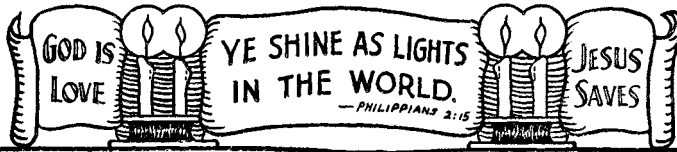


FAITH AND VICTORY

THIS IS THE VICTORY THAT OVERCOMETH THE WORLD, EVEN OUR FAITH. — I JOHN 5:4

HAVE FAITH
IN GOD



A PAPER
FOR ALL
CHRISTIANS

Volume 7, No. 9.

Guthrie, Okla., U. S. A.

December, 1931.

CHRISTMAS

When Jesus came to earth,
So long ago,
Most humble was His birth
In manger low.

But now He reigns on high
Above all things,
Lord of the earth and sky
And King of Kings.

Yet seeking for Him there
We find Him when
In child-like faith and prayer,
We're born again.

— DON MCGRON.

If We Only Knew

If we only knew the cares and trials,
Knew the efforts all in vain;
And the bitter disappointment,
Understood the loss and gain:
Would the grim eternal roughness seem—
I wonder—just the same?
Should we help where now we hinder,
Should we pity where we blame?

Ah! we judge each other harshly,
Knowing not life's hidden force—
Knowing not the fount of actions
Is less turbid at its source;
Seeing not amid the evil
All the golden grains of good,
And we'd love each other better—
If we only understood!

'ME'

The Bible is a very personal book. It was written for ME. All its warnings against sin are addressed to ME. Jesus died for ME. He arose for ME. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God for ME.

The Bible offers ME a personal salvation. Its sanctifying grace is offered to ME. If I ever see the inside of heaven, its teachings and preaching must be accepted by ME.

Its 33,000 or so promises are for ME. The grace of God is freely extended to ME. The comforting power and guiding influence of the Holy Spirit was designed for ME. The fellowship of the church is extended to ME.

The responsibility for the extension of the kingdom of God rest upon ME. For the support of the ministry, God looks to ME. The darkened millions in foreign lands hold out pleading hands to ME. The missionaries on the foreign fields needing support depend upon ME.

For the way I have fulfilled my stewardship, will God's condemnation or approval in the last great day rest upon ME? That depends upon ME!!!

THE HAPPY LIFE

I was born in the city of regeneration. I was educated in the school of obedience to God. Notwithstanding, I have a large estate in the country of Christian contentment. I many times do jobs of self-denial. I breakfast every morning on prayer and sup every evening on the same. I have meat to eat that the world knows not of, and my drink is the sincere milk of the Word. Thus, happy I will live and happy I will die. I have sound peace in my conscience, sanctifying grace in my heart, a Redeemer's yoke on my neck, a crown of glory on my head and a vain world under my feet.

This is the way to obtain such wonderful happiness—pray fervently, believe firmly, wait patiently, live holy, yes, live holy daily, love Christ and watch for Christ's coming in the clouds with power and great glory.

— Arizona Steen.

Church Government

By S. M. ROBERTS, *Part Two*

APOSTLES

The work of an apostle is one who is capable and able to lay the foundation, so to speak, and build from the ground up according to the word of God, directed alone by the Holy Spirit, a congregation of saints which is a local assembly of the great universal church of God in practice, name, and doctrine that come behind short in nothing. May God help us as a ministry to take heed to this blessed truth.

Now I believe that we all can see readily that there is something wrong. Too many things slipping in here and there, too many coming short or rather behind the standard. What is wrong now? Is it God's word, or the Holy Spirit, or the ministry? It is impossible to lay it on the saints, for the ministry was given for the perfecting of the saints and for the edifying of the body of Christ until we all come in the unity of the faith or doctrine as well as the unity of the spirit. (Eph. 4: 13). For the unity of the spirit co-operative with the unity of the faith brings us to the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect MAN.

Brethren, let us acknowledge the ministry complete—the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers—and let us recognize them in their place as they prove themselves in the work of the ministry, and at the same time realize that the government is upon Christ's shoulder and no other. So then, this ministry must take the law of God alone which is the word of God, the truth, as we are commissioned in Eph. 4: 15; speaking the truth in love, not ruling with an iron hand but in Christ's stead speaking His words only, using His spirit, the Holy Ghost alone, with no other object in view but the edifying of the body of Christ. For all that Christ spake was and is to the edification of the church. Selfishness, man-rule, man authority and ecclesiastism predominating will both kill, starve and scatter God's children, and where this rules instead of the government which was placed on Christ's shoulder, you will find divisions and subdivisions as they are plain to be seen among the saints in the last 23 years, all claiming to be the Church of

God. Some are claiming there is no difference fundamentally with the compromise faction and the fanatic faction and also with us, the Church of God, just a matter of conscience—but I declare unto you as one that knows that there are fundamental differences, for according to logic and reason and especially the word of God, anything that would divide God's children has a fundamental or rather is a fundamental.

THE RULE OR LAW

The Word of God is the creed and the only fundamental which the church and the ministry is commissioned to obey. In this evening dispensation and the near coming of the Son of God, there is much to be taken into consideration. First: the light of God's eternal Spirit and the revelation of Jesus Christ has shown itself unmistakably and void of any rebukes concerning the fundamental teachings and cardinal truths of this glorious divine New Testament Church and ministry; counting also the government and the ruling laws of procedure which is the only ruling and governing power to guide, direct and support the ministry with the church—not just under the auspice but under the complete ruling of the Holy Spirit alone. So what men might say and ministers of long standing, men of great ability and noble character cannot change the concrete expressive view in the divine government. The thing that men must first see is that the government is upon Christ's shoulder—that man has not given authority, man has not laid out laws which do or can govern the church, but only the Word of God accompanied by the Holy Spirit, either direct or indirect, can affect an organization to the extent that it can, with every member, function in its proper order and grow up in Him in all things which is the head even Christ. No matter what kind of standing man may have with the church, even though we are long standing ministers of noble character and have stood out as monuments of dependability and the church has never went wrong in taking our advice, our words or nothing without we speak God's word, yet we with our words and our ideas and opinions can neither make nor add one cubit to man's stature nor make one hair black or white, but God's Word only is the savour of life unto life or the savour of death unto death.

WORTH OUR CONSIDERATION

These are great outstanding principles, paramount above everything else. We should and must give due respect first to our God and His word, then the ministry. We must pay our brotherly respects to our brothers and sisters in the church, and there is a respect and honor that is due to the church collectively, and

as much as lies within me I intend to submit myself to my God, His word, and the blessed church of God and let brotherly love continue, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit, loving the brotherhood for these are principles that cannot be handled lightly.

