

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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The Valley of Weeping

I have been through the valley of weeping,
The valley of sorrow and pain;
But the God of all comfort was with me,
At hand to uphold and sustain.

As the earth needs the clouds and the sunshine
Our souls need both sorrow and joy,
So He places us oft in the furnace,
The dross from the gold to destroy.

When He leads through some valley of trouble,
His omnipotent hand we can trace,
For the trials and sorrow He sends us
Are part of His lessons in grace.

Oft we shrink from the purging and pruning,
Forgetting the Husbandman knows
That the deeper the cutting and paring
The richer the cluster that grows.

Well He knows that afflictions are needed;
He has a wise purpose in view;
And in the dark valley He whispers,
Hereafter thou shalt know what I do.

As we travel through life's shadowed valley
Fresh springs of His love ever rise,
And we learn that our sorrow and losses
Are blessings just sent in disguise.

So we'll follow wherever He leadeth,
Let the path be dreary or bright,
For we've proved that our God can give comfort,
Our God can give songs in the night.

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Hidden Treasure

"Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." (Psa. 119:11) It is often the case that men store away their money in some supposedly safe place, where they can have easy access to it when they desire. Many have hid it away in the ground for a time of supposed future need. This is transient, earthly treasure that they hope to meet their carnal needs with, at some future time, that they might not suffer fleshly want. Another incident may serve to illustrate. A case is related to me of a man standing, unobserved, near two snakes that were fighting as he watched them. A copperhead and a blacksnake were fighting fiercely, he said. Every little while the blacksnake would run off to one side and grabble around in the ground and then run back and attack the copperhead, then run off and grabble again. This excited the man's curiosity. So while they were in the midst of a pitched battle he slipped to where the snake had been grabbling and found its secret treasure—snakeroot. Most of my readers are no doubt aware there is a plant called snakeroot—at least three kinds. The blacksnake had been grabbling this and eating it every few minutes, as an antidote for the copperhead bites it was getting. He slipped around and quickly dug this snakeroot it had been coming to, that he might see what would become of the blacksnake and when it could find none, the blacksnake died in a little while of copperhead poison. These are secret treasures hid in the heart of earthly beings that they flee to for help in time of need.

The hidden treasure of infinite worth, offered in our text above is the Word of God. Prov. 18:10 says, "The name of the Lord [same in effect as His Word] is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." What a difference there is in the things different men hide in their hearts! Will you find me a case when man has hidden the treasure of wealth and earthly pleasure in his heart where he didn't do it to sin all he pleased? But to hide the treasure of his Word in our hearts is that we

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MONARK SPRINGS, MISSOURI
(Further information on Page 6)

might not sin. The blacksnake ran to the snake-root that was hid away in the ground to protect it from physical death, while we can run to the Word that is hid in our heart to protect us against the inroads of spiritual death, or sin. Oh, thank the dear Lord, we can hide his precious word in our heart that the eyes of our soul, as it were, immediately look to when adverse winds blow their fitful gusts so fiercely against us. The eyes of our soul instantly and spontaneously look in and see his Word hidden there in our heart and it makes a luminous spot all around us. Bless the name of our God.

Another precious scripture that is practically the same as that of our text, in effect, and that we can hide in our heart is found in Psa. 46:1, reading as follows: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." What a consoling thought this word **refuge**, in this text carries with it when the disgusting ways of sin and satan break in fury against our soul and we need a refuge that is invincible!

Man's mighty and boasted fortresses can be broken down till they no longer afford protection to those who have hidden there, but when we have hid God's Word in our heart and made God our refuge and strength, who can batter down his walls of salvation? Oh, my dear friend, you are going to want this refuge some day. You are going to have to have it, or lose all. And you don't know how close at hand this day is. What excuse will you then be able to give when your last opportunity is receding out of sight forever? Be as honest with your own soul as you would want me to be with you, and you will come. Come and hide his word in your heart and make him your refuge and strength and you will be safe forevermore. —J. H. Pierson.

OTHERS

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."—Philippians 2:4.

I wish to ask my readers to turn to the second chapter of Philippians, read from the first through the fourth verse so as to get the exact meaning of this subject.

When we look around us we can see that it is an evident fact that there is a spirit in the world today of looking on the things of others, but it is with a different purpose from that which Apostle Paul meant when he wrote to these Philippian brethren. I believe we will have to term it a spirit of selfishness or covetousness, a spirit of wanting things better for themselves than others have. It is sad to say this spirit has crept among the church, and captured many by its deceitfulness. Beware, my Christian friend, that it does not take possession of you.

"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation." For ye are not ignorant of Satan's devices and that sin is deceitful.

You will possibly say, "I never had much of this world's goods, and I don't covet things of others." This is not what Paul is trying to get at; but he is trying to bring before your mind the fact that a Christian must not seek to please himself but see how he can do to help someone else. If every Christian person was living for others all would have their own needs supplied by others and the Gospel would go to lost souls. No one would lack in the needs of this life and would prosper in their souls. Jesus said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, thy soul, and thy strength." If we do that we will obey His words, and they are not grievous; then we can love our neighbor as ourself.

When a person is not looking on the things of others to see how he can help them spiritually he is living a selfish life and that kind of a life is not pleasing to God. A writer once said the "poorest and commonest form of idolatry is that of self-worship." The so-called Christian of today is wrapped up in this kind of a worship. How sad! Are you one of these?

Jesus looked around on the harvest fields and said, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few." Why are there so few laborers? Because the professed Christians of today love themselves more than others. Hungry souls are perishing for the Gospel everywhere and calling for some one to come over and preach us the Gospel. It is not natural for the world to love and care for lost souls, and so the God-called men can't answer the call. Why? Because so many who profess to be Christians fall short of this true life-giving spirit and when the time comes to do something for others, they slump back and say, "We have got all we can do to take care of our own selves, and charity begins at home;" and begin to pity themselves and tell how badly they need help, not thinking of others at all. They are not caring for the poor lost souls who are crying for some one to teach them the way to Christ. The Spirit of God withdraws Himself and they are left with a cold, selfish form of religion to rule them. Amos cries out: "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion." And we feel like saying: "God help the majority who live in Zion today" for I am afraid there are many at ease.

Study the life of Christ; we cannot see that He ever had things very comfortable and convenient. Jesus was always ministering to the needs of others. He was weary, worn and tired, and the multitude pressed upon Him. What did Jesus do? He ministered to their needs, both physical and spiritual. He was giving His life, not for Himself, but for others—for you and me.

Paul was another example of unselfishness that I love to read about. He labored day and night for the spreading of the Gospel work. He took missionary journeys in other parts of the country telling people of the great Savior who gave His life for their salvation. The majority of the church-going people don't believe in it at all. Talk about spreading the Gospel to others and it doesn't set so well, but it is all right as long as it is in their own church circle or home town.

Some will even say it is foolish to enlighten souls in spiritual darkness. My friend, these will rise in judgment and condemn you for not sending them the Light, for living for yourselves and not for others.

The spirit of unselfishness must and will exist in every true-hearted Christian today, just the same as it did in Paul's day. If you have not this spirit you are falling short of a true Christian experience.

Examine yourselves and see if you be in the faith.

Gladys Weiss.

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God's Counsel Rejected

When Asa became the new king of Judah, he began at once to rule his people wisely. He had noticed that the cause of all their trouble had been due to their forgetfulness of the true God, and now he was trying to turn his people's minds back to the true worship of God. He first began to tear down and destroy every idol they could find and to break in pieces the altars that had been used in worshiping strange gods, even to the tearing down of his grandmother's idol (who was queen at this time) and refused to allow her to be queen any longer because she was not a good example to set before his people even though she was an old lady. God does not even respect the old when they turn away from Him.

For ten years Asa ruled his kingdom in peace, being strengthened during this time, and his people loved him. Then God allowed a strong army of Ethiopians to come against him, but gave him great victory. God is always ready to encourage those who put their trust in Him.

After this victory, God knew Asa would be tempted to lean on his own strength, so He sent His prophet to speak to him. We have his words recorded in 2 Chron. 15:2, "The Lord is with you now, for you are trying to please him. If you will ask his help at any time, he will bless you; but if you forsake him as your fathers have done, then he will forsake you." Oh! how much this means to stand true to God and not turn from his counsel in the very least.

