers weeping for their children and would not be comforted, for they were not.

There is nothing good about the devil. He feigns to be good and to do right but is always causing trouble, bringing lamentation, weeping, mourning and sorrow of heart to all who are deceived by him.

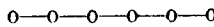
In this present age the agents of Satan are every where, feigning themselves to be followers of Christ and worshippers of God. When Christmas time comes they are in a great stir, become positive in their deeds. Yes sir, we shall honor the birth of the Child Jesus. Beware, brothers and sisters, his motive is evil as it was then. He is seeking to destroy the life of Christ which is formed in your soul. He gets very busy to make great banquets, feasting, reveling, drinking, card playing and dancing, which are sowing to the flesh, grieving and killing the Christ life of those who may be influenced to partake with them. The devil feigns himself to be a very religious fellow in these days. His agents claim to be filled with the Holy Ghost, leading poor souls away from the crucified way and keeping many others out of the Kingdom of God. He lies to souls, making them believe he is honoring Christ, when, in fact, he is leading them in the ways of death. The majority of the stir and fuss which is made at Christmas time is made and prompted by Satan himself for the express purpose of hiding his identity; a show of Godlikeness and loyalty, keeping souls deceived and deceiving others, causing many others to “sow to the flesh” and grieve the Spirit. Oh, that blind eyes might be opened and deaf ears unstopped, (Luke 4: 18) and captives set free through real faith in Christ that men may see the lying devil which is deceiving nearly the whole world with a religious cloak, often doing great signs and wonders as far as darkened souls can see, deceiving souls who in turn are deceiving others. Thus the

slaughtering, damning, deadening, poisoning dope of Satan is being sipped and imbibed by the great crowds that are on the broad way which leads to damnation and eternal ruin.



We rejoice in God to be able to send forth another issue of Faith and Victory paper. In the last issue we agreed to send the newly printed 48-page booklet entitled "Helps to Holy Living" to any one sending in four subscriptions at the regular price of 25 cents per year. Some have taken advantage of this offer which we still extend. Send in four names as subscribers with one dollar and we will send you a copy of this booklet free. You will be blessed in reading this little book. We sell them at fifteen cents each or two for a quarter. All subscriptions sent in now will be listed to begin Jan. 1, 1931. A year's subscription to *Faith and Victory* would be a gift appreciated by your relative or friend; each month they would be reminded of you sending it to them. Send it to some invalid or poor person. That would please God and encourage them through the coming year.

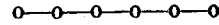
We did have a fund on hand to send the paper to poor folks and others who could not pay, but that fund is now exhausted. We have several names and addresses of poor people who want the paper, but no funds to use on. Who will supply this need? Our means for buying paper to print tracts is also exhausted. We are freely sending the tracts every where and God is making these silent preachers a great blessing to many souls. We are very anxious to send the truth to all whom we can. Who will be co-workers with us and with God in sending forth these silent messengers. Every saved soul in order to keep spiritually healthy, ought to be at their best for God.



In first John 3: 18, we read, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." There is entirely too much "word and tongue" love in the world and very little "deed and truth" love. This is one great reason of spiritual leanness with so many souls. Many draw nigh to God with their lips, but their heart is far from Him. We read of some of these people in the 33rd chapter of Ezekiel. Begin at the 30th verse and read to end of chapter. To many the Lord has just become a "lovely song"; they say, Lord, Lord and hear His Word, but fail to do the Word. James says, "If we are not doers of the Word, we deceive our own souls; but the doer of the Word will be blessed in the deed."

Real Godly love will not withhold truth from souls. They realize it is far better for them to get

hurt here and repent and get saved rather than see them go on in their sins, be lost and burn throughout all eternity.



We understand that the Assembly meeting at Hammond, La. will begin on the 21st of Dec. They are expecting the Lord to give them the usual good meeting at that place. Through the co-operation of the saints at Hammond and clearness from God about the matter, wife and I and son, Lawrence, and perhaps other saints from these parts are expecting to attend this meeting. We have many readers of *Faith and Victory* scattered throughout the South whom we would like to meet at this meeting. Make it a point to be there if you can.

Anna Marie, my oldest daughter, will take care of the office work while we are gone. She will care for the mail, wrap and mail out the tracts and papers as the orders come in, and answer those letters which seem most needful. We covet the prayers of all our readers, as we mean by His grace to make this trip count for God and in behalf of souls. We shall take a large supply of tracts and back number papers along and leave them scattered all along the way. We realize keenly that we are His "purchased possession," soul, body and spirit, and we truly have a mind to do all we do to the glory of God. Remember us on this trip, and do not forget to pray for the children who are willingly at the Office looking after things.

May the God of all peace, bless each of our readers on Christmas day and also throughout the coming New Year.

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## STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

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The Oklahoma State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, Okla. in the Saint's Chapel on corner of Sixth and West Warner Sts., beginning on the 25th of Dec. (Christmas day) and continue over the 4th of Jan. 1931.

A cordial invitation is extended to every one. Come and enjoy the meeting; your presence will be appreciated. The Lord will send ministers here to preach the Word, and the saints at this place are expecting a good meeting. Be sure to get your share of the good things from heaven.

All contributions of provisions for the meeting will be greatly appreciated, and please send same to Bro. G. W. Winn, 1309 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie Okla. Also those having means for the meeting, send to Fred Pruitt at this Office.

**NOTICE**

“The Farm Home” is just off the press. It’s a fine gift; everybody should read it. Price \$1.00.  
 — Marie Pauline Sass, Haigler, Nebraska.