Now remember, brethren, it is the "little foxes" that spoil the vine, and anything that will cause division among God's people will eventually work disaster to a man's own soul and life, and he will eventually or at last find himself barren and unfruitful, and little by little he will find himself cold and indifferent, worldly and at last lost. For the government is upon His shoulder—CHRIST. May God help us as the ministry to continue under Christ in His government, for one is your Master even Christ and all ye are brethren—so says the Master. Let us show the world a perfect man that has come to the fullness of Christ, a perfected company of saints, an edified body of Christ, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people. Let us not try to ride our opinions, even our liberty, over the brethren but be subject one to another and ALL we do, do to the glory of God.

Notice this scripture (Isa. 9: 7), "OF THE INCREASE of His government and peace there shall be no end." In other words, there will be no end to the increase of His government and of His peace. The longer the saints and the ministry of the real true Church of God are together, the more the body is edified, the more to a perfect man we become and the more of the increase of His government and His peace shall predominate in us. If our love one to another is not increasing, if the government of God among us is not increasing, if peace and perfect unity is not increasing and the Holy Spirit rule, then the government that is ruling us is not on His, Christ's, shoulder for the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end.

What Church Shall I Join? Let the Word Tell You

In Matt. 1: 21 it says, "His name shall be called Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." When people are saved from their sins they are in the Church. Matt. 16: 18, Jesus says, upon this Rock I will build *my Church*. He does not say churches, but my Church—Church of God. 1 Tim. 3: 15—the Pillar and ground of the truth. Col. 1: 18—He is the Head of the Church. Praise God. Eph. 3: 21, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus. Eph. 5: 23- 32, Now we are henceforth no more children tossed to and

fro with every wind of doctrine. Eph. 4: 14—by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

Salvation cannot be improved because it is the Word of God. Obedience to the Word of God is the Church of God. Anything that is contrary or out of harmony with the Word of God is not the beautiful Church of God. The Word is His counsel and will to be obeyed by the Church. Praise the Lord. We are not to be divided, but be one even as He and the Father are one—perfect in one (John 17). What He says to one, He says to all. The Holy Spirit will not lead some in the light, while the Holy Spirit, at the same time, leads others in another direction contrary to the light of His Word. No, God is gathering His people together in one body, and that is His Church. Praise the Lord; they see eye to eye, stand shoulder to shoulder and worship as one man; all lead and taught by the Holy Spirit—that is the beautiful Church of God. He separates the precious from the vile. The pure and redeemed ones are in the Church, while the vile are in the world, rioting with the world, following the fashions, going to worldly entertainments. The call is, come out from among them, and be ye separate and touch not the unclean thing and I (God) will receive you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord (2 Cor. 6: 17, 18). — Laura Richard.

Perfect Love

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." John 3: 16.

Picture shows and novels are, as they call it, inspired by love. Yes, the love of Satan, and truthfully should be called lust. Pure holy love has nothing in common with powder, lip-stick and the divorce evil.

Ruth had it when she proclaimed that "Thy people shall be my people and thy God my God"; willingly sharing the hardships of her old mother-in-law, not knowing what the future held for her—possibly starvation. Her mind was made up to share suffering for a righteous cause.

The three Hebrew children had it when the love of God empowered them to prefer the seven times heated furnace to popularity. Daniel, because the love of the true God meant more to him than all the world, preferred the company of lions, knowing all was well so long as God came first in his life. The love of God constrained Paul and co-laborers to suffer for Jesus' sake. Pure holy love cheerfully sacrifices anything, if necessary, for the furthering of God's kingdom, even life itself. — Marie Pauline Sass

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

EDITORIALS

This paper is edited and published each month (except August of each year which is Camp-meeting month and we omit this month to attend these meetings) by Fred Pruitt, assisted by Mary A. Pruitt, and other consecrated workers at Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.

Entered as second-class matter June 10, 1930 at the post office at Guthrie, Oklahoma under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES

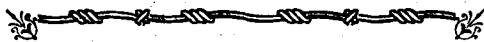
The "Faith and Victory" paper will be sent one whole year to any address for twenty-five cents. A roll of five papers will be sent each month to any address for one whole year for one dollar, or a roll of twelve papers will be sent each month to any address for a whole year for two dollars. If you send in a list of ten different addresses, the paper will be sent a whole year to all of them for two dollars.

A complete religious paper printed and sent out every month in the year except August in the interest of all Christians. 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 and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John and Paul preached, taught and practiced, including the Divine healing of the body. Jas. 5: 14, 15

Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. Read Exodus 25: 2; 1 Chronicles 29: 9; 2 Cor. 9: 7, and Luke 6: 38.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work 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 to Faith Publishing House.

"Work on, work on, nor doubt, nor fear,
From age to age this voice shall cheer:—
Whate'er may die or be forgot,
Work done for God, it dieth not."



FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE.

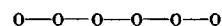
920 W. MANSUR ST. GUTHRIE, OKLA.

Phone No. 1523-J.

U. S. A.

With this issue you will note a new heading on front page of *Faith and Victory*. The old one has been more or less bother to us all the time, as it was one that we fixed together by pieces and we always had to tie it up with a string after using it to keep it together and in its place until we used it again. Also, it did not express the message to the people that we fully desired. In this new heading which we have had made by zinc etching you will find a number of messages expressed in a few words; just a few quoted scriptures which has or ought to have a great meaning to every Christian traveler.

First, we have the scripture found in 1 John 5: 4 which reads, "This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith." The forepart of this scripture says, "For whosoever is born of God overcometh the world." The words of Jesus are: "Ye must be born again," and the ones that are born again overcome the world. Let us see what the promises are to those that overcome. Turn to Rev. 2: 7 and read "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. This is a precious promise indeed. Read the eleventh verse: "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death." Seventeenth verse: "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written which no man knoweth, saving him that receiveth it." The twenty-sixth verse: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations." Turn to the third chapter of Rev., twelfth verse, and read the precious promise to overcomers in this verse. The 21st verse says: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am sit down with my Father in His throne." Compare this with the 16th, 17th and 18th verses of the 8th chapter of Romans. In the 21st chapter of Rev. is another rich promise to overcomers. Read the 7th verse: "He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be my son." Just think of these many great and rich promises to those that overcome the world, then consider the scripture in this heading, "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Therefore we have 'faith and victory'



The second scripture carries a message to every Christian pilgrim, "Ye shine as lights in the world"

Every born-again person, walking and living in the Spirit is giving out light and truth to those about them. We are in the midst of a crooked and perverse people who walk in darkness and the light which shines from heaven into our souls will point them to Christ who can save them from all sin and translate them from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of His dear Son. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." You let your light shine by keeping yielded to God in everything. On the heading you will notice two lights shining; one on the right and the other on the left of that scripture, "Ye are as lights in the world". These lights are to represent Christians that are continually letting their lights shine into the darkness of this world.

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The third scripture on heading is: "Have faith in God". The disciples did not understand how that Jesus made the fig tree dry up, and Jesus said, "Have faith in God". Many people today do not understand how one can be born again, they do not understand how God can heal sickness, open blind eyes and make the lame to walk; they do not understand how God can send the Holy Spirit into the soul of man, giving him power and guiding him in His ways. To all of these questions we would answer, "Have faith in God". Faith gives the victory and we see God doing the impossible things.

