

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### Praises To Our King

In the morning we will sing  
Praises to our heavenly King;  
Praises for his keeping power  
Through the night, to this glad hour;  
Thanks for strength again to rise  
With the light from eastern skies;  
Supplications for the day,  
Grace to keep us in the way;  
Thus we place our hand in thine,  
Keep us Lord, all thine are mine;  
Guide us on our upward way  
In thy path through all the day.  
As our lips sing forth thy praise,  
Let our hearts regard thy ways;  
Like the ladder Jacob saw  
In the night, while there he lay  
On a pillow God had made,  
All unknown to human aid;  
Reaching up from earth to heaven,  
Angels witness God had given,  
Power to sleep, and power to rise,  
From this earth to heavenly skies;  
Thus each day is but a step,  
Upward while we love and keep  
His commandments to obey  
Diligently all the way.  
Help us, Lord to pray and sing,  
While our souls are on the wing,  
Till we take our happy flight,  
To our heavenly home so bright.

—C. Z. Stonecypher

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### Keys of The Kingdom

"And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven." Matt. 16:19.

Shortly after this declaration, Jesus with Peter, James, and John went up into a high mountain where our Savior was transfigured. The disciples had been down through Galilee with Jesus and had heard His wonderful discourses and had seen the amazing mir-

acles of the Lord or His marvelous works that so astonished them. The time and opportunity had now arrived that they were to no longer be content to just sit and listen to the Lord's words or to see the power of God demonstrated by Him. They were given to understand that there was a great work ahead for them to do.

The words "keys of the kingdom" in the text symbolizes and signifies wisdom, knowledge, authority, and power vested in them by the Spirit and power of God through His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the redeemer of mankind.

How worthless is dead, cold, formal, aristocratic, dignified piety of feeling that one has nothing to do but sit still as though living in a freezing atmosphere, prayerless, and void of a heart-felt testimony to the saving power of Christ. So many professing church members in the many religious organizations appear to know little or nothing of the everlasting joy and unspeakable values of a full gospel salvation from all sin.

To think the minister is paid to do all the praying, Bible reading, teaching, and exhorting and that there is nothing for anyone else to do except to keep silent, is dishonoring to God and His helpful glorious cause that helps to make the abode of mankind a more unselfish, peaceable, and loving place in which to dwell.

The great Hebrew prophet Isaiah, by revelation from God 700 years B. C., spoke of the ungodly as being in bonds and in prison at Satan's good pleasure. He fully sensed the great work and the golden opportunity and privilege of the faithful laborers who would co-operate with the Lord in that glorious new dispensation of the Lord that was to come, in the following words, "To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness [sin] out of the prison house." (42:7) "To proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." (61:1) In 2 Tim. 2:26 we also read, "And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." Multitudes are weary of sin's bondage and crave to be loosed from the fetters of Satan. That which is loosed on earth is loosed in heaven, signifies that every Holy Spirit born Christian co-operating with the Lord Jesus can greatly assist in loosening those fetters of sin from those

confined in the dark, foul dungeons of Satan."

The powerful keys of the kingdom unlock the door of the prison house of sin and cut loose the bonds of the prisoners and set them eternally free. Dear co-workers in the Lord, we are given authority and power to resist or rebuke everything that is evil, and to help Christ destroy Satan's power in the lives of those about us and elsewhere whose lives are void of full salvation. "That which is sealed by faith and power of the Spirit of God on earth is sealed [bound or loosed] and bound eternally."

The gates of hell can never prevail against the solid foundation of the Christian faith, and those who are determined to stand true to God even to the supreme sacrifice of their mortal lives. (Matt. 16:18)

The need is vitally great for faithful, loyal, sincere workers in the vineyard, fruitful vale and harvest field where the fruits and grain are white (ripe) unto harvest. This is a most wonderful rich trust, honor, privilege, or golden opportunity to have a part with Christ in this mighty work that insures perfect victory over the arch enemy of God and all His creatures.

Daniel 12:3 encourages and spurs everyone to come to the front and engage the enemy of all righteousness in these words, "And they that be wise [teachers and workers] shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn [convert] many to righteousness, as the stars forever and ever."