- BIBLES**
- BOOKS**
- MOTTOES**
- ENVELOPES**
- CALENDARS**

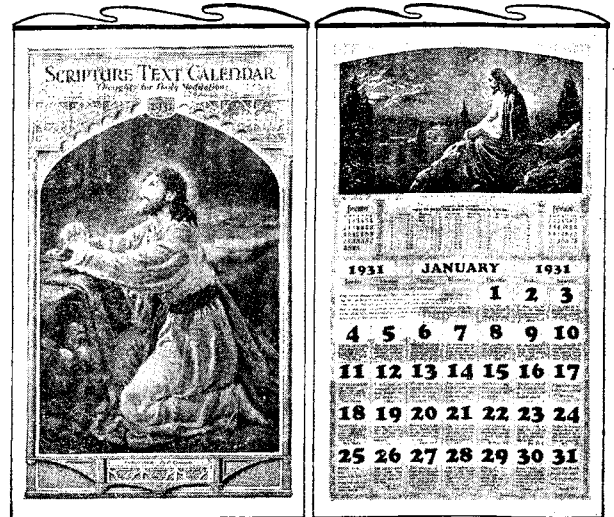
Send for circular catalogue of our Bibles; it gives you descriptions and prices. It will interest you; all kinds of Bibles. A discount of 10 percent on all Bibles ordered before the twentieth of Dec. Buy your relative, friend or some poor person a good Bible for a Christmas present.

Look over the list of books inserted below. Any one of them will make a good Christmas present. Send one to an invalid or some poor unfortunate person who may be behind the bars. Use your spare change in God’s service; sow to the Spirit and reap eternal life.

- Preacher and Prayer ..... \$1.00
- The Christian Secret of a Happy Life ..... \$1.25
- Fok’s Book of Martyrs ..... \$2.00
- Bible Story Book ..... \$2.00
- True Stories for Young Christians ..... \$1.00
- John Paton, Hero of the South Seas ..... \$.75
- John Bunyan ..... \$.75
- Steps to Christ ..... \$.25
- Helps to Holy Living ..... \$.15

All kinds of Art Velvet Wall Mottoes at prices ranging from ten to seventy-five cents each. Scripture text envelopes are sold at the rate of 25 envelopes for fifteen cents or forty cents per hundred.

These books and Bibles etc. are all postpaid to you at prices quoted. Address all orders to Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.



These Scripture Calendars are colored very beautifully and you should have one hanging up in your home; each day you will have a new scripture verse to read. They constantly remind you, your friends and visitors of Christ, God and the Bible. These 1931 Calendars will be sent to you for thirty cents each or four for \$1.00. Make your order out for these to-day. The New Year will soon be here. We pay the postage on these calendars to your address.

**MEETING NOTICE**

The Annual Holiday Assembly of the Church of God of southern Calif. will begin Dec. 25, 1930 at 11 A. M. at the Saint’s Chapel on corner of Walnut and Naomi Sts., Los Angeles, Calif.

The congregation here extends a hearty welcome to all. We also urge, if there be any differences or mis-understandings to settle, let them be adjusted where they exist. Do not hinder God’s great design to enrich our lives by His truth for greater usefulness in His vast harvest field by unloading these unsettled grievances upon the ministry. For while the devil lives in this time world misunderstandings may sometimes arise, but we have a Bible route which adjusts every one to the satisfaction of heaven.

For rooms write Mrs. Dessie LeMelle, 643 E. 110 St., Los Angeles, Calif. For further information write G. E. Harmon, 334 W. Arden, Glendale, Calif., or L. E. Davey, Duarte, Calif. For sending provisions or means write Mrs. Lela Bell (secretary), 11026 Willowbrook, Los Angeles, Calif. To reach Chapel take U car, come south on Central Ave., get off at Washington St., walk one block east and one south.

— Emily Turner, 1130 E. 41 St.,  
 Los Angeles, Calif.

## Obituaries

Sister Ida Payne, daughter of Bro. and Sister J. T. Courtney, was born in Arkansas where she spent the early part of her life. She died in Okmulgee, Okla., Sept. 26, 1930. Age, 44 years and 11 months. She was married to F. H. Payne, March 26, 1903. To this union were born one son and one daughter.

Sister Payne was saved about 14 years ago. Like many others she was not at all times perfectly satisfied in her soul, but during her lingering illness she was led to a close walk with God, gained a real clear experience and at times was made to praise God aloud. She left a bright testimony of her acceptance with God, and died the death of the righteous. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

She leaves to mourn their loss which is her gain, her husband, one son, one daughter, one grand child, her father, mother, one brother, three sisters and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by O. B. and Mattie Wilson.

Sister Mary Ann Amos was born Nov. 29, 1855. She died near Neosho, Mo. on Oct. 3, 1930. Age, 74 years, 10 months and 4 days. On March 22, 1872 she was married to Geo. W. Maness who died Sept. 10, 1928. Her entire married life was spent on the farm where she lived at the time of her death. To this union were born 8 children, three of whom preceded her in death; Edward, Florence and Herbert. Five children survive: J. W. Maness of Borse City, Okla., Curt Maness of Arkansas City, Miss Alice Maness who lived with her mother, Mrs. Bert Parr and Ozro Maness of Neosho, Mo.

She became a Christian in her girlhood and remained a devoted and consecrated follower of her beloved Master. We were personally acquainted with Mother Maness. She was ready to help others; didn't seem to think of herself that needed rest many times. She was a dear mother in her home; her life was adorned with the graces of God that made attractive the way of Christ. Though our Sister has passed on, yet her deeds of kindness and love will continue to be an influence upon the minds and hearts of those who knew her, therefore her works will not cease with her earthly stay, but will live on and on. We implore the blessings of God upon her family that they may so live and honor Christ that they will be an unbroken family in heaven where the weary are at rest and where there will be no more sighs, tears, heartaches and parting.

Funeral services were conducted by the writer. Texts, Rev. 14: 13, Isa. 57: 1.

—Chas. Bowers.

## "Walk While Ye Have The Light"

"Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you, for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light." John 12: 35-36.

Light always represents righteousness. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world," and He also said to His disciples, "Ye are the light of the world." Darkness always represents sin and confusion, and every evil work.