Asa decided to keep true to the Lord, but sad to say he got his eyes off the Lord and depended on his own strength and his own wisdom. He undertook to go forward in his own wisdom, leaving God out; so God sent a prophet to tell Asa of his wrong, in

looking to a man for help instead of asking help from God.

Some times our friends can help us (in agreement in prayer) but we must not put more confidence in them than God, which is so easy to do. We have this warning recorded in 2 Chron. 16:9 by God's prophet (or seer). "Herein thou hast done foolishly; therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars." Instead of Asa being thankful for the admonishment and humbling himself, the word of God says, "he was wroth with the seer and he was in a rage because of this thing."

After many wars "he was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceedingly great: yet in this he sought not the Lord, but to the physicians." 2 Chron. 16:12. What a beautiful beginning but, oh! what a sad ending; all because he left the counsel of God and turned to man's wisdom. How easy it is to fall when we get our eyes off God. Sometimes God's counsel comes through his prophets or his ministers or even the most humble saint so in rejecting their counsel we might be rejecting God. Let us keep close to God and very humble; then we will be ready to receive counsel as well as give it.

Humble thyself and the Lord will draw near thee,
Humble thyself and his presence will cheer thee
He will not walk with the proud or the scornful,
Humble thyself to walk with God.

Surely this is true and if we keep humble and close to God and not look to man for help we will not be likely to reject God's counsel. Please pray for me that I live according to the counsel of God.

A sister interested in souls.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Sister Laura Powell of Richmond, Va. requests prayer for her husband who has recently accepted the Savior. He has cancer of the lung and cannot live long unless God heals him.

Pray for Mrs. Vohelt of Shreveport, La. who has nervous and stomach trouble.

Sister Ruby Davis of Poplar Bluff, Mo. is the mother of three children who need her. She has been sick for over a year, and asks your prayers that God will heal her.

Pray for Manford Sowder's wife of Dayton, Ohio, who is frail in body and in need of special help.

Sister Hardman asks prayer for her unsaved son who was crippled in the army and is in the hospital that the Lord will convict him of sins so he will get saved. The boy wants prayer for himself and for some of his friends who are in the same condition.

Pray for Wm. L. VanZandt's wife who has serious heart trouble.

The saints at Choctaw, Okla. request the saints at other places to agree with them in prayer for Sister Sarah Hoffman who has a growth on her neck. Fast if the Lord leads and pray for its removal at 11 a. m. July 4th.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

This non-sectarian 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.

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FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE
920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma.
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Editorials

At this writing (May 31st), wife and I are in Chicago helping in a meeting. Bro. and Sis. Key of Hammond, La. are the Evangelists and the meeting is being blessed of God. Not so many are attending but the presence of the Lord is precious and the anointing for speaking and hearing is good. Several have been at the altar of prayer and received what their souls desired. We left the office work in care of Geneva Ray as she has been with the work for a long time and knows how the Lord wants it carried on. Dorothy Byers and Myrtle Grice will assist her and Frances Murphey, my daughter will be there at least part of the time to help along and we have it all committed to Him who has begun the work as we know he is able to give the needed wisdom and lead on and finish the work that will mean salvation to many souls. We are expecting to be back to the office by the 15th of June.

Later—

Wife and I arrived home from our evangelistic tour June 15th and found that the workers at the office had been very busy during our absence with the many duties of the printing work. They had the work up in nice shape and we are all encouraged in the printing of the gospel as God is greatly using the printed page to get truth to the souls of men.

The meeting at Chicago was a blessed meeting. The Lord blessed in a very precious manner, gave good liberty in proclaiming the truth of His Word, and the saints were graciously helped and encouraged. A number were at the altar for sanctification, the baptism of the Spirit, and their souls were satisfied by receiving the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost. John 14:26. Some things that had been hindering the meetings in the past were cleared up and the saints were of one heart and soul rejoicing in the Lord. We enjoyed the association and fellowship of Bro. and Sister Key, Sister Dravis, Bro. Boaman, and all the other dear saints at Chicago while there in the meeting. It was good to be there.

After the Chicago meeting we went to Elkhart, Ind. and greatly enjoyed the hospitality and fellowship of Bro. and Sister Priem for a few days. They arranged for a meeting at Benton Harbor, Mich.

and we had opportunity to preach to a German congregation at that place. The Lord gave liberty and freedom and made the services heavenly and encouraging to all. Most of the congregation could understand English fairly well and enjoyed the words of truth uttered.

We also had an enjoyable visit with Bro. and Sister Baker and children at Garrett, Ind. They made us quite welcome in their home where we spent over a day, and rejoiced in the Lord for the fellowship and heavenly association while there. They are isolated saints and Bro. Baker is burdened about the need of souls in that place. He would be so glad if some saints would move in there or if God would save some in that country. May God bless them and keep them encouraged.

June 13th we were in an all day meeting at Union City, Ind. Saints came in from the surrounding country until the meeting house was practically filled. It was a very precious meeting together and God blessed the assembly. The Lord gave good liberty in preaching the gospel in the three services that day and from the testimonies of the saints it was easy to know that God's Spirit had worked and brought edification and help to many souls. The afternoon meeting continued until it was so late it was needful to close in order to have time to get ready for the evening meeting. The saints of God are nearer and dearer to us than all earthly relation. We were so glad to get acquainted with some saints whom we had never met and also to have sweet fellowship with those we had met before while in the east. We shall remember all in prayer.

Bro. George Stephenson has been caring for the work there for the last nine months. He left Sunday evening on his way to Hammond, La.

While there we stopped in the home of Bro. and Sister Nottingham who are looking after the interests of the work in that place. We thank God for their hospitality and fellowship and pray God's rich blessings to rest upon them in the near future as in the past.

We shall often think of those whom we met in this trip and will breathe a prayer for each. Pray for us as we labor on for Him.

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As usual, the Faith and Victory paper will not be printed and sent forth in August this year. This gives the office workers opportunity to attend camp-meetings and give them the needed rest from the confinement of the office. We expect to send the "Bible Lessons" out to those listed for rolls. If others want them send a post card and let us know.

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In the 12th Chapter of Hebrews there is much instruction for the Christian. The writer makes it very plain that we are to lay aside every weight, in other words to strip ourselves of every earthly thing that would encumber us or hinder us from being free to always do what is pleasing to the Lord. It seems that many do lay aside weights and run well for a while but as time goes on they begin to pick up weights and some times the very things they have laid aside. The enemy is very cunning and deceitful in his work of getting saints to pick up weights. Satan is looking forward to the time when the weights

will become so many and so heavy that your running will be slow and so discouraging that your faith in God will be so weakened that you will go down in defeat. Satan is against the Christ life in your soul and he cunningly works to crush it out so he can again have your heart, attention, and affections. Then you will be like the dog that has returned to his own vomit or the sow that was washed and cleaned and then returned to her wallowing in the mire. 2 Peter 2:22.

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If the saints of God would always take heed to the scripture found in the 10th chapter of 1 Cor. 31st verse which reads thus—"whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God," their souls would prosper and spiritual growth would be the result. Again we read in Matt. 6:22, "If therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." If you begin to give way to selfish interests regardless of whether it is glorifying to God, the Lord will lose pleasure in you. Jesus says, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Jesus says again in Luke 9:23, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me for whosoever will save his life shall lose it [the Christ life] but whosoever will lose his life [carnal, selfish life] for my sake, the same shall save it" (the Christ life in the soul.) Satan is against the Christ life in your soul and all your ways and actions that would please the Lord. He is your adversary in serving God. Jesus Christ is against your selfish, carnal life and all your movements toward the world and selfish glory. He is an adversary to your selfish life. Both are spirits and both want your soul yielded to them; one with the object to damn and ruin you and the other for the purpose of bringing you into glory and blissful heaven. You are the one that must do the choosing and yielding to one or the other of these two powers. Your choice will determine your future state. That is why Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith." He always took his stand against Satan and his selfish, bodily lusts and stood for the life of Christ in his soul. One time he said, "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection, lest that by any means, [note the words—by any means] when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

Oh, dear saints, see that you are always doing those things that will be glorifying to God and stand with God against the self life and all the lusts of the flesh, separated from all worldly, sinful, fleshly pleasures and be an earthen vessel yielded to the pleasure and will of God. Then when time in this world is over He will choose you to dwell with Him throughout all eternity.