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Fourth, "God is Love". Truly, God is love. Read John 3: 16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Again we read in 1 John 4: 16, "God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." Jesus manifested God in the flesh, and He says John 15: 13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." It is true that no man has a greater love than to lay down his life for his friends; but Jesus had greater love than that, for He laid down His life for His enemies and those that hated Him. Truly, 'God is love,' and the light of Christians in the world today is the love of God shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto them. It manifests itself to the converted in kind deeds and acts, also to enemies and to those that hate them. "Ye shine as lights in the world."

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The fifth message is: "Jesus saves". Truly, God has planned that through Christ all men can be saved,

for He is the Savior of the world, and Peter says, "For there is none other name under heaven, given among men whereby we must be saved". Acts 4: 12. The angel told Mary to call His name Jesus for He would save His people from their sins. When Philip went down to Samaria he preached Jesus unto the people. When Paul was converted and the scales fell from his eyes and he was baptised, it is recorded that "straightway he preached in the synagogues that Jesus was the Son of God". John bear record of Jesus and said, "Behold the Son of God which taketh away the sin of the world". Jesus said, "I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved and shall go in and out and find pasture." Again He says, "I am the way, the truth and the life." So if we get in Him we are in the way, have the truth and the life. Glory to God in the Highest, peace on earth and good-will toward men.

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Truly, the new heading contains real messages to all Christians, and the ministry of "Faith and Victory" is to bring the good news of salvation through Christ to all people, that the saints will be edified in soul and have an opportunity to co-operate in getting the real gospel of Christ to the souls that wander in darkness.

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The print shop, our lives, the paper and all are the Lord's to be used wholly to His glory. To God who has done so much for us, it is the most reasonable thing for us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, and this we do with all our heart, willingly and gladly.

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We ask each and every one of our readers to pray for us and do all you can to get this paper going to as many homes as you can during the coming New Year of 1932. You will find in this paper some unusual special offers—premiums which we give to those who get subscribers for the paper.

We will soon be in the ninth year of this publication, and we expect the Lord to make 1932 the best year yet of the paper's usefulness. With your prayers and co-operation, and the leading and guiding of God's Holy Spirit, we are fully persuaded that the Lord will make this *Faith and Victory* paper shine as a beacon light in this dark world of sorrow, sin and strife.

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We are expecting to order paper soon to print a large quantity of tracts. A great many will be restocked, and a number of new ones will be printed. Some new ones are already printed and ready to send to those who want them. The titles of some new ones

are as follows: "Snakes in an Atheist's Grave". This man defied the living God while the Lord was good to let him prosper in this world's goods. He said while living, "If there is a God, my grave will be inhabited with snakes." When he died and they took him to the cemetery to bury him, they had to remove a snake from the grave before they could lower the casket. His grave has been infested with snakes ever since. People go from many states to see his grave and to see the snakes. They always see them. This tract ought to convert any atheist. Other titles are: "God Uses Those Who Are Broken"; "Devil Possession"; "Life Insurance"; "A Husband's Challenge"; "The Unique Christ" and "If The Foundations Be Destroyed, What Can The Righteous Do?" This last one is a pamphlet written by A. E. Harmon.

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The other week a car of us had the pleasure of going to Ringwood, Okla. and having meeting with the saints at that place. We went on Saturday and came back to the Office on Monday morning. We found the saints encouraged with good victory in their souls, and the Lord blessed in the services which a goodly number attended. They have a hall on the main street of the city where they have Sunday school and meeting. Bro. D. A. Eck superintends the Sunday school. Sister Margaret Johnson-Eck teaches the Bible class and Sister Carolina Eck does the preaching. Sister Carolina is just beginning to preach, feeling the hand of the Lord upon her for this service, and others are noticing the calling. Pray for the work there, as these are earnest Christians, and some of the new converts are greatly alive in Christ and are sinking down into God.

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With this issue of the paper we are starting a "Young People's Section" where space will be given for young Christians to have short articles and also testimonies. We are expecting the young people to take an interest in this section. My son, Lawrence, who is helping us in the Office as linotype operator, will conduct this Young People's Section, assisted by Verta O'Raine who is also helping here in the Office. It encourages our heart to see young people take an interest in spiritual things. It seems that God has His hand on Lawrence for the printing work, and this pleases us much as the desire of our heart is that this machinery be kept busy for the printing of the gospel long after our body is laid beneath the sod, if the Lord tarries and this be His will and pleasure. May God give you knowledge and wisdom in praying for us and the printing work and workers.

Prayer Request

Bro. W. M. Wilson who lives at Canehill, Ark. is in a critical condition physically. He has not been able to walk at all for six months, and his wife and daughter have been under a great trial, caring for him day and night. They have been so hindered in work that they are in financial straits, and need the sympathy, prayers and co-operation of the saints and others. Bro. Wilson has been a true gospel minister for over forty years and many souls have found the Lord through his labors. He has given his life for the cause of Christ. We are sure that God will bless those who write to the family to encourage their hearts in this time of distress. All of the dear saints should earnestly pray for this family and for dear old Bro. Wilson that God will comfort and give him ease in his last few hours. Free-will offerings to these dear ones in this time of sickness and trouble will be greatly appreciated and God will certainly bless the givers.

Bro. S. M. Roberts, a minister of the gospel and pastor of the Oklahoma City congregation, has been afflicted in body for a long time. He is looking to the Lord earnestly for his healing. We want all the saints to agree in prayer for him on Sunday, the sixth day of Dec. at eleven o'clock. While you are praying for him, remember Bro. W. M. Wilson and family also.

PRAYER REQUEST

We are in receipt of a telegram from Sister Robart of Minn. asking us to be agreed in prayer for Bro. J. J. Robart who was injured in a car wreck. He was taken to a hospital and the bones will not set. Earnestly pray for him, also for Sister Roba

Assembly Meeting Notice

The Oklahoma Church of God Assembly Meeting will be held at Guthrie, Okla. during the holidays, beginning on the 25th of Dec. (Christmas day) and lasting ten days. The Church of God Chapel is located on corner of Sixth and W. Warner Sts. This Assembly meeting at Guthrie has long been noted for its great soul-feast and spiritual rejoicing, and we are expecting this meeting to be the usual good meeting. We welcome everybody to come and hear the gospel of salvation, healing and the oneness of God's people as founded in a Biblical soundness. Let all true ministers come and bring your friends and others with you. This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan as usual, and let every one do their best to h

along as God moves upon your heart or as the Word of God teaches you. There will be a dining room where meals will be served free for all, and as many as possible will be provided a place to sleep.

It always has been so and is so now: "The more you put into a meeting the more you will get out of it." Jesus says, "Give, and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down." Send all provisions for the meeting to G. W. Winn, 1309 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla. Send the money you have for the meeting to Fred Pruitt, 924 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. This meeting, being in the winter, is more expensive than the summer meetings, and each congregation ought to collect money for this meeting. We are all looking forward for a precious gathering of saints and an outpouring of His Spirit. All pray and prepare to be here in the meeting.