Jesus had just told them that He must be lifted up from the earth and by this they know that he was to die on the cross, and He, the light of the world was soon to be taken from them, so He solemnly warns them to walk in His light. "While ye have light, believe in the light," or believe in Me "that ye may be the children of light" or of righteousness. If we call light darkness and darkness light, how dark is our understanding of the word of truth. If we believe that we can disobey God's word and it will be alright with us, how dark we have become. David says "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psa. 119: 105. "For thou art my lamp, O Lord; and the Lord will lighten my darkness." 2 Sam. 22: 29.

Here is a scripture about putting light for darkness and darkness for light. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter. Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes and prudent in their own sight. Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink; which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him. Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their rust shall be as rottenness and their blossom shall go up as dust; because they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. Therefore is the anger of the Lord kindled against His people, and He hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them; and the hills did tremble, and their carcasses were torn in the midst of the streets." Isa. 5: 20-25. This shows God's anger upon Judah because they refused to walk in the light in their day. They were carried away captive into Babylon and only one out of ten were ever allowed to return to the land of Palestine.

We can imagine some one carrying a lantern by his side as he climbs a steep mountain side in darkness. He has to see every step of the way lest he make a mis-step which would dash him down many feet below. How necessary that he keep his lamp burning by his side. This is what David meant when he said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psa. 119: 105. And again when he says, "For thou art my lamp, O Lord; and the Lord will lighten my darkness." 2 Sam. 22: 29. We also read, "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." Psa. 119: 130. Should another be carrying the lantern, how necessary that we should keep up in the light. This is what Jesus means when He was talking to His followers saying, "Yet a little while is the light with you; walk while ye have the light lest darkness come upon you." If we don't walk as children of the light surely darkness will come upon us, for to know what the word says is not all that we must do; we must get the grace from God for us to be able to do the Word of God. Should sin come into our lives God will surely withdraw His blessed Holy Spirit which gives us life to live the Christian life.

So it's up to us to keep humble before God, live holy, God-fearing lives every day; no time for the frolics and foolishness of this world. It really means to be like Jesus. And if we are not like Him, we are not Christians. 'Christian' means Christlike; 'saint' means a sinless one. In our religious life the Holy Spirit and the Word is our light, and if we obey both as we go along we will have God's favor resting upon us, and we can see plainly how to walk and where to step, lest we fall away, but should we stop and get on some Broadway of the world where there is no light, we soon depart from the Word and Spirit of God, then we are overtaken by the powers of sin and darkness. It matters not how many may follow this way with us, if we have left Jesus behind, we must leave the crowd and retrace our steps until we find Him again and renew our consecration. Or we may have tarried in order to fellowship the crowd that has been left in darkness, and Jesus might say to you as He did to me, "But you fellowship those that do." He had reproved me on the line of dress, about wearing gold, pearls and costly array. Are we clean if we don't admonish those who depart from the pure clean teaching of the Word? Don't stay with the crowd unless the crowd stays with Jesus and He the center of attraction. You had better be alone in the world with Jesus than in a crowd without Him. The crowd in sin will be no

blessing to you. The Word still says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness, and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial, or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols, for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 2 Cor. 6: 14 -18.

This means for us to leave sinners and be joined to Christ and God will receive us, then when we have Christ He will walk and live in our soul. We will have the light abiding in our very being, teaching us the way of life, but without Him we can do nothing. We neither have the grace to live right nor the ability to please Him. To walk in the light is simply to obey God and be filled with His Holy Spirit.

— I. Edith Kriebel.

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## Christ Will Come Again

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It is universally believed that Jesus Christ lived on the earth nineteen centuries ago. We are just as sure of it, as we are living today. Millions of people have believed that Jesus is the Son of God, and all these millions have professed to try to live by His teachings. We know that the words Jesus spoke are true and are life-giving, because they have changed our lives in a way that we ourselves could not.

One of the greatest truths that Christ spoke when He was on earth, was that He would come back again. "I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself." John 14: 2, 3. The prophets foretold Christ's second coming, and the Psalmist sang of it. About three hundred and eighteen times in the Holy Bible Christ's return is mentioned. It was almost His last word to His followers who loved Him and were left behind. Their eyes marked every detail of His disappearance. Two angels who stood by assured the lonely watchers that this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven. Acts 1: 11.

Will He appear in Jerusalem or in a desert or



in some secret place? "Behold, He cometh with clouds and every eye shall see Him." Rev. 1: 7. "As the lightning cometh out of the east and shineth even unto the west, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matt. 24: 27.

But some will ask, will He not come by His Spirit and enter gradually into the hearts of men? "The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout." 1 Thess. 4: 16. "Behold I come quickly." Rev. 22: 12. "When the Son of man shall come in His glory." Matt. 25: 31.

We cannot know the exact time of Christ's coming. "Of that day and hour knoweth no man, no not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." Matt. 24: 36. But because men have taken this to mean that it makes no difference when He comes, there is all the more reason why we should find out the time as nearly as possible, and this God expects us to do. We may know by the signs when it is spring, even at the doors. Matt. 24: 32, 33. For the reason that we do not know the exact time, it is especially necessary to watch all the time. "Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Matt. 24: 42. When the flood was to come and when Sodom was to be destroyed, the people were warned but they did not know destruction would come, because they refused to heed the warning. Matt. 24: 37-39. So will it be when Jesus appears, but we are responsible for what we may know. If the coming of our Lord seems to be delayed, it is because God waits a little longer that more may be saved, for He is not willing that any should perish. 2 Peter 3: 9-15.