Back yonder under the old dispensation beyond the time of Solomon, a voice cried out, "He that goeth forth and weepeth [deeply sincere] bearing precious seed, [truth of God] shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves [fruits of his labors] with him." Psalms 126:6.

In Matt. 9:37 our Savior declares "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few." Also in John 4:35, 36, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; [opportunities] for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages [reward] and gathereth fruit [redeemed souls] unto life eternal; that both he that soweth, and he that reapeth may rejoice together." These quotations are sufficient evidence and absolute gospel truth that must awaken every Spirit-born Christian to greater active service in helping the unsaved about us and elsewhere to seek after and possess genuine, heart-felt full salvation from all sin.

Multitudes need to be informed just what to do, or the first steps to take toward God, or to cry out "What must I do to be saved?" Life's sorrowing cry should and must awaken every sincere gospel worker everywhere with a heart-felt burden for the lost, that their guilty condemned conscience or seriousness of mind must bring godly sorrow for their sinful nature by confession and repentance unto salvation through Jesus Christ and Him only.

Please read Romans 10:9, 10. "If the Son [Jesus] therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36. Dear souls, you who are locked up in the dark, foul dungeon and prisons of Satan, your greatest enemy who delights to cheat you out of your rich heavenly inheritance, get serious-minded, flee

the wrath to come by seeking with all your heart to find and to know God. Read, study, and pray that the prison door be unlocked with the keys of the kingdom of God entrusted in the hands of His faithful, loyal servants who in the mind of Christ, are not willing that any be lost, but that all may come to repentance.

—John H. Griffith

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## "Know Ye Not That Ye Are The Temple Of God?"

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" In the Greek it reads, "Do you not know, That you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells among you? If any one destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him: for the temple of God is holy, which you are." 1 Cor. 3:16, 17. Now let us read 1 Cor. 6:19, 20 as it is written in the Emphatic Diaglott: "What! Do you not know that your body is a temple of that holy Spirit in you, which you have from God? Besides, you are not your own; for you were bought with a price; glorify God, then, in your body." In 2 Cor. 6: 14-18 we read Paul's words from the Greek, "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers; for what participation has righteousness with iniquity? or what communion has light with darkness? and what accordance has Christ with Belial? or what portion has a believer with an unbeliever? And what connection has God's temple with idols? for we are a temple of the living God; as God said, I will dwell among them, and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be to Me a people. Wherefore, depart from the midst of them, and be separated says the Lord, And touch not the impure: and I will receive you, and I will be to you for a Father, and you shall be to Me for sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

In reading about Solomon's temple, we learn how grand it must have been: made of hewn stones, cedars, and precious stones, carved to represent fruit, and overlaid with gold, and mammoth stones for its foundation. Great wealth was bestowed upon it. And while Jacob's descendants were true to God, He remained among them, and fought their battles for them: He dwelt above the mercy seat, in the Most Holy Place. And, so it is with us, so long as we keep God in our hearts and keep our hearts free from every defilement, and not fellowship the unrighteous. We must keep ourselves in the love of God. He expects to make our hearts His dwelling place when we yield unto Him and become His willing slaves. He will walk in us; He will talk to us: He will be our Keeper; He will express Himself through us. In other words, He (God) will live in us and be our Deliverer and a light in us to this sin-darkened world.

He can use us if we keep our hearts holy, and do not fellowship unholy religions. If they know not Jesus as their Redeemer from sin, people are the same as idolaters even though they are religious. They worship they know not what, and are defiled, if still in their sins. This is plain talk, nevertheless

it is true and many will realize it when it is too late to make amends.

Our hearts must be His workshop and in them no place for that which is evil. God must come first; He must be our All and in All. He will not take the back seat for any evil thing, or for anything. He must have no rival in this His thorne. Our hearts must be pure and clean, with love toward God and man. The love of this world must go, then God's love will flow in and we shall be like our Creator, love even our enemies. This is godly.

The Bride of Ephesus would not cast one single grain upon the incense altar, though it might have freed her from persecution. Her God came first, and she would rather suffer death than fail Him, not even to please lover, friend, or family. So it must be with us, all evil and idolatry must depart, if we expect God to fill our hearts, His temple, and keep them for Himself to dwell in.