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To be sanctified wholly or baptized with the Holy Ghost means that you have been sealed with the

"Holy Spirit of Promise." Eph. 1:13. Being filled with the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit of Promise means that God has put His seal or stamp of approval upon you that you belong to him. You are now His sacred property.

It seems that many ministers teach very little on sanctification or the baptism of the Holy Ghost. They only mention it in perhaps a passing manner during some discourse and others only teach it from what they have heard others say about it. Their faith seems to be so weak concerning the receiving of the "Comforter" which Jesus says, "is the Holy Ghost" that they say little about it and of course those that hear them have no encouragement to seek for the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Jude was greatly troubled and burdened about this condition in his day as men had crept in among the saints and were teaching no faith for receiving of the Holy Ghost. In the first verse of Jude we find him addressing his epistle especially to those that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called. He told them that he was diligent to write unto them of the common salvation and that it was needful for him to write unto them and to exhort them that they should "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." It seems to be a question with some as to when this faith was delivered to the saints and what was the advantage of the same? Personally, I am persuaded that the faith he mentions was the faith delivered to the saints on the day of Pentecost for the receiving of the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost.

Jude was burdened about the conditions existing at that time for he goes on to say that there were certain men crept in unawares and said that they were turning the grace of God into lasciviousness, (lustful emotions) and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. No doubt, they were not teaching the need of having faith to receive the Holy Ghost but worked themselves up in fleshly demonstrations, trying to make folks believe that they were spiritual but at the same time denying the Holy Ghost by having no faith and by not teaching others that they should have faith for receiving Him.

Brethren, we who are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ and called; let us heed the exhortation of Jude and earnestly contend for others to have faith to receive the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost. St. John 14:26.

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All Day Meeting

The saints at Springfield, Mo. announce all day meeting for July 4, 1943, at the chapel, 724 N. Kansas. Presence of ministers and saints from other congregations desired. All are welcome. Will observe New Testament ordinances. Dinner on the grounds. Bro. and Sis. John Wilson, 1159 Poplar, Springfield, Mo.

Campmeeting Announcements

Notice in Regard to Campmeetings

To the dear saints who intend to go to the campmeetings: please place orders for tents, cots, and sleeping rooms in time to be cared for, as in these times, we must have money in hand to get tents and other things with which to carry on the meetings. If you wait until you get on the camp ground, you may not have a place to sleep, as there is such a shortage of everything. Those going to the Monark meeting should send their orders with money for tents and cots direct to the address below by July 1st. Also all those coming to this meeting must bring their own quilts and bedding, as no bedding will be available on the grounds as in times past. It gets very cold there at nights, and in the past many have slept cold for lack of quilts.

Each person should bring 1 lb. of sugar, in addition to their point ration books. Any canned rationed foods will be appreciated. We expect to forward all left over foods that will not spoil to the next and closest campmeeting. Provide for yourself early. Sister Sam Barton, R. 8, Box 119, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will convene this year, if the Lord permits, on July 16 and close the 25th. It will be held on the saints' camp ground at Monark Springs, Mo., which is five miles east of Neosho, Mo.

Bro. Sam Barton, chairman of the trustee board, has accepted the responsibility for the business management of the campmeeting which was formerly done by Bro. Strech.

Likely we shall encounter hardships and difficulties, but we feel that the Lord wants the meeting and will make a way. Have faith in God.

The meeting will be a success both spiritually and temporally if all those coming will make an "all out" effort and preparation before hand. Meals will be served at the dining hall and financed by free-will offerings and free-will contributions of fresh, dried, factory-packed, and home-canned fruits and vegetables. Bring point ration books with sufficient valid points to purchase your food for the week, or bring with you its equivalent in food products, also one pound or less of sugar. You may send your food products prepaid to Bro. J. E. Kurtz who is the caretaker on the camp ground, and whose address is R. 3, Neosho, Missouri.

Rooms, bedsteads, or springs will not be available to rent. Tents may be rented for \$3.00 each and cots 75 cents each. If you want a tent and cot please notify and send money for them to Bro. Sam Barton, R. 8, Box 119, Tulsa, Okla. by July 1st.

Those coming by bus or train will have to come to Neosho, and then take a taxicab to the camp ground at Monark Springs.

Each individual and congregation should have a special fund for the National campmeeting. Please send the offerings to Bro. Sam Barton or the undersigned by July 1st.

Come praying and willing to "endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." —L. D. Pruitt, Secy-Treas. 1005 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, Okla., beginning July 30th and closing August 8th. The large tent will be erected in the 600th block just east of the saints' chapel on W. Warner Ave. All lovers of the truth are invited to attend this meeting. Those having need of salvation, healing of the body, or to be built up in God should be at this meeting.

As conditions are abnormal and traveling as well as food supplies are under government regulations, the saints will have to put forth more effort to get to the meeting and also bring or send fruits, meat, vegetables, and other supplies for the meeting. Bring sugar and point rationing books with you with which to buy rationed foods. This is no time to grow faint-hearted and throw up our hands, for the need of getting the gospel to men is very great. Sin and evil is over-running the country. Let us do all we can to gather the few who will forsake the world and its sinful ways. Every congregation should make up an offering for this State Campmeeting and earnestly pray that God will give us even a better meeting than the previous meetings. The saints here will do all they can to care for those coming in, but please bring your own straw ticks and bedding.

Send money and food donations for the meeting to Faith Pub. House, or to Bro. G. W. Winn at 1307 W. Mansur Ave.

The Southern California Campmeeting at Pasadena, Calif. is to be held at the camp ground on Mentone and Washington Ave., from August 20th to 30th. All cordially invited to attend. Ministers of God will be present to preach the whole truth, teaching the exclusive church of God with all its Bible doctrines so no one may go away without knowing the way to heaven. Access to the camp ground is easy available by street car, bus or railroad. Bring ration books.

Those desiring tents should write or notify in time: Bro. Erle E. Forbes, 4250 Perlita Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. or Bro. R. W. Morgan, 1302 Lincoln Ave. Pasadena, Calif., of the campmeeting committee.

For particulars write Mrs. P. K. Turner, 121 W. Eellvue, Pasadena, Calif.

The Dover, Okla. campmeeting will begin August 27, and close Sept. 5, if the Lord wills. This will be at the chapel grounds one mile north and two and one-half miles east of Dover. The Rock Island rail road and highway 81 pass through Dover. Anyone desiring to be met at town, please notify us in time. Be sure to bring your bedding, and come praying. Bring ration books.

For further information write Ulysses Phillips or Henry Caldwell, Dover, Okla.

The Boley Campmeeting of the church of God will convene August 13th to 22nd inclusive. In these abnormal times we believe the Lord would have us to have a campmeeting. This will be largely a campmeeting of faith. Looking to God to supply the needs for the meeting, we invite all to come. Be sure to bring your ration book and your point book and food of every kind as much as you can. Also bring your bedding, such as quilts, sheets, pillows, and ticks. Straw will be furnished. Please do not fail in this. Conditions aren't so favorable here at this time, yet we are looking to Father for a glorious meeting and much edifying to the church. We earnestly desire your sincere prayers. For further information, write M. J. Phillips, Box 294, Boley, Oklahoma.

Campmeeting in New Field

Lord willing, a church of God campmeeting will be held 2½ miles west of Nishnabotna, Mo., beginning Aug. 13th, continuing through Aug. 22. Those coming by rail road come on the Burlington Route. Those coming from the south (in car) travel highway 275 to Craig, Mo. then take highway 111 to Nishnabotna, Mo. This will be the first camp-meeting here and we need all the saints' prayers and cooperation.

All who love the Lord and his people are welcome to come and those who have a desire for spiritual or physical help. This will be run on the free will offering plan. Please bring your sugar and point ration books, also straw ticks, bed linen, and towels and songbooks. Straw furnished. Arrangements will be made for sleeping quarters. For further information write Egbert Allen, Langdon, Mo., residing minister.

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Series of Meetings

The Saints of God will have a series of meetings at Sis. Emma Busch's place 2½ miles southwest of Stayton, Ore., from July 23 to Aug 2, Lord willing. We are earnestly praying for ministers to come and help us. Others welcome. For information write to Sis. Emma Busch R. 2, Scio, Ore.