— By State Assembly Board.

ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Annual Holiday Assembly will be held at Los Angeles, Calif., beginning Dec. 24th, 7:30 p. m. at the Church of God chapel, corner of Walnut and Naomi Sts., located one block east of Central Ave. on Washington Blv'd and one block south.

Because of the financial depression, which has not exempted the church, we suggest that each one, as far as possible, come prepared to care for themselves; while those who are financially able come prepared to help those who are not. With this spirit, we are sure that none need stay away, as all will be cared for.

For further information write to any of the following: G. E. Harmon, 334 Arden Ave., Glendale, Calif.; L. E. Davy, Duarte, Calif., or E. M. Zinn, Bellflower, Calif.

— Emily Turner,

1130 E. 41 St., Los Angeles, Calif.

"The Farm Home" For Sale

"The Farm Home" is the title of a book written by Marie Pauline Sass, Haigler, Nebr. It is cloth bound with large clear print; will be very interesting to you and to your boy or girl. Send to the above address for this book. She will postpay them to you for 75 cents each.

The Church of God has but one foundation and it is laid;

No human church will stand for it is laid on the wrong foundation—

God's Church is holy for it has a holy foundation,
God's Church is heavenly for it has a heavenly foundation.

A Special Offer Until Jan. The 10th

This is an unusual offer. We want you to get yourself or friend a Christmas present. We will send you the song book, "Select Songs", if you will send us four subscriptions for *Faith and Victory* paper at 25 cents each. Just enclose a dollar and four subscriptions (you can include your renewal as one of them if you like), and we will send you this splendid word edition song book, having 176 pages and containing 155 songs, many of which are old-time hymns and some of the later ones—a good variety. It is beautifully bound with Detroit Embossed cover. It would be a good Christmas present for your pastor, evangelist or any one who loves songs. We postpay this book to any address for 25 cents.

* * * * *

"Steps To Christ" is the title of another book that would make a good Christmas present. It has 128 pages, beautifully illustrated with pictures. It teaches the great love that God has for men and women. We will postpay this book to you for 25 cents, or will send it free for four subscriptions to *Faith and Victory* paper.

* * * * *

A 1932 Scripture Calendar will be postpaid to you for 30 cents, or we will send you four of them for \$1.00. We will send you one of these Calendars for five subscriptions to *Faith and Victory* at 25 cents each. Any one of these articles will make a splendid Christmas present.

* * *

If you want to order a Bible, send for our circular catalog of descriptions and prices.

* * *

We want to get a large list of new subscribers to begin taking the paper at the beginning of the New Year. Will you help us to do this by sending in subscriptions? You will be doing service for God in getting the paper into new homes. People often get saved after reading the paper a few months. God needs YOU in His vineyard. You cannot do all things but you can do some things; the things you can do, you ought to do. Nearly all souls are lost and doomed for eternal destruction unless someone throws them a life line. If your friend was drowning in the water and you threw him a rope to save his life, and he would not take hold of it, he would be to blame for not saving his life—not you! Do all you can to save souls that the blame may not rest upon you if they are lost.

Meeting Reports

Sister Allie McAdams of Anthony, Kansas writes us that they have had a good meeting at that place. She says in part: "Bro. Roberts and Bro. Ostis Wilson Jr. and wife held two weeks' meeting. Three were saved, one sanctified and all encouraged to press on. Praise His precious name." She asks our sincere prayers for the little flock at Anthony.

(In last month's paper we stated that Bro. Strech was helping in this meeting. It was a mistake -Ed.)

Neosho, Mo.— Dear Bro. Pruitt and family: We write you in bonds of holy love today. We are praying the Lord to bless you in every needed way, and trust He is keeping you with plenty of grace and courage to meet every oppression and to stand the storms of life. I believe He will. We are still traveling on up the grade with victory. Praise the Lord.

The saints here are all doing well. Some of them are sick. Mother Freeman is very sick; heart worn out it seems. Bro. Seivers has an infection on one limb, very bad indeed. Sister Allen fell and sprained one limb; she is in very bad condition, so we are having storms, but the good Lord has touched her and she is much better than she was. Through it all, we will make it through by His help and grace.

We have just closed a two weeks' meeting here with ten souls saved, seven sanctified and a number healed. We are glad and the Lord is glorified. There are between 50 and 60 saints here now.

Keep your courage and pray for us that God will make us a blessing to fallen humanity, and that we teach the Lord's people aright, and do all we can for the upbuilding of His kingdom. I want to get to the Assembly if I can. But don't know yet whether or not I can. Pray for the Lord to have His way and I am sure all will be well. May God richly bless you and encourage your hearts for Jesus' sake.

We will be glad to hear from you and to know of your affairs at any time.

Yours in Him, — Bro. Strech.

The Mark Of Circumcision

The mark of circumcision which God put upon Abraham and his seed is the mark put upon all of God's people to the end of this time world. To literal Israel it was the mark in the flesh; to spiritual Israel it is the mark in the spirit (Rom. 2: 29). To be circumcised in heart (this is the circumcision made with-

out hands, Col. 2: 10, 11) means death to the flesh and the world—the two mighty weapons in the hand of the devil (John. 17: 16; Rom. 7: 8, 9). Under the Law no one uncircumcised could partake of the passover lamb or supper. Their passover lamb was a type or shadow of the Lamb of God (John 1: 29; John 6: 53- 56). Under the Gospel no one uncircumcised can partake of Christ, our spiritual passover.

In Luke 22: 16 Jesus says, I will not any more eat thereof with you, meaning the passover, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. Neither would He drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God shall come. This kingdom of which Daniel prophesied and Jesus spoke so much about was set up on the day of Pentecost. This kingdom is righteousness and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost (Rom. 14: 17). In other words, this is the gospel feast of which the Psalmist says, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over, etc." There's not another such table where the sanctified soul partakes of the broken body and the shed blood of the Lamb of Calvary. The oil is typical of the Holy Ghost. The cup means the fellowship with Jesus Christ and His holy saints.

The poet sings, "Free from the law, oh happy condition." I tell you, the whole world is under the law (Gal. 3: 22- 29). Only those who are circumcised, cut loose from the world, abiding in Jesus, obeying His commandments, are free from the Law. He is the end of the Law for righteousness to every one that believeth (Rom. 10: 4; Rom. 6: 14). The Law required perfect obedience. It gives knowledge of sin, it does not justify, but it brings the awakened soul to Christ the Justifier (Rom. 3: 20).

Read Gal. 5: 19- 25; notice there are two lists— one the works of the flesh, the other the fruits of the Spirit. Look over the professing world and see the hatred, wrath, strife, murders, revelings, and notice the Sunday revelings of every kind. Only the circumcised "in Christ" bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, against such there is no law. — Bro. & Sister Wetzel

A letter from a Brother living in Springfield, Mo. is encouraging. He writes: "Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, I am praising the Lord this evening for the many blessings bestowed upon us. Praise His dear name. Glad wife and I ever learned to trust in Him. I am enclosing one dollar for following subscription to *Faith and Victory* paper. Wife and I get much encouragement from the paper. By the help and grace of God I will serve Him."