It is an individual matter. Each one of us must come to God, and yield our all into His care and keeping, and present to God our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable, and He will purge us and live in us. Each heart must be cleansed and filled with God Himself, then we are sealed for eternity by His abiding presence. May God bless this truth to every honest heart.

—Edith Kriebel

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### The Chance of A Lifetime

We have heard the above expression several times in our life. But especially our mind goes back to the last time we heard it, which has not been a great while ago. The expression was made in reference to the exceptionally high wages, in some places paid for labor, which would enable a laborer to reap a big financial harvest, so he could live easy and live high and get much in his possession in a short time.

It is no wonder Jesus said when he was here upon earth, that the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light. (Luke 16:18) It is easy to see with what avidity people who are sowing to the flesh, seize the opportunity to make money that will enable them to lay up a store of this world's things, while the opportunity is at hand. But how sad it is to see that the chance of a lifetime is at hand for getting their souls saved and laying up treasures so far ahead of money, and they are counting this opportunity as nothing and trampling it under foot. In this connection and in various others, how often we think of the words of Jesus in Luke 19:41, 42 which reads as follows, "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, [Jerusalem] at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." O soul, will you wake up to the consciousness that "the chance of a lifetime" is before you right now to work for wages that are higher than all the billions of earth can pay? the redemption of your price-

less soul? (Matt. 16:26.) Dear soul, dear neighbor and friend, my heart trembles and aches for you when I hear you say, "These big wages paid by the government today for secular work is the chance of a life time."

Right now is the "chance of a life time" open to you, and disregarded, it may never come your way again. Dear friend, this is no scare affair. Innumerable cases like it have already been. The Bible tells us that today is the day of salvation, if ye hear his voice, harden not your heart. This is the voice of his word coming right now to you. Pray, accept these wages offered you in mercy now. Sinful pleasure promises you great wages, (but this promise is from the mouth of a habitual liar) though the Word tells us these wages are death—eternal death! (Rom. 6:23). But the gift of God is eternal life. (Last part of same scripture.)

—J. H. Pierson.

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### Are You of Earth or Heaven?

Paul says in 1 Cor. 15:47, "The first man is of the earth, earthy [Adam with his nature]: the second man is the Lord from heaven. [Christ and his divine nature]. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy. [They sense, love, and put their faith in earthly things]: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly." They sense and love heavenly things and put their faith and confidence in things above, seeing Him who is invisible as a ruler of the universe.

Paul says in Rom. 8:20, "For the creature [this earthly being] was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope."

This body is made of the earth and is naturally subjected to earthly, visible things; yet the hope of God is that we will have so much faith in him because of the record and testimonies of Himself recorded in his sacred word, that we will turn from all these vain things, which are to perish with the using, and place our affections entirely upon Him and the unseen heavenly things, and manifest this confidence by acting like it in this world while among the great throng of unbelievers, skeptics, and professors of Christ, who deny him by works and faith in earthly things and kingdoms.

"While we look not at the things which are seen but at the things that are not seen: for the things that are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Cor. 4:18.

All labors, thought, and toil that we have about earthly things are vain, as all earthly things will perish with the using; but when we place our affections on things above and labor, toil, and think upon things above, it is not vain, but will bring eternal rewards. Our treasures will then be laid up in heaven, where moth and rust doth not corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal.

Jesus says in Matt. 6:30, "Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and

(Continued on Page 7.)

**"FAITH AND VICTORY"**

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting 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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Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the world and entire devotion to the service and the will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling spirit of Christ; and separation from all human organizations—such are not authorized in the Word of God.

This publication teaches salvation from all 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. James 5:14, 15.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation 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. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 24:2; 1 Chron. 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 unless otherwise specified. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma

O—O—O—O—O—O

Prayer makes the darkest cloud withdraw  
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw,  
Gives exercise to faith and love,  
Brings every blessing from above,  
Restraining prayer, we cease to fight,  
Prayer makes the Christian's armor bright.  
And Satan trembles when he sees  
The weakest saint upon his knees.

"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."