Dear readers, let's study God's Word. One of the purposes God had in making the sun, moon and stars was for signs. Gen. 1: 14. He carried out that purpose by making the sun and moon stand still as a sign at the time of Joshua, (Josh. 10: 12, 13 and Isaiah 38: 7) signs continue, (2 Kings 20: 8-11) and by darkening it at the crucifixion scene. Luke 23: 44. Christ said that as a sign of His second coming shall the sun be darkened and the moon shall not give her light. Matt. 24: 29. Some of these signs have been seen. The sun and moon was darkened May 19, 1780. Jesus said the stars shall fall from heaven, and on the night of Nov. 13, 1833 a remarkable shower of stars, such as man has never seen, fell toward the earth. Jesus said there shall be signs upon the earth; distress of nations, the sea and waves roaring, men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. Luke 21: 25, 26. Read the newspapers and see the

fulfillment of this sign.

Dear readers, we have many other signs that we may be sure about this being the last days. 2 Peter 3: 3, 4. "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days, scoffers walking after their own lusts and saying where is the promise of His coming." Here is another sign; believers in the evolution theory are in themselves signs of Christ's coming. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils." 1 Tim. 4: 1. While many are denying Christ's return, yet millions still believe in it. But this is not enough; let us watch the signs of the time here, "for there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders insomuch that if it were possible they shall deceive the very elect." Matt. 24: 24. The devil will personate Christ; Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 2 Cor. 11: 14, 15. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness whose end shall be according to their works. —T. J. Davis.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Ashland, Ky. —My dear Bro. Pruitt: We greet you once more in the precious name of Jesus who has done so much for us in answer to your most kind and encouraging letter which I received some time ago and was truly glad to hear from you once again.

I want to let you know how much we appreciate the little paper *Faith and Victory* and the good soul-feeding articles that it contains, and your stand against every wrong and crooked spirit, and my prayer is that God may keep the paper clean and free from every thing that is not straight. It has the right ring to it.

We closed a real good meeting at Liberty Hill, Ohio last month and the saints there were encouraged to press the battle on. Dear old Bro. Key from Versailles, Ohio was with us in this meeting and was used of the Lord in dealing out the Word. May the dear Lord bless and keep him in his old days. He is one of the old saints and has been with D. S. Warner. The saints here has had much to contend with in the way of false spirits and crooked preachers.

I say 'amen' to the little papers. We never can tell how much good a tract or a paper might do to some poor lost soul, and they can reach some one who never could otherwise hear a clear sermon. I have in mind a time when I fired a locomotive on the C. and O. Railroad between Ashland and Lexington, Ky. I sent for 10 lbs. of tracts, and took some of these each

time I went out on my trip until I had disposed of them all. The next summer I went to the camp-meeting at Jeffersonville, Ky. and while there a man and his wife came to me and asked me if I was the man that had put tracts in the depots along the Railroad. I told him I was, and he said that one of those tracts caused him and his wife to walk twenty-five miles to get to that meeting. Another man came to me at the same meeting and told me he had a son working on the Mason force, and this son brought home some of those tracts, one of which was on the Church. He had been a sect preacher, but that tract had convinced him and now he was preaching this truth, so we thank the dear Lord for those who are publishing the tracts and papers, and we surely feel that they are God-sent. I wish more would read them. We feel that those who are fighting the literature are the enemies of God's truth and pray that God may save them from such spirit before too late.

We need your prayers that the dear Lord may keep us down at Jesus' feet, and doing His precious will at all times. Remember the work at Liberty Hill. May the dear Lord bless you, Bro. Pruitt, in your efforts to do His will.

Your Bro. in the Faith, —Wm. Artrup

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Neosho, Mo. —Dear Bro. Pruitt and all: Will write you in Christian love. May the lasting grace of God be your portion all the days of your life is our prayer. All is well in our soul and body, ready for the appearing of the Lord.

We received your good letter, glad for it. It rained up north; only had 12 nights meeting, but it was good. The Lord blessed His word, sowed it deep in the hearts of souls who need Him very badly. One soul was saved in the meeting.

We are still having such good meetings here; the Lord is encouraging our hearts. I have just returned from Greenfield. Father and Mother Wilson are well and traveling on. They and I went to Springfield Wednesday, stayed for meeting Wed. night which was good. All were well there.

We can only do our best and leave the results with God. Surely He knows and cares. My heart is made sad to see so many dying souls going to hell without God. I have more than I can do here at home among the saints and others, but my heart goes out beyond that, so all pray for me. I am going to see inside the City by the grace of God. Be encouraged, Bro. Pruitt, do all the good you can and the God of peace shall be with you. Write as He may lead.

As ever, — Bro. Strech.

Fairview, Okla. —My dear Sister in Christ: Greeting in the dear name of Jesus who helps us in all our tests and trials and consoles our hearts when in sorrow. I don't know what would have become of me if the Lord had not comforted my heart in this sad hour. But truly He has been our help when it seemed that my heart was breaking; I would feel His very presence and I would feel His comforting words upon my wounded heart. God knows best, I will not murmur though the end I may not see; where e'er He leads I'll meekly follow, God's way is best, is best for me. It won't be long before the Lord will come, and then we will know and understand, until then I mean to be true and become more like Christ every day. More like Christ in self-denial, seeking not a life of ease, patient in the depths of trial that my Savior I may please.

“Though my heart is sad and lonely  
As the fleeting hours go by,  
Still I feel His blessed Presence—  
‘Trust my child, for I am nigh.’

Holy calmness, blessed quietness;  
Oh my Lord, this must be You  
Whispering precious words of comfort,  
In this bleeding heart still true.

Yes, my Lord, I will be faithful  
‘Till I reach that home land shore,  
Where with all the saints and angels  
We'll rejoice for ever more.”

Pray for us and come when you can. We are all well. Yours in love, — Lydia Eck.

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Loranger, La. —Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greeting in Jesus' name. May the Lord ever bless you and your family, keep you in the center of His will and continue to use you to win souls for Him.

I arrived home from my summer meetings about two weeks ago. Truly I praise the Lord for His goodness to us all, and for His love and unbounded favor and mercy which He has shown toward us. We are very grateful too, for the privilege of meeting with some of the dear saints and ministers whom we had never met before. God bless them all is our prayer.