« Young People's Section »

There Is A Room

My problems are so great today!
 There is a room where I must go
 And close the door, and kneel to pray,
 And only God shall know.

A room where I have often knelt,
 And agonized, and prayed, and plead,
 Until, all comforted, I felt
 God's hand upon my head.

A room I seek when I am glad,
 To thank the Giver of it all.
 Without Him I should not have had
 These joys I have, at all.

Within my house is one small room,
 A haven from distress and care.
 I turn to it--and through the gloom
 Seek God, and find Him there. —Sel.

We want all young Christians to feel that this is their section and they should take interest in it. Also, we want you to express to us the merits and demerits of the step we have taken. Most of all, we desire your earnest prayers that God's will be carried out in every minute detail.

Your young Bro. in His service, — L. D. P.

The Diary Of A Bible

Some people keep a diary at least for a while. According to the Bible Institute a Bible sometimes keep a diary. Here it is:—

Jan. 15— Been resting quietly for a week. The first few nights of this year my owner read me regularly, but he has forgotten me I guess.

Feb. 2— Clean up. I was dusted with other things and put back in my place.

Feb. 8— Owner used me for a short time after dinner, looking up a few references. Went to Sunday School.

April 2— Busy day; owner led League meeting and had to look up references. He had an awful time finding one, though it was right there in its place all the time.

May 5— In Grandma's lap all afternoon. She is here on a visit. She let a tear-drop fall on Col. 2: 5-7.

May 6— In Grandma's lap again this afternoon. She spent most of her time on 1 Cor. 13 and the last four verses of the 15th chapter.

May 7, 8, 9— In Grandma's lap every afternoon now. It's a comfortable spot. Sometimes she reads me and sometimes she talks to me.

May 10— Grandma's gone. Back in the old place. She kissed me goodbye.

June 3— Had a couple of four-leaf clovers stuck in me today.

July 1— Packed in a trunk with clothes and other things. Off on a vacation, I guess.

July 7— Still in the trunk.

July 10— Still in the trunk, though nearly everything else has been taken out.

July 15— Home again, and in my old place. Quite a journey, though I do not see why I went.

Aug. 1— Rather stuffy and hot. Have two magazines, a novel and an old hat on top of me. Wish they would take them off.

Sept. 5— Clean up. Dusted and set right again.

Sept. 10— Used by Mary a few moments today. She was writing to a friend whose brother had died, and wanted an appropriate verse.

Sept. 30— Clean up again.

THE END.

To the young people scattered abroad: We send greetings of Christian love in the name of our Savior who has provided a plan of salvation whereby everyone, young and old, may be saved from sin and be prepared to live with the Lord in eternity.

For some time we, the young folks at the Office, have felt that it would be to the glory of God, the advancement of His cause, and the encouragement of young Christians that we have a portion of this paper especially for the young people who are saved and have a sincere desire to see other young folks saved.

We realize the responsibility of this undertaking, also our inability of being useful except the Lord leads, guides and gives grace. At starting, our decision is to let the Lord have His free will and way in what should be printed. No person has a monopoly on this section. God's Spirit has complete, exclusive control of it entirely. If this section is in God's will, it will fulfill its purpose whether it appears so or not. If the Lord definitely leads you to write through this section, then that is His will.

We desire the co-operation of every Christian that this section be all that the Lord wants it to be.

Young reader, if you know of any young person that does not receive this paper, you can help by getting his subscription or subscribing for him. A year's subscription is only 25 cents. (This is the best and cheapest Christmas present that you could buy for your friend. Why not give a present for your friend's soul this time, instead of his body, because the soul is more important?)

As this is in the young people's section, each young person especially should consider closely the preceding diary sketch, and see how much improvement you have made or can make in reading the Bible. After reading above diary, what is your first thought? In comparison to this, how much better or more complete would be the diary of your Bible?

In reading the Bible we should search for and observe the truth—not for the mere pleasure of reading its high-sounding expressions or as a burdensome duty. Not how much we read, but that part which we digest, absorb or assimilate into daily living counts toward Christian perfection. To understand clearly and definitely, the Bible must be read in the same spirit in which it was written. If the writer and the reader have the same Spirit, why should there be a mis-understanding? We know that the Scriptures were written by the inspiration of God's Spirit, then if we do not see the truth clearly, it is because we either failed to read, or reading it we disbelieved, or have not God's Spirit, or having it, have not let it operate freely.

Our purpose in reading the Scriptures should be to improve ourselves by God's grace in the Christian life, and we want to improve because God's love constrains us and the soul is unrestful and dissatisfied until it reaches the climax of perfection. Who is he with soul so dead that it does not eagerly and anxiously crave for a Divine life?

God's Word is bread or food if it gets into the soul or heart, for out of "the heart are the issues of life." Many times the Bible is read with the mind, but it will not profit until it reaches the heart. Mental knowledge of right and wrong will not engender a heartfelt spirit. God must implant His words in our heart. Mark this: God's words, teachings and truths cannot be implanted in the heart by any man. It may be conveyed to the mind, but the Spirit must work upon the heart.

Men and their words will pass away, but "the Word of the Lord endureth forever." The Christian's present and future life is founded on God's Word, so why should we not search it, believe it, obey it, and see that our Spirit corresponds with its teachings, and make sure of that which means everything—eternal salvation.

Extracts From Our Mail

An evangelist in Ky. writes us as follows: "I just received the song book, 'Select Songs', and it is the very thing I want." This Brother ordered twenty of them and he expects to order more later. These books are small and handy for evangelistic work.

Another Brother from La. writes thus: "We like the song book very much. You are surely making much improvement in your printing work. This book is first class workmanship, and the collection of songs

is good. I will show the copy to the saints and maybe we will send you an order soon."

We printed two thousand of these books for Bro. Cullor, and we have them here at the Office for sale at twenty-five cents each, or twenty or more for twenty cents each. We expect to have them here all the time as Bro. Cullor intends to have more printed when these run low. Just order any quantity you may want.

* * * * *

"I am enclosing herewith a check for five dollars to cover balance due you on tracts to be printed, entitled "Sliding into Hell". I am also enclosing manuscript that I would like to get made up into tract form soon if you can get to it, and if it meets with your approval. I trust that I can get this done soon. You can send me an estimate on what it will cost."

This comes from a Brother living in Oklahoma. He has been financing the printing of several tracts which he has us to print and circulate to the people. In this way he is getting much truth to many souls. We think this is a splendid way for individuals to work. Just pick out certain tracts which you believe will do good and finance the printing and keep it in stock here at the Office all the time so it can be continually sent to people needing and wanting tracts. We love to print and send tracts out to folks that send in orders for them; but we do not always, not near always, have means to buy the paper that it takes to print tracts. In this way, we can all be helpers together in the gospel work.