**Editorials**

The Easter Sunday service at the chapel in Guthrie was well attended. Several saints came in from surrounding congregations and spent the day here, and we enjoyed their fellowship. The Lord gave us some precious gospel messages through his consecrated ministers, and we all counted it a blessed privilege to sit and listen to the good truth. The ordinances of the Bible were observed in the afternoon and a large number partook of the bread and wine, which brought to our remembrances afresh that His precious blood was poured out for our salvation and that his body was broken and death came that we might have eternal life. It was a solemn occasion. Just before the Lord's Supper, the saints washed one another's feet in harmony with the example that Jesus our Lord and Master left when he observed it, then said to the disciples, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; Ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." John 13:14, 15. This is very plain talk to us from the Lord. I would be afraid to disobey his teaching and commands. He says in the 17th verse, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." It surely does bring happiness to the souls of humble saints who practice this ordinance.

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We have had a two weeks meeting at the chapel that has been very profitable to all the congregation. Bro. Ostis Wilson and Bro. Victor Orr from Calif. were here and the Lord used Bro. Wilson in a very precious way to bring the truths of the scriptures to our minds. It was edifying to the saints. After the first week, the Lord sent Bro. Eugene Harmon here from Calif. and also Bro. Egbert Allen of North Missouri. These brethren continued the meeting, and we were all so blessed of the Lord to have them proclaiming the gospel under the anointing of heaven from night to night. It worked a great blessing upon the congregation and some differences were cleared up. The congregation is in good working order, striving together for the faith once delivered to the saints. We thank God for so many clean and pure God-sent ministers who see the truth as it is in Jesus, and flow together.

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"And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified." Rev. 11:8.

In the third verse of this chapter we read about the two witnesses; and in the 4th verse, about the two olive trees and the two candle sticks standing before the God of the earth. In symbolical language these two witnesses are the word of God and the Holy Spirit. They give light and peace to souls that embrace them. This eighth verse pictures them as dead bodies lying in the streets of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt. Sodom and Egypt symbolize sectism or the multitude of man-made churches which are in the world today and were in the world when John wrote this book of Revelation.

These sects hold onto the Word but will not practice all of it, and in that sense the word is as a dead body. They claim to have the Holy Spirit but will not allow Him to rule in their lives, therefore this witness is dead. It is a great city because nearly all religious people are decoyed into some part of it.

This great city of Sodom and Egypt existed when Jesus was here. A number of sects then claimed to be the people of God but they had the two witnesses dead. When Christ came and began to proclaim the truth, they immediately began to seek to kill him because his life and teaching were a continual reproof to their self righteousness. These builders had no place for him in their building, and the scripture was fulfilled which reads, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner." So they slew our Lord in Sodom and Egypt, that great city of sectism or man-made churches, and they have him slain among them now, and have Barabbas loose, who makes sedition and is a murderer. (Luke 23:18, 19.) The Devil has a thousand preachers in the world today to the Lord's one. Men are waxing worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. The only way that any one today can be sure of heaven and have the real pleasure of God upon him is to crucify Barabbas and let Jesus loose in his soul. Let him that hath ears, hear the truth of God's word.

### —o—o— Campmeeting Notice

The campmeeting of the Church of God will be held on the old Southern campground at Hammond, La., from June 30 to July 9, 1944. It is located about one mile southwest of the I. C. railroad depot. Highways 51 and 190 lead here. We have good bus and train service, also mail service. All who love the Lord and his people are welcome to come, also those who have a desire for spiritual or physical help. We believe the Lord saves, sanctifies, and heals, and unites his people in one body. Come and hear the full gospel preached by His ministers whom He may send.

This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. Provisions or money that anyone feels led to donate will be thankfully received.

Please bring your swag and point ration books, also your straw ticks, bed linens, and towels. Straw furnished free, also sleeping quarters on the campground. Send provisions or write to Max Williamson, in care of the post office, Hammond, La., Secy-treas., Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kev, Box 370, Hammond, La., residing ministers.

### —o—o— Obituaries

Charlie N., son of Conrad and Elizabeth Christ, was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, December 28, 1864 and departed this life in Cushing, Okla. at his home, April 14, 1944, at the age of 79 years, 3 months, and 16 days.