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Correspondence

Eugene, Ore.—Dear ones in Him. Thanks be to God this day and forever more for this great healing and keeping power. I have been touched by divine power. I had a cold in the lungs and learned later that this was pleurisy. That is very painful. The Lord touched my body and I am every whit whole.

Truly, there is nothing in this world compared to salvation of the soul. Yours in Christ, Bertha Blais.

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Orland, Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, Greetings in Jesus dear name. I feel like the Lord wants me to write the experience I have gone through. I had a goiter on my neck and had the mumps and it left me in such a shape I could hardly get a good breath. As we seem so alone out here, my faith was weak and I went to a doctor. I got in such a shape, I went in the bed room and said, "Lord, if you will heal my neck, I will never take a dose of medicine as long as I live," and I meant it. I got relief. Sister Daniels came out and prayed for me. We sent a telegram to Bro. Harmon and letters to different places. The Lord has wonderfully touched my neck and I can breathe so much better. The symptoms come back at times but I know it must be a test. I know the Lord can make a complete cure of it. I want everyone that knows God to pray for my complete healing. I have surely had a lesson this time and I don't ever intend to take medicine again.

Pray for the Lord to send us a minister. We need some one for a teacher as we have no one to hold us a meeting. We want to hear the truth preached very much. I am so glad we have some one who hears and answers the prayers of His people. I told the Lord if He would heal me, I would write my testimony. Dear ones, don't fail to trust God for he is the only one to trust. Pray for me and my family. Your sister for the whole truth,

—Ada Leach

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Carrabelle, Fla.—Dear Saints, Greetings to all in Jesus' name. I have been wanting to write my testimony for a long time. Jesus has been so good to me, I know

I shall never be able to tell it, but how I do praise Him for keeping me and for healing my body of ringworms. He has healed my body so many times. I trust him with soul and body and I believe with all my heart He will do just what he said he would do. I always go to him in times of sickness, trials, and temptations, and He comes to my rescue. Pray for me that I will ever be true.

We have been having some good meetings here in Carrabelle. The Lord has surely been working on the hearts of people and their eyes are being opened to the right way. Oh, how I do praise God for his ministry. Pray that the Lord will heal my body of hot spells.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Dane Thompson

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Lyons, Ore.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Co-workers, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We just returned from Uncle Grant's place in Washington where we had a week's meeting. Not many came out but God blessed us any way and we feel that it was not in vain. The saints here are advancing, and now and then a soul is being added, so pray for us.

We do not know as yet where God wants us this summer; sure would like to be at your camp meeting but we want his will and leadings. We want to stand at attention all the time ready to move at his command. We know the fight is on and that our Captain is calling on the blood-washed army to speed on and make war. We are sure that there can be but one outcome; that all the powers of Satan and darkness will have to give unconditional surrender and immediately go into eternal destruction. We know what we are fighting for and what the outcome will be. We have one to go before us; His vesture is dipped in the blood, His eyes are all aflame, and He is sending us forth conquering and to conquer. All the ungodly things we meet He will destroy with the word of His mouth and the brightness of His coming.

Pray for us. We remember you one and all daily.

Your Brother, saved by His great love and mercy,
Sam Wilson

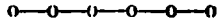
o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Stoutland, Mo.—Dear Brothers and Sisters and unsaved friends, I just feel like testifying tonight for my dear Savior. I feel His great peace and joy in my heart. I am so glad I ever came to him. He has taken away my sin and sorrow and has given me a peace and joy far better than any pleasure of earth can give. And now in every sorrow and every trouble I have Him to go to and He carries them all for me. Dear ones, nothing is too hard for the Lord. Jeremiah 32:17. Only a few months ago he helped me so wonderfully and he carried me through a great trouble and sorrow too great for my earthly friends to help me through, although some did comfort and help what they could. It was too great for anyone save Jesus. As the song says; "Other friends may bless and comfort, speak a kind and cheering word but the balm to heal the heart ache, only Jesus can afford." Oh, how true are these words. Jesus knows, He cares and understands when others do not and even though no earthly friend would seem to care or know. When there is no one to share our sorrows, He is always near and He is the all sufficient physician for soul and body. Do not fear dear troubled ones, bring all your sin, sorrows, and cares and bur-

dens to Jesus. He is the great burden bearer. He came to heal the broken heart and has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Isa. 53:4.

May God bless every dear unsaved soul is my prayer. Dear ones, come to Jesus and forsake all sin, call upon Him; He can help and deliver you. Dear Brothers and Sisters, let us pray earnestly for the dear soldiers and for every sad and troubled soul. Let us never get too busy to pray. Let us remember what God has done for us and pray for those who do not enjoy this great peace. Pray for me dear ones. May God bless each reader is my prayer.

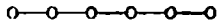
A Sister in Christ, —Becky Brown



Goshen, Ala.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, I'm sending in my request for prayer for my body and also my baby's body. I received the tracts and paper and praise God, I'm saved. I had been under conviction for some time but thank the Lord, I've done something about it now. Many thanks for the teaching of God that's mailed through the mail. Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Nina Devine

Later— I am glad to say that the Lord has healed us both! Praise His wonderful name for ever, for He means so much to me. I love him with all my heart. He means so much to my family. Please pray for my unsaved husband.

Mrs. Nina Devine



Allegan, Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: In the sweet and lovely name of Jesus we send you greetings. We are still happy in Him and trust him for all our needs, and He has never failed us yet. We cannot thank and praise Him enough. I always enjoy reading the Faith and Victory with its wonderful messages and testimonies.

I recently had an experience that did me much good. Over a year and a half ago I ordered around three thousand tracts from you and we went from house to house until we had left the tract "Art Thou Prepared for Eternity" in every home. We saw no results from our labors until June 1, 1943.

When walking down the street, I met an elderly lady and a young man. We exchanged greetings, then they stopped and looked at me. They asked if I was one who went around giving out tracts about two years ago. I told them that I was and asked if they enjoyed reading them. They said that at first they laid the two tracts away and didn't read them until spring when they were cleaning house and came across them. The young man read them and got saved then wanted his mother to read them. When she did she realized she was lost and in need of a Saviour even though she had always lived a good life. She got saved. They tried to find the ones who gave them the tracts but could not find anyone who knew anything about us. It is wonderful the way the Lord worked it out. We had a real good time in the Lord right on the street.

One soul is worth more than all the world. I believe you will meet many who read your tracts and got saved when we get to heaven; also, many who read them and will be lost for eternity, but their blood will not be required at your hands.

Your brother in Christ, Gerrit Joostberns.



Greenville, Ohio,—Dear Brother in Christ, I thought I would write you a few lines. I feel good in my soul. Brother Turner was down with the dropsy. We could not get victory over it. They came home and told us that Brother Turner was growing worse. We thought that

he was going to die; his body was all swollen. I went over and prayed the prayer of faith and the Lord took all the swelling out and it became normal.

If the Lord is willing, I will be out to campmeeting. I have many other cases to give in and I want my testimony to go all over the world. He has never failed me in my thirty years of service. Once I was in the hospital and the good Lord healed me and it caused an infidel to get saved. I am glad the good Lord sent me out in the work. I will be 89 years old my next birthday and have walked 15,000 miles in the last thirty years. I surely enjoyed myself every step of the way.

Your brother in Christ, —Warren Robinson



Gossip

Gossip is one of the cardinal sins. It is not a single act, like murder, which stops one life and falls back to punish the offender; it is the breath of the Devil, soiling every ear it touches. It is the most deadly of poisons. It blights many lives; it smites the innocent with the guilty.

Recently, a mother, estranged from her family, ended her life because gossip—groundless, vicious gossip—had cut her off from those who were dearest in all the world to her.

Those who murdered first the happiness of a woman, and then the life, went scot free. No punishment in this world, unless they have consciences, can touch them. But we believe that when the final judgment comes, those who spread the gossip which killed good name and happiness—and life—will meet the same punishment as that visited upon the sons of Cain.

A minister in Baltimore, told this story, which is an Italian legend:

In the old days, a peasant confessed to a priest that he had slandered an innocent man. The priest said to him, "For your penance do this now: Take a bag of chicken down. Go to every yard in the town and drop one bit of down into each garden. Do not miss one yard. When you have finished, return to me."