We were in several good meetings after we left Springfield which was blessed much of the Lord. Some few found their way to the Lord, and we left them rejoicing. Praise His dear name. My heart is very much encouraged to press the battle on, and do all we can for Jesus. Pray for us that we ever do our best

for Him while He permits us to live.

With much love and Christian fellowship, I remain your Bro. in Christ for the whole truth,

— L. L. Perry

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Delaware, Mo. —Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greetings of love in the dear precious name of Jesus. Today finds me saved and enjoying the blessings of our dear Saviour who has done so much for us. Truly it pays to serve the Lord, for He is continually watching over and caring for His little ones.

On the 25th of Sept. I took very bad Rheumatism in my right arm and shoulder, and I suffered so badly for four nights. It seemed to be worse at night. On the fourth night husband went after Bro. and Sister Barton, and the prayer of faith was offered according to James 5: 14, 15 and the Lord healed me and raised me up according to His word. I haven't had it any more; praise His holy name forever and ever. I had been healed of this same affliction in the other arm in 1910, and never had it any more for 20 years. Who would do without such a wonderful Saviour as He? He not only saves the soul but also heals the body. So dear ones, don't be afraid to trust Him for soul and body, for I've proved Him these 25 years, and He never has failed in any of His promises. He has done so much for me and many others that I know.

I am writing this in hopes it might be of some encouragement to some one else. He also healed me of gallstone in 1910, and I've never been bothered with gallstone any more, besides all the other little things. What a mighty God we serve! Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Your Sister under the Blood, —Lizzie Harper.

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Fremont, Mo. —My dear Sister Pruitt: With pleasure I will write you in heaven's love this evening. We received your most welcome letter; surely was glad to hear from you again. Hope this finds you all well and encouraged to live for the Lord. We are all very well except Lily and Ellen. I think it is the flu they have. Sister Pruitt, we want you folks to remember them in prayer that the Lord will completely heal. They are quite sick. Myrtle has been sick too, but is some better now.

I am thanking and praising the dear Lord for free salvation that saves to the uttermost. How good the Lord is to His trusting children. His eyes are over the righteous and His ears are open unto their prayers. I found this to be true. Praise His holy name. I am glad it is fixed so that men cannot change the plan of salvation. We know the Word of God is forever

settled in heaven.

Sister Pruitt, are the saints going to have an Assembly meeting at Guthrie? I noticed in the paper there was going to be one at Springfield, Mo. How are all the saints at Guthrie? May God bless you all in every needed way. Remember us in your prayers. Write as the Lord leads.

Your saved Sister, — Elizabeth Glass.

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Visalia, Calif. —Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and family: Lois and I send all of you our very best greetings in the dear and precious name of Jesus. We have intended writing long before this, but have had quite a busy time, and it takes some time to get things in shape so we will have more free time. The Lord is wonderfully helping us and we are happy and encouraged.

The saints wanted us to come down to Los Angeles and other places about there, and we did for a few days so that put us somewhat behind with things here, however, we enjoyed our little stay and contact with the saints there, and the Lord blessed in the meeting at Los Angeles—a large crowd was out. Several of the places the saints wanted us to come back sometime for a meeting. Bro. Pruitt, it looks like you had better "come over and help us."

We stayed all night with Bro. and Sister Floyd at Pomona and enjoyed seeing and being with them again; reminded us of old times. We saw Bro. Clintons' also at Bro. Clarence Miles'. Bro. Clinton is very poorly.

We also got away and went up to Fresno for one service a couple Sundays ago.

Bro. Pruitt, we were certainly glad to get your nice letter and to hear the news from Guthrie. I hope the place you had arranged for Grandma has all worked out well. Poor soul, she is pitiful and it must be a task to take care of her. I hope she is well, and hope I can be in shape sometime to help some toward her care.

That was encouraging about the young man getting saved that you went to pray for. We were very glad to hear how the children are getting along. Lois is busy writing just now; we certainly have a stack of correspondence before us.

We received the "Faith and Victory" and mean to send you some subscriptions when we can get at it. May God bless you in the work and keep you encouraged.

Now I must be closing for this time. Please give all the saints our best Christian greetings, also all the saints at the City. In prayers and pleasant remem-

branches, we are ever your Bro. and Sister in the Lord,  
— Robert and Lois Longley.

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Okmulgee, Okla. —Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt:  
Greetings to you with love and to the saints scattered  
abroad. May the dear Lord continue His blessings  
on you and household.

I thought to write and tell of the glorious meet-  
ing the Lord gave us here at Okmulgee. It seemed  
as if heaven opened and poured out His Spirit in the  
building. The saints rejoiced, sinners sat in wonder.  
Oh, what a wonderful Savior. The Lord will stay  
with us if we will stay with Him. Praise His name  
forever; I feel like going on. The Lord fed Elijah in  
time of famine, so He will feed His church in time  
of this spiritual famine. Bro. and Sister, the famine  
is on hand, yes, and a great one, but God is with the  
Church. It takes all our time to watch and pray, fast  
and give, deny ourselves, take some of our hours thru  
the day while we work for ourselves and others, and  
give them to God, then let our minds stay on heavenly  
things and let our souls be so burdened for poor  
lost souls till we wake through the night, meditate  
on His Word insomuch that we pour out our hearts to  
Him in tears. Oh, how He does bless us when we are  
more concerned about others. Oh, Church of God, let  
us keep awake and busy.