In 1894 he was joined in marriage to Ora Elva Jarvis. To this union 8 children were born, 7 of whom are living. On December 11, 1905 Elva was taken in death. On Oct. 24, 1907 he was joined in marriage to Mrs. Maude G. Rector, who had two children by a previous marriage to Nathan Rector who passed from this life in 1905. To this union three children were born.

Bro. Christ was converted under D. S. Warner in Wichita, Kansas, at the age of 21, and led a consistent Christian life and was highly esteemed by all. He was affiliated with the congregation at Guthrie at the time of his death.

He is survived by his wife, Maude G. Christ of Fallis, and twelve children: Elizabeth Fent, Luther Okla.; Aaron Christ, Cushing, Okla.; Esther Canada, Chester, Ark.; Oscar Christ, Foster, Okla.; Mattie Holloway, Arkansas City Kansas; Paul Christ, Pauls Valley, Okla.; Ernest Christ, Luther, Okla.; Irene Archer, Cushing, Okla.; Paul Rector, Cushing; Roxanna McCary, Junction City, Kansas; Thomas Christ, Fallis, Okla. and Mildred Grace, Okla. City, also thirty-two grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; two sisters, and one brother and a host of friends. The funeral was held in the saints' chapel at Guthrie and the building was filled to capacity. The funeral was conducted by Fred Pruitt, text, Psa. 55:6. The remains were buried in the cemetery near the McKinley school-house twenty miles east of Guthrie.

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Ida M. Artrup was born May 24, 1870 at Ashland, Ky. and departed this life March 15, 1944, age 73 years, 9 months and 21 days. On Sept 10, 1887 she was united in marriage to William Artrup. To this union nine children were born. Her husband and six children are left to mourn her passing—William, Torrance, Calif., Ebert and John of Columbus, Ohio, Norman, Lincoln Park, Mich., Mrs. Tom Roberts, Pikesville, Ky., and Mrs. Leroy Witson of Mantua, Ohio; nineteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She accepted the truth as taught by the Church of God and was converted 7 years ago and was baptized by her husband. Just a few days before her passing she told her husband she was ready to go whenever the Lord would call her.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. William Angus at Liberty Hill. Burial was made in the Lucasville cemetery.

We miss dear wife so much yet it was God's will to take her home. While we are left in this sad world to meet with the trials and problems of life we mean to meet her when all is over. Sorrow comes to us all yet joy cometh in the morning. At the last great day we shall rise to meet the host of heaven and be forever with Christ our dear Savior where there will be no more parting, pain or sickness. What a great deliverance is at the end of the race. Her trails are over and all we can say is, Amen to God's sweet will till we meet again.

William Artrup

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Duarte, Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in the name of our Lord. We are praying God's blessings on you and the work over which the Lord has made you overseer.

We read in Psa. 68:11, "The Lord gave the Word, great was the company of those that published it." We find in these last days many are publishing with their mouth and writing tracts vilifying God's people and causing division. The devil makes them think such is great. God's great men are described as ones ministering good to the people. (Matt. 20:26, 27.) They are also great in humility like the Syrophenician woman. (Mark 7:26.) Characters who are great in faith are the kind who represent God to the people. All who are of the same precious spirit as Christ manifested here below are His.

We know that faith without works is dead, therefore as watchmen, as God's men and women, let us sound the alarm in God's Holy Mountain and save some from

going into division and help those who are really seeking help from God. Consider what I write and may the Lord give us all understanding in all things.

We, the ministers of God's church must stand together against this ungodly movement of sedition and seducing spirits. Ministers of every congregation and the workers, must work together to put an end to any kind of uprising. Some are depending on "The Evening Light Watchman" to do all the watching and warning but we must all stand together at our post and do our duty as God-fearing men and women. Let not all differences that may arise be published, but when anyone sees the sword coming and sounds the alarm, let us all consider.

When one is held as being wrong by the ministry, or body of ministers, let him stay bound by the decision until he honestly proves by humility and other godly evidence that his repentance has been complete. We are all watchmen, watching for the safety of God's people and the Book says they shall see eye to eye. Isa. 52:8. Let every one mark the man or woman who causes division. May God bless all at His publishing house and his ministers and all saints, is my prayer.