The sinner believed his punishment was light. With his bag of down he made the circuit of the village and carefully dropped one soft feather into each garden. Then he reported to the priest, saying: "I have done my penance."

"No, my son," replied the old abbe. "You will not have done your penance until you take the bag, go again on your rounds, collect every feather you have dropped, and bring it here to me."

The gossip protested that it would be impossible: he could not find the bits of down in a lifetime; many of them had blown far away.

"So it is with gossip," replied the old priest. "It is easily dropped. But never again, no matter how hard you try, can you gather back the words you have thoughtlessly scattered."

Young People's Section

Lonely Soul

Oh, lonely soul on earthly pinion flying,
Where wilt thou go when strength is spent and worn?
Where wilt thou go when death o'ertakes thee
And finds thee homeless, lost, and forlorn?

Oh, lonely soul, for thee my heart is tender,
It grieves me sadly thus to see thy plight,
For, I, like thee was a wanderer lonely
And 'round me the bitter sins of life.

Come then to Jesus your lonely heart to gladden
And He will guard thee safely till this life is o'er
When comes the Savior with all His splendor
Then shalt thou go and be with Him once more.

—Myrtle Grice

Editorials

The various campmeetings will soon be in progress, and we are praying and believing that the abundant grace and spiritual blessings from heaven will be experienced in each one. Though temporal supplies are limited and therefore rationed, yet God's grace may be had in unlimited quantities. It is your privilege to "come boldly to the throne of grace." Our God is the Saviour, Sanctifier, and Healer of His people. Put in your application for whatever you need in these meetings.

In order to attend the campmeetings this year it will no doubt require greater sacrifice and effort than in the past. This will tend to reduce the attendance to those who really desire soul food, and the promise is that those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness shall be filled." The food on the dining tables may be shorter than usual but Father's table will be bountifully supplied.

The Hebrew writer exhorts us: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25. There should be an increase in the assembling of the saints together as we approach the day of the Lord. "The manner of some" would be to cancel the meetings and say it is impossible to hold them in these war times. But our God is one who is able to alter and change circumstances and conditions for those who have faith and confidence in Him. No doubt Jesus would say to many today, "O ye of little faith."

"Lift up your eyes and look on the fields." We fear lest many have lost or are losing the vision and burden for the spread of the gospel. Their eyes are

focused on the conditions about their feet—concerned only with their petty affairs. Let us awake, look out upon the broad fields and lift up a standard for the people.

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As the young saints assemble in their own meetings in these campmeetings, let us earnestly and continually bring to the throne of grace the young men (especially the Lord's men) who have been called to government service and to work in the Civilian Public Service camps. Some are in distant lands and going through hardships. These and others in other places would surely appreciate the privilege to be in the meetings, but are unable to attend. Many of these we know and have been knit together in the bonds of love and fellowship. Let us pray the availing prayers that will reach them in the hour of need.

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We are reminded again that this paper will not be published for the month of August. This is in order that the office workers will have some time to attend meetings away from the office. Until the September issue we say, God be with you, and "exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints."

oOo

—L. D. Pruitt

Armuchee, Ga.—Dear Beloved in Christ, I just feel like writing you to thank you for those books. What a blessing they have been to me although I have only been reading in one. And your "Faith and Victory" paper we have been getting has surely been a help to me. I have been praying and asking God to help me to live just like the book says. Pray that I will, too. That is the only way we can get the blessing, is by doing God's will. I'm trying to live that way, although things go wrong. I believe God is helping me on that. I'm getting to where I can overcome things better. Satan tries to get things to go wrong for me, but I just pray that away. God surely has helped me. He has been a wonderful Savior to me and I have to start doing more for him.

I thank you all for your traets you sent me. I sure do want to work for Jesus. I surely would like to be out there in your work, but I reckon I'll have to work at home for him. I would surely like to be in a good old revival meeting. My soul is getting huntry for one. Pray that if its the Lord's will He will provide a way for me to get in one. May God bless you in your praying and meetings. In Jesus' name, —Pauline Williams

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Faith Pub. House.—Dear Saints of God, It is with encouragement in my soul that I greet you this morning. I am glad that I can say I am saved and sanctified and walking in the highway of the King. It fills my heart with glory to think of this way of holiness built by our King where the redeemed of the Lord walk. It is far above this world and nothing worldly nor unclean shall be found there. By His help I mean to see the end of this highway which is in heaven. —Dorothy Byers

PRAYER

Prayer is not only the sincere desire of the heart, it is also and must be the unconditional surrender backed by a holy life. At this time when the whole world is bleeding, the cream of our young men scattered over the nations, it is well to have the assurance that all man-made killing devices can not reach our Protector, they can leave Him out of their plans, but He says "I will laugh at their calamity, I will mock when their fear cometh." Prov. 1:26. Gideon did not shed blood, God gave His people who were greatly in the minority the victory, their enemies were so confused they killed themselves.

The same God is on the throne. All idols must be destroyed, worldly churcharnity, the desire to dress and please the world, relatives, friends, reputation; all your possessions must be turned into the will of God, then wait on Him for orders. When in doubt, wait until the Holy Spirit will make the way clear; He will direct thy path. Do not go to the radio for comfort, go into a secret place for prayer instead, and you will get something lasting and worth while. A parrot can be taught to swear or pray; they are amusing, but we want the Holy Spirit for our Comforter.

If God be for us who can be against us? Jesus' promise, "I will be with you, even unto the end of the world," is sufficient to keep us victorious.

Everything pertaining to the world will perish. the lovely flowers we now see will soon fade, everything—friends, loved ones, and all—may pass away over night. Yes, even heaven and earth shall pass away but God's word shall not pass away. Matt. 24:35.

Believe it, for surely the time will come when you will see the necessity of it.

—Haigler Mission Worker

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Why So Few Believe the Gospel

Generally the most powerful preaching of the Gospel has been with little fruit. So that Isaiah had this complaint, "Who hath believed our report?" Our Lord Jesus Christ had it also (John 12:37). When it was so with sweet Isaiah in the Old Testament, and with our blessed Lord in the New, who spoke with such power and authority, you may see there is reason for us to inquire, Why it is that so few believe? i.e., believe to the salvation of the soul. It is with those causes only which are most common and operative that I would now deal frankly, "speaking the truth in love."

I. LACK OF APPRECIATION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE GOSPEL. 1 You do not think yourselves in danger. You confess that you are sinners, but in your hearts you do not think so. In your own condition, you are good friends with God already. You do not believe that you are the slaves

of Satan, and that you are on your way to hell. You are like the Scribes and Pharisees who were well satisfied with themselves, and thought they had no need of a physician, and therefore never sought Christ's help. His offer of help they angrily rejected (John 8:33) and you resent any plain speaking concerning your real state.

2. Hence, also, you neither appreciate nor consider the glad tidings that are brought to you. You are not awake to the fact that the Gospel is the very thing you need to hear. You do not hear or read it as a merchant on the verge of ruin reads a check which a wealthy friend has sent to save him from bankruptcy. Thinking of yourselves as you do, you give no heed to it. Your sad lack in this matter is shown in three ways. (1). By the way in which you come to hear the Gospel. How few hunger and thirst for it, and come desiring to learn from it how you are to prepare to meet with God! You come, not to profit by it, but for some defective and worthless reason. (John 6:26.) (2). By the way you behave when you are here. Many of you are inattentive; your thoughts are running after your trade, etc. and some of you even sleep! Were you in any other meeting about ordinary business, how different your outward and inward conduct would be! (3). By the way you behave after you have heard the Word. In what unedifying conversation you will be engaged as soon as you have reached the door! When you have heard what plainly meets the needs of your soul, do you meditate upon it, and go to your knees with it before God, desiring Him to breathe upon it, and to make it a blessing to you?—You know these things are true. Oh, "take heed how you hear!" As long as you take no heed how you hear, you cannot profit.