I know what it is to hold on to God and not faint  
by the way. For a long time Satan did all he could  
to hinder me through husband, but the Lord worked  
for me and convinced him. I went with him this sum-  
mer to Tennessee. I told the Lord that if I could  
speak for Him, I would like to go, but just to take a  
trip for pleasure, I did not want to go, also asked  
some of the saints to pray with me. We stayed two  
weeks, and while we were there a pastor at a certain  
church learned that I was a speaker (not a preacher),  
and asked me to speak to his people. Of course the  
Lord made the appointment. I did; the large house  
was packed, and the Lord used His servant to His  
glory. It was my husband's first time to hear me  
preach God's Word in all these many years. My hus-  
band was so convicted that he said, you may go. The  
people had never heard the truth; their eyes stood in  
tears. The pastor had never heard the truth, and  
he said to the church, if we do not obey this message  
we all will be lost. The Lord managed the whole  
affair, and set me free to go and carry the gospel.

He that endureth to the end shall have a crown  
of life. I am determined through Jesus Christ who  
gives us His strength to go to the end. Yours for  
the Master and His cause. — Rora Dillahunt.

Rockvale, Tenn. —Dear Sister in Christ: Greet-  
ings in Jesus' name, and may He ever be your King  
of kings and Lord of lords.

Thank the good Lord this morning for full and  
free salvation that delivers from all sin. Glad we  
ever found the true way of holiness and by the grace  
of God we expect to keep walking right along in the  
path that Jesus trod. The devil roars on every side  
and throws out decoys, but our eyes are looking  
straight forward and we are more than conquerors  
through Him who loved us and washed us in His own  
precious blood.

We are still in the battle for truth and right here  
in this community. We have moved eight miles from  
where we first lived out here. Our lot now is among  
nothing else but sectism and compromise. However,  
we have our services at the same place, and the Lord  
has a little band here yet who want nothing but the  
Word of God.

We trust you all are well in body and flourishing  
in your souls. You have our good wishes and sincere  
prayers in your good work. Just be sure you let God  
have His way in all that you speak, write or do and  
you surely will be blessed. Yours in Jesus' love,  
— Mrs. W. C. Hughes.

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Bro. L. B. Kincheloe passed away on Nov. the 7th  
1930. He was buried on Nov. 10th at 1 o'clock. Ser-  
vices were held at Hatfield Mortuary, conducted by  
A. E. Pearidun of Denver, Colo. Text, 1 Thess. 3: 14.

Bro. Kincheloe made peace with God and was  
ready to go. He was sick quite a long time and knew  
he was not long for this world. He lived a good life.  
— Louisa Kincheloe.

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### Making Preparations, Yet Unprepared

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die,  
but after this the Judgment.” Heb. 9: 27. As we be-  
hold the lives of men and the universal preparations  
which they are making for dying and being buried, it  
causes us to realize that most men believe the truth  
contained in the fore part of this text that “it is  
appointed unto men once to die.” As we note the  
many cemeteries and memorial parks which are being  
laid out and prepared as a place for men to be buried,  
it makes us know that men have a deep inner conscious-  
ness that sooner or later they will die and be buried.

A proprietor of a concrete works in our town was  
showing me the vaults which different citizens of our  
city had ordered him to make for them. They were

still alive but had their vaults already made and waiting for them to die and be placed in for burial. All seem to know that they are going to die and are preparing for it, but how few really believe the latter part of this text, "but after this the judgment." By their actions, their deeds, their words and general conduct they prove to the spiritually minded that they do not in heart believe the latter part of this text, as very few are really making the necessary preparations to meet the Judgment. Most all die in their natural, carnal, unregenerated state; die in their sins unprepared to meet God.

Jesus said unto the Pharisees (religious people), "For if ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins." John 8: 24. Nearly all people by their actions and manner of life, (even though they may profess) prove that they do not believe in Christ. The few that do really believe in Christ find that His Spirit comes in and makes them new creatures; old things pass away and a new life is springing up in their soul, a pure life, a clean life, a holy life and it causes them to walk in His statutes, to keep His judgments and do them (Ezekiel 36: 27). There is a conscious knowledge, a great and real hope in their soul of a life with God beyond the grave. This living knowledge in the soul of immortality after death causes rest, peace, consolation and a deep-seated joy to continue to abide in their soul, even though they may be persecuted, abused, defamed and dishonored by men. The joy and comfort in the Holy Ghost remains undisturbed and they pray for their persecutors, having pity and mercy upon them. They no longer take the "natural course of this world" but continually seek His thoughts and His ways. As they receive His thoughts and walk in His ways they become a peculiar people, not understood by the worldly minded professor. They rejoice not in this life but in the life to come. They are no longer under bondage to the elements of this world through the spirit and power of Satan working through the carnal nature, because they now have the divine nature which gives them power and authority over Satan and all fleshly lusts that war against the soul. They are now lifted up and raised up together and made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Through the mighty working power of God, a great change has been wrought in their soul and their affections have been changed from earthly things to heavenly things, even on Christ who has passed into the heavens and has become their great High Priest who succors them in time of need. Their soul is continually nourished by things from heaven

as they "Live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." They eat that meat that the world knows not of; they eat the flesh of the Son of God and drink His blood and eternal life grows and increases and flourishes in their souls, even as the lilies and rushes by the water brooks. Their spiritual eyes have been opened by the Spirit of God and their understanding has ceased to be dull; their taste for heavenly things is keen and the relish is supreme, therefore they delight themselves in the Lord and receive the desires of their heart. The redeemed of the Lord are like a watered garden. Every thing is flourishing and though they may possess nothing, yet they are possessors of all things; the hills, the trees and all created life is speaking to their soul of the great "I AM," the "Alpha and Omega." They rejoice greatly with the created beings of God for they realize keenly concerning the horrible pit from whence they came, concerning the miry clay which they were in and how He set their feet on a solid Rock and established their goings, how He put a new song in their mouth, even praise unto our God (Psa. 40: 2, 3).