Yours in Him,

L. E. Davy

Pasadena, California  
April 2, 1944

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

As S. T. Walker has told the saints and ministers of Oklahoma and elsewhere that he has done all he could to clear up his differences with the saints and ministers of California, we, the undersigned, ministers of California hereby inform you that he has not and is not now in harmony and fellowship with the Church in this state. When he has cleared up his differences satisfactorily, a representative body of ministers will issue a signed statement to that effect, and you are advised to accept no other evidence. E. M. Zinn, 522 E. Flower, Bellflower, Calif., A. E. Harmon, 1127 Thompson, Glendale, Calif., S. L. Fingerly, 316 S. Whittier Ave., Whittier, Calif., L. E. Davy, Box 133, Duarte, Calif., T. T. Holden, 132 S. 29th St., San Diego, Calif., G. E. Harmon, 334½ Arden Ave., Glendale, Calif.

Editors note: We are sorry that it has become necessary to insert the above statement from the ministers of Southern California, but for the sake of precious souls who may otherwise be shaken off into some little click or bunch, we deem it best and expedient in order to preserve life, unity, and oneness among the redeemed. We have all confidence in the ministers who have signed the above statement, and those who turn down their decisions and uphold that small, unscriptural split will be held as ones fostering division.

Dear brothers and sisters, if we love this dear man's soul and the sacred body of Christ, the Church, as the scriptures teach us, we will entreat him to clear up the offenses in humility of mind and heart so that peace, unity, and brotherly love will continue.

We wish to say that the misunderstandings in the Guthrie congregation have been cleared up and unity in the spirit is prevailing and all are endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. The Lord encourages us to look forward to a glorious state campmeeting at Guthrie this summer which will begin on the fourth of August. All are welcome.

"Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another." Rom. 12:9, 10.

## Jesus Christ, The Way, The Truth, The Life

The price paid for our redemption was the blood of Jesus. Dear friends and loved ones, my heart is heavy as I think of the cruel way in which our Savior was slain. His own disciples turned their backs on him at the time when he needed them most. They wouldn't even stay awake to watch with him one hour. Then they denied him. Oh, think how He loved us, and how unworthy we are of Him—Jesus, the precious Lamb of God, who was obedient to his Father's will even unto death. No man has known the agony He suffered for us. And oh, what shame that people are still crucifying our Lord unto themselves, and trampling His mercy under their feet!

How earnestly we need to warn the stiff-necked people who are turning the Lord down. The Lord has told us to work while it is day for the night cometh when no man can work. Beloved, it surely seems that time is near at hand. Sin's dark night is so enveloping souls, that it behooves saints of God to stay awake spiritually and keep saved. The Lord has said that He will go with us to the end of the world, and will never forsake us, nor allow us to be tempted above that we are able to bear. We need not fear what the world can do to us so long as we keep looking to the Savior who has overcome the world.

In the 14th chapter of St. John, Jesus told His disciples what to expect and why He was going away. He said He would send them another Comforter. He was troubled and heavy-hearted because of the cup which would soon be his to drink, but He was not thinking of himself. He tried to comfort His friends with these words, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." Glory to God! I am glad I have learned to believe in God the Father, and Jesus the Son, and the Holy Ghost the Comforter, whom I have within my soul. His words still ring in my heart, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto my self; that where I am, there ye may be also."

Dear friends, He is coming after us. How I love to meditate on His promises and truths. We must keep battling on and reaching out on both sides of us, endeavoring to help souls see their need of getting ready for Jesus' coming.

In order to be ready for Jesus' coming, one must be living in touch with the Lord so he can hear and obey His voice, he must be holy as Jesus is holy, and he must stay in the center of the Lord's will, always ready to lift up Jesus to the world.

If anyone who reads this is expecting a home in heaven, yet is seeking a good time on this earth, not caring about other people who have not the salvation of God, he needs to have a dream like a man had about whom I have read:

This man grew weary; he wanted to stop his work for the Lord and rest. He went to bed with this on his mind. He dreamed he was up in heaven with two of

his friends. As they walked, he thought he saw a chariot of gold coming toward them. It stopped when it came up to where they were. Jesus was in it. He took him to a place and told him to look and tell Him what he saw. He told Jesus he could see nothing but a great pit of darkness. Jesus asked him to look again, and this time he saw men groping about in the darkness, and many of them were stumbling over the edge of a horrible abyss, having no one to warn them of danger and guide them to light, safety, and the beauties of heaven. The man awakened and realized it was a dream, but the effect it had upon him caused him to devote the rest of his life to the work of the Lord.