II. LACK OF REAL FAITH THAT THE GOSPEL IS FROM GOD. You resent the charge that you are practically infidels, but your conduct shows that it is unbelief, and not faith, that has possession of your heart. At the most, yours is what is called "an historical faith." and that is worthless. Your conduct shows that you do not really believe what the Gospel teaches—that there is a holy, just, and powerful God, else you durst not live at enmity with Him; that your nature is corrupt, else you would seek regeneration and sanctification; that there will be a day of judgment, in which you must stand before God, else you would prepare for it; that the only way to have peace with God is through Jesus Christ, and that there is no way to heaven but the way of holiness, else your whole life would be different from what it is.

III. LOVE OF THE WORLD— of its wealth and its pleasures. This is given as a main cause (Matt. 13:22.) More perish in this pit of worldly-mindedness than in the pit of vice. Many who are
(Continued on Page 13.)

God Chooses The Weak

"God hath chosen the weak." 1 Cor. 1:27.

Why is this?

Certainly there must be a reason for it. God is a God of great and infinite wisdom and righteousness. Everything He does is both right and wise.

"For there is no respect of persons with God." Rom. 2:11. "But in every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him." Acts 10:35. Yet, in some cases a weak person is more likely to desire God's strength. God does not like to force us to work with Him. He wants willing and glad cooperation. "We are laborers together with God." 1 Cor. 2:9.

"The meek will He guide in judgment: and the meek will He teach His way." Psalm 25:9. Those who quickly humble themselves under the mighty hand of God (1 Peter 5:6) will be quickly led of God.

Mary Magdalene

One of the most beautiful characters in the Bible is that of Mary Magdalene out of whom Jesus cast seven devils.

Why did Jesus choose this weak vessel?

I would not be surprised in the glory world to see Mary Magdalene shining with a transcendent splendor, excelling in some respects even that of the impetuous Peter or the Apostle John whom Jesus loved. Why?

Simply because she loved Jesus more than all twelve of the disciples apparently. "Now when Jesus was risen . . . He appeared FIRST to Mary Magdalene." Mark 16:9. Is there respect of persons with God? Of course not. God will honor you—He will honor me—if we give Him the opportunity.

See Mary standing by the Cross of her Lord (John 19:25). See her—of all others the most ardent, coming to the last place she had seen Jesus, unto the sepulchre that place of agony, of sorrow, of gloom, of suffering, "Early, WHEN IT WAS YET DARK." John 20:1. Forgetting all of her womanly timidity, unconcerned about what people might think or say, her intense love for the Master made her FIRST on the scene—not to receive a blessing, but to minister, as she thought, even to the dead body of her Lord and Saviour. Then, when she discovered that the body of Jesus was missing from the sepulchre, (Mary Magdalene was not selfish) she ran and told Peter and John.

When they heard this startling news, Peter and John came running to the sepulchre and found that it was indeed a true report, but notice this, "Then the disciples went away again unto their own home." John 20:10. What a time of discussion the eleven must have had!

"BUT MARY

stood without at the sepulchre weeping." John 20:11. Mary Magdalene loved the Son of God with a devotion seldom seen either in those days or now. That poor woman, that "weak vessel," unlike the other disciples possibly had no home to go to. Bless her heart—she loved JESUS so completely, that, instead of going and talking with the other disciples, and surmising about the strange happenings, she just waited at the sepulchre, the last place she knew Jesus had been.

She wept, she stooped down, she looked into the sepulchre. Then, glory to God, the heavenly world got into action! Hallelujah! Such love, such devotion could not go unnoticed before the throne of Almighty God. Instead of Mary having to DISCUSS with other disciples the possibilities and probabilities as to where Jesus was, lo and behold, heavenly messengers, two angels began to give her first hand information. Hallelujah!

Then she saw JESUS! What devotion! What love! And remember, "We love Him because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19. "Perfect love casteth out fear." 1 John 4:18. No wonder Mary forgot her feminine dread of the dark and of the tomb and stuck by the place of sorrow TILL Jesus came to answer her heart cry. "Faith . . . Worketh by love." Gal. 5:6. The reason some of us have so little faith is because our love has waxed cold, we have left our first love. Oh let us REPENT, dear friends.

"Woman, Why Weepest Thou?"

John 20:15

Oh thank God, these words were not spoken to that woman alone, but to weeping, heart-broken, sorrowing, distressed, womankind and mankind too, down through the ages!

Woman, man, "Why weepest THOU?"

Come to Jesus, the blessed Son of God. He will save you. He will deliver. He will comfort YOU!

If God Be For Us

"If God be for us, who can be against us?" Rom. 8:31.

Of course if we are to have confidence that God is with us, we ourselves must be 100 per cent with Him. They that seek Him EARLY shall find Him. We seek Him and find Him WHEN we shall search for Him with ALL our heart.

We must have LOVE in our hearts if God is to be with us.

God loves other people, with all their faults, as well as US—WITH ALL OUR FAULTS.

We cannot expect God's blessings unless we do have genuine, even FERVENT LOVE for the brethren. Jesus came to seek and to save THAT WHICH WAS LOST.

"BRETHREN", (this is to US,—CHRISTIANS) if a man be overtaken in a fault, YE which are spirit-

ual, (YE,—several of you godly people, take time to properly look after that wandering sheep), RESTORE (NOT—CAST OFF, NOT Despise, Not ridicule, Not ignore, not pick him to pieces, not criticize, not speak evil of him, not hold him in contempt, not condemn him, not judge him,—but RESTORE)—such an one in the spirit of MEEKNESS, (Not in a holier-than-thou, self-righteous spirit of harshness, but God's Word says in a spirit of MEEKNESS); considering thyself, (Go at the thing diligently, watchfully), lest thou also be tempted. (Gal. 6:1). Considering yourself—taking account of your own weaknesses lest, on the one hand, you are harsh and bitter—and so discourage the erring brother, or, on the other hand, lest you are too soft, too humanly sympathetic, too careless, negligent, unfaithful—and so fail to bring God's TRUTH to bear on the situation IN LOVE.

There is great danger that those who deal with erring brethren fail in one of the two points mentioned. "Let not MERCY AND TRUTH forsake thee." Prov. 3:3. Both mercy and truth are essential. Better never present the TRUTH even as important as it is, as necessary as it is—unless and until you can actually present it in MERCY—with a heart-felt, whole-souled DESIRE to do GOOD to the erring brother—not with a motive to maintain YOUR righteousness, or YOUR respectability, or to merely do YOUR duty—but the Word says MERCY must go right along with even God's own TRUTH.

"Speaking the truth IN LOVE." Eph. 4:15. "Let ALL THINGS be done by you IN LOVE." 1 Cor. 16:14, margin. Paul says, "I ceased not to warn every one night and day WITH TEARS." Acts 20:31. Unless we can do God's work IN LOVE—do not attempt to do it at all—but rather take ALARM at our own condition — REPENT, SEEK GOD with all our heart UNTIL again is restored to us a tender heart of compassion for the lost and erring. Neither eat, drink, nor sleep while your heart is callous—but desperately SEEK God for a reviving in your own heart so that you yourself may be READY (Matt. 24:44)—and that you may HELP (Not hinder) OTHERS!

When Joshua's army failed (Josh. 7)—he fell on his face and desperately sought the Lord UNTIL God Himself told him to get up. Joshua did not try to reason things out. He did not attempt to win a victory by attacking another city—but he went right to God—and never moved TILL God spoke to him! Oh that we, individually, and collectively, had as much sense today! Oh that WE may MEAN BUSINESS WITH GOD—and make our effective service for Him more important than eating, sleeping, social engagements, the opinion of people,—more important than our own welfare, our own health, our own life even—so that we feel, like Finney, that

we simply cannot live without enjoying the presence of the Lord!

Jesus Himself—The Head of the Church, tells us plainly to Condemn not, to Judge Not—but to Love one another as HE loves us. He says if a man love Him he WILL keep His words.

It is a positive fact that it is the TRUTH that makes people FREE—Jno. 8:32. But the manner of presenting the TRUTH is paramountly important. Salt is good—but you could force salt into a person's mouth until you choked him to death. Water is good—but you can drown a person with a very little water—if you go about it in a certain way.

The fact is, that if we ourselves do not have that tender, weeping compassionate LOVE of the Son of God in our hearts—even for erring, wandering sheep—why God will NOT work with us, so we simply make matters worse by attempting even to present the truth of God unless and until our own hearts are filled with God's LOVE. Remember that Jesus tells of the ninety and nine sheep left IN THE WILDERNESS, while the ONE—not the one that was faithful—but the one that was LOST—is sought UNTIL found! HE is our Lord and Master. Oh let us FOLLOW HIM!