The greatest calamity and misfortune that could befall any man is the neglecting of his soul's salvation. He ought to prepare for his future state more than any thing else; the judgment is coming to every man, every woman, every boy and every girl and woe be unto them if they die unprepared to meet God. "Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after." 1 Tim. 5: 24. The only way that men's sins can go on before to Judgment is by confessing Christ with faith in the blood as an atonement, then their sins go on to God and He judges them innocent and they go free being uncondemned in this world, and then only are they prepared to meet God in peace. If men neglect the cleansing stream in this life, they will die in their sins and their sins will follow up after them. They will meet them there in the Judgment day and God will judge them unworthy of eternal life. Their sins will bar them out of heaven forever; sad day that will be indeed.

If it were possible to convey to the heart of the sinner the goodness of God as He really is, it would not be hard for him to repent, but the enemy of all righteousness seems to succeed in keeping hid from his view and knowledge the great and real goodness of God. Thus he droops on in darkness, being miserable, wretched, and without hope and without God in this world. The Word of God says, "There is no peace to the wicked, they are like the troubled sea, continually casting up mire and dirt." This witness is true;

but it need not continue to be so with the sinner. If he will only obey the word and repent and turn to God with all of his heart, he can be changed by the power of God in a moment of time, receiving peace, joy and righteousness in this life and the assurance of a home with God in the future. The only thing that is separating any man or woman from God or this peaceful, restful, joyous state is their sins and iniquities, and God has supplied a Mediator to bear these sins and iniquities away. The Mediator is the Son of God and He has fully completed His work and now it is up to man to repent of his sins and to receive the free gift of God. He must do this of his own free-will choice. He has individually offended God by committing sin and rejecting Christ, (God's offered mercy to lost mankind) so it is absolutely necessary that he become sorry and repent of this crime against His Creator, coming to God individually, asking God to forgive him of this great wrong, promising God and decreeing in his heart that he will henceforth obey and serve Him.

In Proverbs 28:13 we have a scripture that reads, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but who-so confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." First we must confess our sins and then forsake them, quit, cease to do them, then God will have mercy. In 1 John 1:9 we read, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." If man will be faithful to come back to God through repenting and confessing, God will be faithful and just with us, and will forgive and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. God will never fail any man that really believes for his salvation. The only hope that man has is given to us in Christ, and if in this life we neglect the cleansing stream, sad will be our end, for God has provided no other way for our escape. He is the "escape Goat," the "City of Refuge," the doorway to heaven; He declares Himself to be "The way, the truth and the life." He is the only hope for fallen man. The very fact that men are rejecting Christ, the Son of God, is exceedingly offensive to God the Father and is enough sin to bar them out of heaven forever. Oh, vain man return unto thy Creator, why will you die in your sins? Jesus says, "If you die in your sins, where I am ye cannot come."

Many false prophets are in the world today, and by handling the Word deceitfully they are deceiving and alluring many souls on to destruction, trying to comfort them in their sinful state by giving them hope after death. They wrest the scriptures from their true meaning to their own destruction and to the de-

struction of those that harken unto and follow their false ways. We urge you, dear sinner friend, to make your peace with God now. Jesus is your Savior now, but when He comes He will be your Judge, and if your sins be upon you your doom will be sealed forever. Hasten to His bleeding side. "The blood will work a perfect cure, will cleanse the heart and keep it pure."  
— Fred Pruitt.

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## An Exclusive Christ

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Jesus is the sovereign, universal King, and "only Potentate." He only is the Christ of God; He is the Savior of men, neither is there salvation in any other. "Ask of me," saith God in the covenant made with His Son in the untold ages of the past—"ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen (Gentile nations) for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." Psa. 2:8. Not only is He Lord over all the earth, but "when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him." Heb. 1:6. Jesus is King over heaven and earth, yea, throughout the vast universe. His kingdom, therefore, is an exclusive kingdom; it leaves no place for any other. It is the stone that breaks all other powers to pieces, and fills the whole earth.

His church is likewise exclusive. It is only to be expected that the Savior who gave his precious life to redeem us from sin, would jealously guard his redeemed church, and that any counterfeit would receive no recognition from Him. The Word of truth acknowledges no church besides the one founded by the Savior, and it is therefore our duty to recognize only this one. This church is the body of saved believers—"His body" (Eph. 1:22, 23; Col. 1:18, 24).

The Spirit of the God of the Bible is an exclusive Spirit. It repels and rejects every other spirit. God's children have all been "baptized by one Spirit into one body, and have been all made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Cor. 12:13). This all-searching and eternal Spirit in the hearts of the redeemed of the Lord takes cognizance of what kind of spirits dwell in the hearts and bodies of others who claim to be the worshippers of God. If of opposite character, there is no fellowship. If all are in possession of the pure and gentle Spirit and nature of God, the blessed elements of heaven, their hearts flow joyfully together; and this is fellowship, pure and heavenly, and the source of much happiness. Thus the Spirit of God endorses Himself and excludes all others.

The religion of Jesus Christ is exclusive in its nature. It compromises with no other. It justly assumes to be the only true religion and announces all others to be of the devil. This very characteristic has chiefly elicited the persecutions that have befallen Christ and His church in all ages. Had Christ been willing to fuse with Jewry and endorse along side of his own law the laws and the traditions of the Jews, they would not have crucified Him. Had the apostles grafted the new faith upon that Old Testament code that was ready to die and vanish away, then, says Paul, would the "offense of the cross have ceased."

At one time during the great persecution inflicted upon the saints of God by pagan Rome, the idolaters offered to spare the lives of the Christians and to give them religious liberty if they would but acknowledge the pagan gods and religion as also being genuine. But this the Christians could not do even to save their lives. Nay, only the system of divine worship that Christ founded is of God. It alone is the truth, and every other is false. As it was then, so it is now: to confess any religion but Christianity and any creed but the New Testament is to deny Christ. To confess that there is any true church besides the one Jesus built is to make God a liar. To be honest in the sight of God and to stand upon the offensive foundation of the exclusive Christ and His exclusive church, kingdom and religion, is what stirs the forces of opposition today and calls out what little persecution saints have to endure in these last days. This persecution, however, may yet assume degrees of severity. But, my soul says, let it come as the providence of God shall permit, and he will overrule it to His glory, to the more perfect purging of his sanctuary, and to the spiritual improvement of his remnant.