* * * * *

A letter from a Brother living in the northern states writes us an encouraging letter and sends ten dollars to help with Grandma Spradling's upkeep, five dollars for the Free Literature Fund, and five dollars to help put the article in tract form entitled, "Life Insurance". He rejoices that we are able to send the tracts to other lands and asks God to bless them to the saving of some dear souls. He loves to help along in the work of God as long as God lets him have means. He realizes that he is only a steward over what God has placed in His hands. He also desires several different kinds of tracts to be sent to him.

* * * * *

A Brother writing from Kansas asks us to send him eight of the little books entitled, "Helps To Holy Living", and also wanted a goodly supply of tracts. He sends two dollars to help the work along. He is interested in getting good literature before the people.

* * * * *

A dear Brother writes us from Calif. as follows: "I greet you in the precious name of Jesus. I am

glad I can report real victory in my soul. The Lord is so good to me. His good hand is leading me through this dark world. I want to thank you for the good paper, *Faith and Victory*. I derive much good to my soul in reading the articles it contains. May God bless you and help you to keep the paper clean, sending out the good news to hungry souls, is my prayer. I am sending one dollar to help Grandma Spradling. God bless her and the woman that has the care of her. I am sending twenty-five cents for the book, *Select Songs*, and also please send me one of the booklets, *How Do I Look?*"

* * * *

Nebr. —Dear Sister: Received your letter and handkerchief. I am surely thanking the Lord for what He has done for me and my mother. He has healed her and she can't thank Him enough for what He has done.

Pray for us that we may go on and serve Him and never turn back into sin. Pray also for my husband that he trust in the Lord. Praise the Lord is my song. May the Lord bless us and our home.

I am sending 25 cents to pay for the *Faith and Victory* paper. May the Lord be with you.

Your Sister in Christ, — Daisy Burchett

The Old People's Home

This is an appeal to the saints everywhere in behalf of the Old People's Home at Pomona, Calif.

We feel like stirring up the pure minds of the saints to deeper consecration on the part of some who could do a little towards the upkeep of the Home. If your own father or mother were in the Home and not enough means to care for them as they should be, would you not feel some responsibility? Could you sit down to a good square meal and enjoy it, knowing your father and mother were hungry? Would you not stir yourself to prayer and begin to investigate and see what you could do, or would you say, "Oh, I have a sister living close by them, let her see after them"? Well, that is just what you are doing now, but suppose that sister is doing at present all she can and yet there is a lack, does that lessen your responsibility?

Here in the Home are some dear old saints and others wanting to come who are looking, longing and waiting for some one to help prepare a home and care for them. When they come, the two units we now have are full. Who will say, here am I, use me and mine? But some will say, "Charity begins at home"; sure it does—at the Old People's Home. Would you

not have more concern about your dear old father and mother's welfare than your own? Well, here are some of them here in the Old People's Home that need your help, so try to help if only a little; "just remember while you are young that the day is to come when you will be old and only in the way." Times are so hard, I can't help, say some. Don't you think these old people are feeling the hard times as well as you? What about the nickles you spent for chewing gum, face powder and other unnecessary things? Just try putting these nickles or pennies in a box and at the end of the month it will astonish you when you count it, then send it to Jennie C. Ratty of Pomona to be used for Old People's Home, and God will bless you.

Please pray over this matter and listen and hear what God is saying to you. I hear some one say, it takes all I can raise above my living to pay my dues on my life insurance. If you are truly saved and sanctified, you have no life (of your own) to insure, for "you are not your own, you are bought with a price" and the purchase price is "the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ" then you are not insuring your life, but the life of Christ. "We are the body of Christ"; does He need His life, or body, insured? "We are dead and our life is hid with Christ in God." So why dishonor Him by having His life insured in a worldly, ungodly life insurance company? Just save your money given to such wicked people and send it to the Old People's Home; it will be much safer there. Some say, "I have a self life independent of Christ." Oh, you have? Well, then this article is not for you; it is for those who are "crucified with Christ". Some will say the Bible says, "If a man provides not for his own, he has denied the faith and is worse than an infidel." Yes, it also says, "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord." Jer. 17: 5.

Here is one way one may deny the faith by not obeying Jer. 49: 11, "Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let thy widows trust in me." Read the 6th chapter of Matt. 19th verse to end. If we obey the above mentioned scriptures we will not deny the faith, but if we do not trust or believe in them and many more like promises, we have denied the faith already. It is right to "provide for our own" by the "sweat of our brow" but where does the Bible say insure your life (if you had one to insure) to "provide for your own"? Some are saying, I wish I could help a little towards the Old People's Home. I'm trying to show you if you will listen. We are taught of God to trust Him. If we don't do it, we are "denying the faith". Under the Law one tenth of all pro-

duced by His people belonged to God. If they gave anything, they gave it out of their own, over and above the tenth. Now under Grace all belongs to God—soul, body, and pocketbook. Now the question should be, Lord, how much may I give to the Old People's Home. Some are still trying to tithe. How can we do so since we have nothing to tithe from—it is all God's? No more can we insure our lives, since we belong to God. "Whether we live or die, we are His," so saints, quit gambling with life insurance companies with your life (or Christ's life) as the 'stake'. "He that giveth to the poor shall not lack." Prov. 28: 27. "Freely give, freely receive." An old man once said, "Ven I gif's villingly, it rejoices me so much I gif's it again." The more you give the more you receive. A minister, on entering his pulpit, put 50 cents in the box. After meeting was dismissed, he took just 50 cents out of the box. His little boy says, papa, if you had put more in the box you would have taken more out. That is true in spiritual things—if we put but little in God's cause, we will not get much out of it. Methinks I hear some say, I wish the saints would attend to their own business. Yes, so do I; that is why we are writing to you and urging you to attend to this part of your business—to do all you can for the Old People's Home and you will lay up treasures in heaven, which is much safer than life insurance, and God will bless you spiritually and financially.

Yours, in the interest of the Old People's Home and the cause of Christ in general, — G. E. Harmon

CORRESPONDENCE

Springfield, Mo. —Dear Bro. Pruitt: Today finds me enjoying the presence of God.

I was chopping wood yesterday and cut three of my toes. They bled lots but haven't pained hardly any. We had prayer and the Lord seemed so very near. One who is so good as to even number the hairs of our head, we know will care for all of His little ones.

It makes me glad to know you are giving your time and talents all to the glory of God, even as Bro. Warner says: "The printing press is throwing ink at the devil." You are in a good work for the Lord. I am praying that you keep encouraged because the devil is roaring against every good work that belongs to God. The time is coming that we shall reap if we faint not.

We 'little' folks need your prayers that we may be faithful till the coming of God when we shall be forever in the presence of God with all the holy angels. Time is so short, death is sure and the reward is certain that we cannot afford to miss it.

Your saved Brother, — Paul Gibson.