As God looks upon us all, in the clear, shining, light of His own pure LOVE, He tells us through the lips of His Son, Jesus Christ, that, if and while we are not right with God our own selves—why then, if in that condition we attempt to straighten out another person, we are HYPOCRITES. "THOU HYPOCRITE, FIRST cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou SEE CLEARLY to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye." Matt. 7:5. And this Word from the Lord is in the chapter which starts out with the positive command, "JUDGE NOT."

So hateful in God's sight is self-righteousness, a holier-than-thou attitude, a vengeful, spiteful, bitter harsh, judging spirit, that the fault of the other person is a straw compared with the frightful saw-log of SIN in the heart of a criticizing, fault-finding, evil-speaking, so-called "righteous" person, who is trying to set everybody else right—but in the wrong spirit.

God is not excusing SIN in any one. His Word by no means says that the mote is not in the brother's eye. God wants that mote, (Greek, that "straw"), removed. But how utterly foolish, how insanelly self-righteous is a person who, with a beam, (Greek, "a stick of timber") in his own wicked and deceitful eye, will busy himself in "beholding" the straw in the other's eye, while stupidly failing to "consider" and even to "perceive" the stick of timber in his own eye! See Matt. 7:3-5; Luke 6:41-49.

Oh let us RESTORE—and Not DESTROY! Let us BUILD and not DEMOLISH! —W. C. Moore

Why So Few Believe The Gospel

(Continued from page 10.)

civil, and esteemed virtuous and frugal, perish here!

IV. IGNORANCE AS TO THE NATURE OF TRUE HAPPINESS. You do not look upon it as your happiness to have communion with God. Hence you are like those who were invited to the marriage of the king's son (Matt. 22:5). The offer of the Gospel has no weight with you. If a market of fine things at a cheap rate were proclaimed, ye would all run to it; but ye delight not in the Word of God, ye prize not the Gospel and the precious things it offers you. You deny this? Well, then, 1. How often have you thanked God for sending the Gospel to you? You say grace before meat; how often have you said grace for the Gospel? 2. How is it that you are so intermittent in your attendance at the preaching of it? Were a messenger sent to you from some great man how you would arrange all your affairs so as not to miss it! But to the sanctuary, where messages from God are delivered, you come rarely, or at the most only once on the Lord's day. 3. If you had reason to believe that you were heir to an earthly estate, how careful you would be to put yourself in possession of all the evidence of your right to it! But how much trouble have you taken to make sure that the "inheritance" of which the Gospel speaks to us shall ever be yours? Alas! it is too clear that you think happiness is to be found in earthly things, and not in the heavenly things the Gospel offers you.

V. STRUGGLING AGAINST CONSCIENCE. Some of you have been made sometimes to tremble as Felix did; but like him you have pushed off the appeal and put off your decision to another time, and gone away to some company or recreation, that so you might stifle the conviction, and drive it out of your thoughts. So you have struggled against conscience awakened and alarmed by sickness, bereavement, etc.

VI. SAYING "PEACE, PEACE," WHEN PEACE HAS NOT BEEN MADE. There are still in the world many Laodiceans (Rev. 3:17) 1. Some of you have attained to a sort of outside reformation, and you think on that account that you are well enough, and on good terms with God. But there must be more than reformation; there must be regeneration, a new heart! 2. Some of you pray, and you think something of that. But mere mechanical prayer is worthless (Matt. 6:7) 3. Some of you think you have faith enough, because you have "historical faith." Alas! many of you have as much believing as keeps you from faith in Christ! 4. Some of you are satisfied because at times your heart has been tender, and then you formed good resolutions. But this is one of the rottenest of the props on which you could rest. Such tenderness of heart is transient

and mere resolutions, mere intentions, never profited any man.

VII. BEING SATISFIED WITH THE APPROVAL OF MEN. It is not the commendation of men, but the commendation of God that you should seek mainly after; and yet if you think that good men esteem you, you suppose you are good enough, like the foolish virgins who were so secure because the wise took them and retained them in their company. This is the ruin of many, especially when they look about them, and observe in others some sin from which they abstain (Luke 18:11.) Self-approval added to the approval of their fellow-men satisfies them, though they lack "the one thing needful."

VIII. RESTING IN THE MEANS OF GRACE. The things through which all men should be saved ruin many. Where the Gospel is in any measure powerfully preached, there are many more secure and fearless than if they had it not; having the Gospel, they feel as if they were in no danger, and could believe it when they pleased. Against this danger our Lord has expressly warned us (Luke 13:26.) If you do this, ere long against you the door will be shut. (Luke 13:25.) Thank God for the means of grace, but do not rest in them. —James Durham

Question Answered

In answer to the following question being asked, "What can be done about a minister who has been renounced because of walking disorderly, etc. and yet he continues to take charge wherever he can get a few to stand with him, and insists on setting in and setting out members or officers?" we would say, according to the following scriptures, 2 Thes. 3:6; Rom. 16:17; 1 Tim. 6:5; and Matt. 18:17, that when a man or minister has been thus dealt with, he has no part nor lot with us until he repents of his wrong and is again restored back into fellowship with the church. And those who are endorsing him in his wrong actions should be warned that we, the church of God, can have no fellowship with those of like spirit as the renounced party has; that when a body of ministers that are in harmony with the church in general, renounces an offender for Bible reasons the whole church stands behind them in the legal act.

BIBLE LESSONS

Order Sunday School literature at least two weeks before beginning of new quarter from Dorothy Byers, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. Picture Rolls \$1.15 each, Lesson Cards 4 cents per set. Sets cannot be broken. One set per pupil is needed each quarter. Order in time!

A PEOPLE IN DISTRESS

Sunday, July 4, 1943

Daily Readings and Meditations

June 28 to July 3.

- M. An oppressed people Exod. 1:6-14.
- T. A cry of distress Psalm 102:1-15.
- W. A prayer in affliction Psalm 142:1-7.
- T. God hears a people's cry Exod. 2:23-25.
- F. The bondage of sin Rom. 6:15-23.
- S. Trust in the Lord Isa. 26:1-12.

Printed PortionExodus 1:6-14; 2:23-25.

Ex. 1:6. And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

7. And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

8. Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

9. And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we;

10. Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

11. Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

12. But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

13. And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour;

14. And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field; all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

Ex. 2:23. And it came to pass in the process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

24. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

25. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

Golden Text: "They cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage." Exodus 2:23.

Practical Truth: God is not indifferent to the sufferings of men.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The last lessons which we studied in the Old Testament were taken from the book of Genesis concerning the lives of the Patriarchs. The last one told us about Joseph being made a ruler in Egypt. He had the privilege of saving the lives of his father and brethren and their families and brought them to Egypt to live because of the famine.

When they came to Egypt, they were few in number but under the special blessing of God they had increased exceedingly; thus the promise God had made to Abraham was fulfilled literally then as it has been spiritually since then.

Joseph and all his brethren and the Egyptians who had been benefitted by Joseph died, and the important services rendered by Joseph were forgotten and the land of their shelter became a house of slavery. The new king knew not Joseph, and though the Israelites were a quiet, peaceable people, giving the king no grounds for such fears, he feared their number and strength. It is likely that the strongest feeling working in his heart was envy. The result was that he became a hard taskmaster and began to afflict God's people with burdens. The comforting part of our lesson is that when they cried to God about it, He heard, remembered, looked upon them, and had respect unto them.

Persecution does not stop the progress of God's church. It is said, "God can make a nursery for His church anywhere." When Satan and his hosts arrayed themselves against the early church to destroy it, it grew stronger, and each time one gave his life for the faith there were many others to take his place.

The king in this lesson who was such a hard taskmaster is a type of Satan, who causes people to be heavy laden with sin. He did not start his oppression by reducing them to bitter, hard bondage in one day, but gradually reduced them to that state. His first step was to make them his subjects. Satan is cunning and has many agencies, and slowly binds his victims until he finally imposes upon the sinner an intolerable servitude. He causes his slave to do that which he would not choose to do, making his life bitter with his lashes. He destroys friendly companionship, breaks up homes, and destroys nations, fills life with grief, and the only wages he offers to his subjects is "death."