The sects would not mind our using the title given by the mouth of the Lord, namely, "the church of the living God," if we would only confess that all the sects are likewise churches of God—sister churches. But this would be confessing a falsehood. The Lord owns no sisterhood of sects, but ascribes "mystery Babylon" to Rome and her family of harlot daughters. This statement seems at first thought to be a hard saying. The Lord gave us eyes to see and ears to hear that we may receive the truth with unprejudiced hearts.

The Bible gives no place for a plurality of brotherhoods in Christ. "But one is your Father, and all ye are brethren," one family in heaven and earth (Eph. 3: 15). "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every

one members one of another." Rom. 12: 4, 5. Only "one body in Christ." As we discern that body and know that God has inducted us into the same, it would be dishonesty in the sight of God and a base, cowardly compromise to please men, to admit that several hundred other bodies are also in Christ. Yea, it would be making God a liar, since His Word says there is one body in Christ, only one.

John Winebrenner was too honest a man to sanction such a lie. Hence he taught an exclusive church of God, and as a result met with persecutions from the sects, who were unchurched by the Word of God. He and those with him, however, did not possess sufficient light to avoid forming another sect. This they did when they organized themselves together in general and annual eldership incorporations. Though they called themselves the church of God, they soon found themselves without that Bible holiness and that identity with the body of Christ which authorized an exclusive use of the sacred title, "The Church of God." And finding themselves no more that divine body than other bodies organized by men, and becoming more and more destitute of godliness, they felt the inconsistency in crying "sect" to their sister sects. So they dropped all opposition, confessed in plain words in their organ, that all the other sects were churches of God also, and consequently they are now received in peace in the Babel sisterhood.

But in the last few years God has raised up a people who fully discern the body of Christ. They have taken their stand upon the platform of "all truth," as it is in Christ Jesus. By the process of salvation they have been taken into the one fold of Christ (John 10: 9); the Lord himself added them to His own body, the church (Acts 2: 47). They teach and accept no condition of membership in the church other than those conditions found in the Word of God. And by a life of perfect obedience to the divine will and of faith toward God, they have this witness that they please God and are abiding in the one and only church of God, which is the body of Christ and which includes all the saved in heaven and earth. With perfect consistency and loyalty to God they resist every spirit but that which they have received of God; reject every other church (so-called) but that which Christ built upon the rock; and say to all honest disciples of Christ who have been falsely taught and taken by men into men's churches, "Come out of her. come out from among them." Though this is the point of offense and persecutions, yet by the grace of God we will not compromise the truth to save our lives.

All sects are associated on a plane of sisterly non-

exclusiveness. To teach one God, one Lord, one body, and then to continue in a divided condition is to be a subject for the scorn of unbelievers and to make it difficult to reach the lost. None of the sects holds a divine charter for its existence; hence none challenges the right and title of another. In other words, all are without foundation in the Word of God; therefore they agree not to question each other's foundation. All have glass houses, hence must not throw stones at one another. But we repeat that in these last days God has raised up a people who believe the Word of God and act accordingly. Christ has but "one fold," one church; and, knowing we are saved into this one fold, we must, in order to be consistent before God and to act out his Word, ignore every other (so-called) fold or church.

With a view of destroying the work of God, the enemies of Ezra and of Nehemiah proposed to join with them in building the temple and the wall. But they answered them, "The God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem." Neh. 2: 20.

They were then an exclusive people unto the Lord, and their reformation at Jerusalem was a grand type of the present reformation, in which God is restoring a pure Church, the bride, the Lamb's wife. "As the Lord liveth, what the Lord saith, that will I say." It would be bigotry for one sect to say, "We are the church, and all the rest are frauds." But for God's true saints, who "follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth," and belong only to Him, and adhere only in "His body, which is the church," and which includes all saved men in heaven and earth, in or out of sect folds—for such to talk of other churches would be inconsistent and God-dishonoring, yea, confusion. Therefore be sure you are right, then go ahead in holiness of heart and life.

"Noah condemned the whole world." One man mounted on eternal truth can safely defy all the devotees of human creeds and systems on earth. There is "one God." Amen. Then all others are idols. "One body." Amen. Then all sect bodies are excluded. "One Spirit." Then all spirits not in fellowship with the pure in heart are not of God. "One Christ." Then all others are Anti-christ. — D. S. Warner.

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### God's Church

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God's children are one family;  
There is one shelter from the cold,

One sacrifice for fallen man,  
One shepherd and one fold.  
Of all the so-called churches,  
Each thinks that he is right,  
But when we turn to God alone,  
We shall receive our sight.

Yet amid all the sect confusion,  
God's church shall rest secure;  
For no unclean thing shall enter in,  
For Jesus is the Door.  
No more in Babel darkness  
We never more shall be,  
For the way is very plain indeed,  
And anyone can see.

It's built on the sure foundation,  
Christ is the corner stone;  
From sects and creeds we are set free,  
And built on Christ alone.  
No more we serve a man-made creed,  
As in the days of old,  
For in the blessed evening light,  
We see God has one fold:

One fold is all God has for all;  
He is like unto a vine—  
The branches are His children here,  
Around Him they entwine.  
God's church is like a body,  
Its members are complete;  
There is nothing in it lacking,  
From head down to the feet.

Yet again it's like a city,  
Jerusalem most fair,  
And only those who are in Christ  
Shall ever enter there.  
Our soul is steadfast and unmoved,  
As billows around us roll;  
For in God's tender keeping,  
We each entrust our soul.

God's church is founded on a rock,  
In it we are secure;  
His family all have one name,  
Their garments all are pure.  
Christ brings us not in bondage,  
In Him we are set free;  
We have no certain church or creed,  
But CHRIST brings UNITY.

— Goldie Finch.