Hennessey, Okla. —I feel glad to write my testimony in the little paper. Glad that I can report victory over the powers of the enemy. Am saved and sanctified; all on the altar for the dear Lord. Where He leads I mean to follow. Praise His dear name. He is a wonderful Savior. He heals me when I am sick. He encourages me when the enemy comes to discourage.

He gave us a wonderful meeting at Salt Creek, also at Tallahassee. It seemed like the blessings of God rained down. Numbers were saved and sanctified and our hearts were encouraged to press on and upward.

Pray that I will live true to God, and be all in this life that His precious Word demands.

Your saved Sister, — Annie Wiley.

Texas. —Dear Sister in Christ: Greeting in Jesus' dear name. I praise Him for all His love and goodness to us. I am glad that I found this way and accepted it. I have been in this way for seven years and have never got tired of it, for it grows sweeter to me every day. I feel my weakness, and I am still praying for more grace and wisdom. I thank Him for His healing virtue. I want to love and trust Him more. I want to do all that He wants me to do. I just want to win souls for Him. Bless His dear name.

May the Lord bless His children everywhere, and help the lost to see their condition. Pray for me that I may grow stronger in the Lord.

Your Sister in Jesus, — Marietta Lundy.

Frankfort, Ky. —Dear ones: There are evil powers, but Jesus is greater than all evil powers. There are tremendous diseases, but Jesus is a Healer. There is no case too hard for Him. The Lion of Judah shall break every chain. He came to relieve the oppressed and to set the captive free. He came to bring redemption, to make us as perfect as man was before the fall.

People want to know how to be kept by the power of God. Every position of grace into which you are led—forgiveness, healing, deliverance of any kind—will be contested by Satan. He will contend for your body. When you are saved, Satan will come round and say, "See, you are not saved." The devil is a liar. If he says you are not saved, it is a sure sign that you are.

— Nannie Brumsback.

Akron, Ohio —Faith Pub. House and saints scattered elsewhere: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am still saved, sanctified and standing on the

whole truth (old-time way) against every false way, compromisers, semi-compromisers and fanatical ideas.

We are having meeting on the corner of Bitter-taker and Chittender Streets, rear entrance. We will be glad to meet any of God's people going through. We ask the prayers and co-operation of all the saints as the Holy Spirit and Bible stirs your heart.

Your Sister in full assurance of faith,

— Cordelia R. Jones.

The Gentile Age

By F. M. Fowler.

Let us notice the manner in which this world is to pass away. "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (2 Peter 3: 10). Before uttering this language Peter gives a description of the scoffers who were to come in the last days. They are now numerous, which is positive proof that we are now in the evening of time. "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders, insomuch that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matt. 24: 24). Behold, I have told you!

We will here insert some of the writings of a noted false prophet of our time, for time has proved him to be such without scriptural evidence. He says: "On November 11, 1918, with the signing of the Armistice, the war suddenly came to an end. No one could give a good reason why it then ended, because no side had won a victory. The real reason why the fighting then ceased is clearly indicated by the Scriptures. The Lord desired that the World War, the famines, the pestilences, the earthquakes, persecution of Christians, etc., should serve as a testimony to those who should come to know that Christ is present, that His kingdom is at hand, and that the old world had reached its end. Beginning in 1918 and up to this time (1926) this little company of Christians have proclaimed the good news of the presence of the Lord, of the end of the world, and of the beginning of Messiah's kingdom." He further states, "The faithful shall live forever and never die, receiving from the Lord the right to live. This blessing is now about to begin, hence it may be properly said that millions now living will never die." It is true that the presence of Christ has been felt in the hearts of His saints ever since He established His kingdom on Pentecost A. D. 33. Thank God, this

kingdom is yet standing. It is a kingdom of peace and it is reigning in my soul. Though wars come and go, and kingdoms rise and fall, the kingdom of God rolls on and on and will last while the ages shall roll.

Note the manner of Christ's second coming in the following. "Wherefore, if they shall say unto you, behold He is in the desert; (behold, He is in Jerusalem setting up His kingdom) go not forth: behold He is in the secret chamber; (Utah) believe it not." Christ warns His faithful children not to believe any of these false claims nor go after them. "For 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). Shall we know when He comes? "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him" (Rev. 1: 7). His coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory will be visible to every eye, not in some secret place. At that time the resurrection of the dead will take place. This is the final resurrection of all men. Notice how closely Paul identifies the resurrection with the second coming of Christ. "Behold, I shew you a mystery: we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet: for the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15: 51- 53). "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent (to come before the usual time) them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4: 15- 17). There is no space here for a thousand years between the resurrection of the righteous and the wicked. Paul has under consideration the righteous dead and the righteous living at His coming. And at this time all that are in their graves shall hear His voice and shall come forth. "Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5: 28, 29). In this same hour both the righteous and the wicked

will be resurrected. "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works" (Rev. 20: 13). This is the time when the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up, and there shall be no place found for them. The apostle describes these teachers as the enemies of Christ, and whose end is destruction. "For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things" (Phil. 3: 18, 19). The millions who remain here till the last trumpet sounds shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and shall receive their final reward in heaven or in the lake of fire, as their case may be. This shall take place when the Son of man comes in His glory, and all nations shall stand before Him. Read Matt. 25th chapter. — F. M. Fowler.

Building And Destroying

By W. T. SEATON.

(The following article was selected from an issue of *The Gospel Trumpet*, dated May 17, 1906 -Ed.)

"For if I build again the things which I destroyed I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God." Gal. 2: 18, 19.

Paul here refers to his past experience in the Jew's religion and how he labored hard to build it up, even persecuting and committing to prison and to death those who opposed it. But when the light from heaven shone around him and he was convinced of his error, he began immediately to preach Christ as a Savior from sin and to convince the Jews that their religion was vain and that to accept Christ was the only remedy for sin. Thus he began to tear down and destroy the things he once labored so hard to build. He says, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Rom. 8: 2. Again he says, "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." Gal. 5: 4. After Paul had received this light and had taught the Jews that their law was abolished and that their circumcision was no more good, if he had then turned around and begun again to teach the law and circumcision and the Jewish ceremonies, he would have made

himself a transgressor, notwithstanding had he quit preaching in the name of Christ and have gone back to his former teaching, his persecution would have ceased; for much persecution attended those who preached Christ. "And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offense of the cross ceased." Gal. 5: 11. "For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor." The only way Paul could have got back into the Pharisaical religion was to backslide. Paul once prospered in the Jews' religion and was quite a prominent man in the sect of the Pharisees, but when God brought him out of sectism and commissioned him to preach a full and free gospel, he could not go back to this sect confusion and cold, formal religion, without backsliding or becoming a transgressor.