But when a sinner cries to God to be delivered from the oppression, God will hear, he will remember His covenant of mercy, and His Son will set the captive free. Whomsoever the Son sets free is free indeed.

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GOD CALLS A LEADER

Sunday, July 11, 1943

Daily Readings and Meditations

July 5 to 12.

M. Moses' life spared Exod. 2:1-10.

T. God calls Moses Exod. 3:1-12.

W. Moses heeds God's call Heb. 11:23-27.

T. God calls Joshua Josh. 1:1-9.

F. God calls Gideon Judges 6:11-24.

S. God calls Paul Acts 9:10-20.

Printed PortionExodus 3:1-12.

Ex. 3:1. Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

2. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

3. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

4. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

5. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

6. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

7. And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

8. And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

9. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the op-

pression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

10. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

11. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

12. And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

Golden Text: "Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt." Ex. 3:10.

Practical Truth: A call of God carries with it responsibility and opportunity.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Briefly review the incidents which took place between last Sunday's lesson and today's. Most Sunday School students have read and studied about the birth of Moses, and know how God protected him when a child, how he was reared as the son of Pharaoh's daughter, and taught by his own mother who instilled in his heart a love for his own people whom he could not bear to see brutally treated. He slew an Egyptian whom he saw beating one of the Israelites and had to flee from Egypt to escape Pharaoh's wrath. His life then on the desert was quite a contrast to his former life in Egypt, but God placed him there to attend His school, that He might prepare him further for the work He wanted him to do in the future.

God usually works through human instrumentality to accomplish His purposes and He usually qualifies those for whom He has some special mission by a special revelation or call. God had led Moses to this place which was most favorable to the heavenly vision.

The bush burned but was not consumed. The reason for this was that God was in the midst of it. This was a true emblem of God's people at that time and during periods of persecution since then. They go through fiery furnaces but are not consumed because God is in the midst of them.

Notice Moses' words, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight." He could leave his earthly pursuits to turn aside to investigate the workings of God. It was when He did this that God spoke to him. God's workings attract the attention of many who feel that they are too busy to look into the matter, and thus they fail to hear the voice of God speak to their souls, calling them by name.

Many years the Israelites had suffered under the oppression of Egypt, but at last the time had come for their deliverance. This is true to God's workings. His help is sure to those who call upon Him though it may seem to the oppressed that He works slowly, yet He is never behind time and never comes too late. He had been working unknown to them for eighty years on this one thing, for Moses was now eighty years old.

Compare this to the way God worked to deliver people from the tyrant, sin. Just after the fall of Adam and Eve which brought all mankind under the bondage of sin, God promised a Saviour who would deliver them, but He worked many years before the people saw the fulfillment of that promise in the birth of the Christ child. Moses told the children of Israel that God would raise up a prophet like unto him—meaning Jesus. As Moses delivered God's people from the bondage of Egypt even so Christ delivers them from the bondage of sin.

GOD ENCOURAGES MOSES

Sunday, July 18, 1943

Daily Readings and Meditations

July 12 to 17

- M. Called to a great task Exod. 3:13-17.
- T. God encourages Moses Exod. 4:1-9.
- W. God promises help Exod. 4:10-17.
- T. God encourages Paul Acts 18:5-11.
- F. The promise of Victory John 16:25-33.
- S. A Psalm of Trust Psa. 27:1-14.

Printed PortionExodus 3:13-16; 4:10-17.

Ex. 3:13. And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

14. And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

15. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name forever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

16. Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

Ex. 4:10. And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

11. And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the Lord?

12. Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

13. And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

14. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

15. And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth, and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth and will teach you what ye shall do.

16. And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

17. And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

Golden Text: "Certainly I will be with thee." Ex. 3:12.

Practical Truth: Our chief source of encouragement is the presence and help of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Today's lesson records more of the conversation between God and Moses at the burning bush. God had told Moses why He had appeared to him and what mission He had for him. In view of this enormous task, questions began to form in Moses' mind.

Years before when he attempted to settle a dispute between two Hebrews, thy resented it and asked, "Who made thee a prince and a ruler over us?" It was only natural for Moses to think that if they would not listen to him then when he was one of the royal family, they surely would not listen to him now that he was nothing but a shepherd of the mountains. In his own strength he could do nothing with them. So he asked the question, "What shall I say unto them?"

Ministers and teachers should learn a lesson from this simple question. Moses had been educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, but he did not resort to this wisdom when he needed a message for God's people which would make them realize that God willed their deliverance from bondage.

Multitudes today are in Egyptian bondage (sin). They have been there so long that they cannot easily be influenced to come out into freedom. God chooses men to take to them the message that He wills their deliverance. Many ministers resort to their intellect and as they study their books and great sermons of others, ask themselves the question, "What shall I say unto them?" Others hasten to college and ask there, "What shall I say unto them?" God alone can answer this question in a way that would persuade men that they should leave sin.

God's answer to Moses points out His eternity and self-existence. Many believe that God WAS and performed miracles in the past, but if they can be made to realize that He IS, a great barrier to faith will be removed. The Israelites remembered that He WAS the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but had lost sight of Him to a great extent as an ever-present God. His message to them and is to us, I AM.

God can put His words into any mouth. Moses probably found a difficulty in readily expressing his thoughts, but God could use such an instrument to His greater glory. When people are natural-born orators, God gets little or no glory when that one speaks. It is God's will that the faith of men "should not stand in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God."

The question in verse eleven, "Who hath made man's mouth?" should teach us two lessons. If God is definitely calling us to special work for Him, we should not draw back because of some handicap; and since we know that God made our mouths, we should use them to glorify Him.

Flimsy excuses which people try to hide behind to keep from doing God's will never have any weight with God.

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BIBLE TEACHINGS ON THE COST OF DRINKING

Sunday, July 25, 1943

Daily Readings and Meditations

July 19 to 24.

- M. The penalty of sin Deut. 21:18-21.
- T. Drunkenness leads to poverty Prov. 23:20, 21.
- W. No drunkards in God's kingdom 1 Cor. 6:9-11.
- T. A warning against wine Prov. 23:29-35.
- F. King Lemuel's advice Prov. 31:4-9.
- S. The drunkard's woes Isa. 5:11-24.

Printed PortionDeut. 21:18-21; Prov. 23:20, 21;
1 Cor. 6:9-11.

Deut. 21:18. If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them:

19. Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place;

20. And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious he will not obey our voice, he is a glutton, and a drunkard.

21. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you, and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

Prov. 23:20. Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh.

21. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty; and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

1 Cor. 6:9. Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind.

10. Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Golden Text: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?" 1 Cor. 6:9.

Practical Truth: The cost of drinking is so high that no one should pay the price.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God has given parents authority over their children. Under the old law this as well as many other laws seemed harsh and severe, but God wanted his people to know that He hated sin. This law that the parents of a stubborn, rebellious, gluttonous, and drunken son should have him stoned to death must have acted as a powerful preventive of crime. The law required parents to train their children right and to teach them the commandments. If they had done their duty and warned their son against these particular sins then as a rule the son would be possessed with a dread and detestation of them. But if he was stubborn and wilfully disobeyed them, then there was no injustice in the penalty which he had to pay. A rebellious son is not only a burden and grief to father and mother, but a peril to society.

Our lesson deals with the cost of drinking. In those days the rightful one had to pay the cost of drunkenness by being stoned to death, but now others who keep up prisons, houses of correction, insane asylums, father's, mothers, wives, and children have to pay a greater price than the drunkard himself.

The New Testament law is a law of love and tolerance—tolerance for the sinner, but not the sin. Parents are commanded to keep their children in subjection with all gravity. Many rebellious sons have been conquered through love and prayer and have repented. But if they continue in their rebelliousness and drunkenness they will have an enormous cost to pay which they will never get paid, for "the wages of sin is death" and no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God.

The portion of our lesson taken from Proverbs pictures the cost of drinking in terms of earthly possessions. He shall come to literal poverty as well as soul poverty. Would any sane person dare to refute this statement?

We do not care to pay a high price for worth while things. Usually we stop and consider the cost, and say "Is it worth what I'll have to pay for it?" If people who are entering the drinking habit, would seriously consider this, there would not be many drunkards.