This should be a grand lesson not only to the ministers but to all the saints in this evening light. When God gives one light on sectism and shows him the evils of their doings, one cannot go back to them and tolerate their doctrine and help to build up their religion, without backsliding. In fact, when God saves one from all sin, he must backslide before he can have fellowship with them. Some may say, "I want to do what good I can, and if I can help to get a soul saved by helping in a sect meeting, I think I ought to do so." Let us think just a moment. Suppose you do assist in getting a soul saved there. Even though it is through your influence that he is saved, he will attribute it to sectism, giving Babylon credit for it, and thereby he will be deceived and will most surely join the same, only to fall a victim to the false spirits that reign in sectism. So you leave him in a worse condition than at the beginning. The best we can make of it, it is only building up sectism, which God hath given us a commission to destroy. So if we build the things that we destroyed, or that God hath told us to destroy, we make ourselves transgressors.

There are also other things that will come under this subject, which we wish to mention. One is worldly conformity. Nearly all people that get converted under the straight, radical preaching of the Word, see the need of obeying God on this line. They see that they are forbidden the wearing of gold or costly array. See 1 Tim. 2: 9; 1 Pet. 3: 3. When people are first converted and receive the Spirit of God, they are enabled to comprehend the evils in the things that are forbidden in the Word, so one by one they will lay these things by, until their apparel is such as is becoming to those professing godliness. But after a time some have even put on things that they once laid

aside. They say, "I do not see any harm in this or that." Why is this? It is because they are on a decline. If they were where they once were, they could see just the same harm in it as they did then. God is the same, His Word is unchangeable; therefore there must be something wrong with them. So it is with the use of coffee, tea, tobacco, etc. When one is first led into the light of God's Word, he can plainly see the evils of these things. Also foolish talking, jesting, visiting places of worldly amusement, seems very much out of place to him, and he has no taste for any of these things and can exclaim with the poet:

"There's no thirsting for life's pleasures,
Nor adorning rich and gay;
For I've found a richer treasure,
One that fadeth not away."

The Holy Spirit will hold these things up before one that he can see them in the light of the Word so long as he is under its divine control, but when one loses sight of the evil of these things, it is a sure sign that he is declining in spirituality; and by practising the use of any of these, one would be building that which he destroyed and by so doing, would make himself a transgressor.

Again, some people, while listening to a Bible discourse while under the influence of the Holy Spirit, can easily comprehend the truths set forth and are made to see where they have been short on some practical lines. They are also enabled to see in some things evils they had never discerned before. With honest hearts they receive the light, and glorify God that he is leading them into deeper spiritual things. They also promise God to leave off the practise of such things as is not glorifying to Him. But soon the devil comes around and begins to give his counsel and tells them that they are getting fanatic and that there is no use of being so particular, and they heed his unscriptural reasonings and return again to the same evils, thus building again what they had destroyed; and many will go on with a cold, formal profession without the grace of God, because they failed to walk in the light as He gave it.

There was a paper called the Gospel Trumpet:
It was years ago true, and gave victory over sin, too,
But it went astray after its pride and after its pay,
And God gathered His saints away and the Trumpet
went astray.

In those days it spoke the truth on every line,
It never yielded to a wrong for a nickle or for a dime;
It fed our souls on the 'hidden manna' from heaven,

And it gave us grace and we had victory with every
race.

The Gospel Trumpet was fine and with the Word it
did shine,
It made us happy as we read every line,
It had no compromise or fanaticism to blind,
It kept us in line and we went on in the way fine.

The Trumpet was so true it fed every race,
And it made us to love the very blackest face;
It humbled us down as we read its pages through,
And we got such great light it made God's way bright.

But the Trumpet got so high the saints began to sigh,
But it went on pretty smooth, for we thought it was
the only move;
It spread its wings wide and began to take in a little
pride,
And so the better class came and that was their great
aim.

It yielded to fame and lost its good name,
It gave up the truth and left its great youth;
The Holy Ghost was grieved and blindness they seized,
They preach without grace and the committee works
in the Holy Ghost's place.

They became so greedy that they would not see the
needy.
The preachers all hired and that kept them all mired.
They worked hard for the fleece and didn't care for
the least,
They scattered God's flock as they wandered from the
Rock.

A handle they put to the preacher's name,
A Rev. and D. D. is their blight and great shame;
They make themselves gods and give true saints many
sobs—
With pride they are lured away, with tie and insurance
they go astray.

Oh, they have spread themselves wide to go on with the
tide:
In their pews shamefacedness is so rare, pride is surely
there,
They paint and powder their face and lost all their
grace,
They bob their hair and go to the fair, and with the
world they do share.

Their preachers must have a salary for their messages
are from the seminary,
They go to church on Sunday and play ball on Monday
They go to shows as they please and cut their dresses
to their knees,
They never give a shout for they nearly all have lost
out.

But there is a true Church still we know,
Going right on with the same truth we had years ago.
The standard we will not break and no worldliness will
we take,
God's ministers will not fleece but will work for the
least.

(October 1931) — B. F. Davis

They That Hear, Shall Live

John 5:25

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in Himself, so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself.” John 5: 25, 26. To hear is to obey. “Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the wind blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock.” Matt. 7: 24, 25. We will also read Luke 7: 47, 48: “Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the storm beat vehemently upon that house and could not shake it, for it was founded upon a rock.” This Rock is Jesus Christ the Righteous. If we dig out all of the rubbish and filth that has accumulated in our past life, and clean up our hearts and hands, then we can build upon Christ the foundation Stone. Hear this: “Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened that He cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.” Isa. 59: 1-3. “And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your

doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.” Isa. 1: 15- 19. So we see that we can’t just walk in on God with a big profession. We must clean up our back life. We must repent and cleanse our back life. God says, “I will by no means clear the guilty.” Ex. 4: 7. We must cleanse our hearts and hands by repentance and confession, and turn away from every wrong. This means to confess to the one wronged and make it right as much as lieth in our power. This is why so many remain in their sins. They never take a stand against them, and make their wrongs right. This is why so many go on with an empty profession of religion, as the Pharisees did; offering sacrifices of bulls and goats, lambs and turtle doves, instead of cleansing their hearts and offering themselves to God as a living sacrifice. They did this as long as God permitted it, but when Jesus came, He put a stop to all this sacrificing by the offering of Himself upon the cross of Calvary. He came to redeem us from our sins that we, too, can become all that God would have us be.

John says, “We are of God: he that heareth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.” 1 John 4: 6. So, to hear is to obey. We must take the little book and spiritually eat it. That is, we must do the Word of God to be a partaker of Christ’s righteousness. Take the Book and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.” Rev. 10: 9. To eat the word of God is to apply it spiritually to our soul. Apply its teaching to the heart, and live by its teaching, for this gives us life in Christ, and we obtain grace to help in time of need.

If we want to get upon the solid Rock Christ Jesus, we must climb until we are in God’s favor and saved from the death of sin. Christ is the Solid Rock, and all that try to come any other way are as the Word says, “thieves and robbers”. We can’t come into heaven any other way but through the blood of Christ which cleanseth us from all sin. It is the sinless way that takes us into glory. It is the Christ-like living that lands our soul in heaven.

“Rock of Ages, cleft for me; let me hide myself in Thee.” — I. Edith Kriebel.