At no time did Jesus instruct his followers to sit down, and sit there looking up while they waited for his coming. He told them to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

I want to do my very best to help save poor lost souls who are groping in darkness, stumbling over each other and falling into the abyss below, where they cry for water, water, water. We cannot reach them down there, so let us do all we can to reach them here. My heart is heavy because my husband and parents are among those who are struggling in the pit of darkness. Will you who know the Lord help me to bring them to Jesus so they will be ready when He comes?

Saints of God, preach the Word, pray, sacrifice, work, and obey. Sinners, turn to God, repent, and be born again. Be ready at all times, for at an hour when ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

—Frieda McFadden

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### ARE YOU OF EARTH OR HEAVEN?

(Continued from Page 3.)

tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles [unsaved people] seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

These words from the lips of Jesus, who has all power both in heaven and in earth (Matt. 28:18) ought to cause us who know God, or rather are known of him to have so much faith and confidence that we would do just what he told us to do: seek his righteousness and kingdom first and continue in them without any fear. When we do this, he will fulfill all of his promises to us in supplying all our needs. An abundance of scriptures in God's sacred word verify Jesus' words that he has all power both in heaven and in earth. To encourage our faith, we shall copy a few of them.

"And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Daniel 7:14.

"He shall be great, and shall be called the son of the highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his Father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob [saved people] for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." Luke 1:32.

"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come; And hath put all things under his feet, ["Hath put" means He has already done it.] and gave him to be the head over all things to the Church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." Eph. 1:20-23.

"Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him." 1 Peter 3:22.

In the face of all these plain scriptures that are so positive in their declaration of Jesus Christ having all power and dominion over all the powers that be; I say, how can any one doubt Him by putting faith in earthly things? Especially, how can saints make such a high profession of faith in God then put their trust in earthly things and companies of men by insuring their lives? When they do this, it proves they are afraid that somewhere in the future they or some of their loved ones will not have the Heavenly Father's care and will need earthly companies bound by earthly laws and regulations to supply them. Such actions are insulting to the all-wise and almighty God who has so plainly told us of His unlimited and all-mighty power and willingness to supply all of our needs according to his riches in glory.

In Jeremiah 17:5 we read, "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm [Saints should make Christ their arm.] and whose heart departeth from the Lord." People who put their trust in earthly things depart from God and God has pronounced a curse upon such actions; not only upon the actions, but also upon the man who does such things. We are not surprised at people who are unsaved and have no faith in God doing such things, because they know no better; but for saints, who claim to know God and to believe and practice his word and teachings, to deny Him in this way would be grievous to Him, indeed, to say the least, and it would show to our fellow-men that we do not believe and practice what we teach and profess. Jesus would class us with the Pharisees of whom he said, "They say and do not." We would be saying we have faith in God, but would be practicing otherwise.

Let us now consider some things which saints should shun or they will give way to the earthly instead of the heavenly life.

Those who endorse wars, or participate in the same, are acting contrary to the Spirit of Christ and feeding the earthly man, which will bring death to the soul. My dear brother and sister, in Matt. 5:44, Jesus says, "But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them



that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; [What for, Lord?] That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven." How plain the Lord talks to us about the matter. If we do otherwise, the inference is that we would not be the children of our heavenly Father.

James tells us very plainly why we have wars and fightings among us. "From whence came wars and fightings among you? Came they not hence, even of your lusts [carnal, earthly part of man] that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." James 4:1-4.

Another thing that is earthly and of the world is politics. The saint of God has no business giving his time and attention to such things for he is an ambassador of heaven. Saints are here to represent heavenly things to men and point souls to Jesus Christ, who we believe and know has all power both in heaven and in earth. He has power to put in earthly rulers and to take down earthly rulers. This is very plainly stated in Daniel 4:17, "This matter is by the decree of the watchers [angels], and the demand by the word of the holy ones [the Trinity. For what purpose?] to the intent that the living [you and I] may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdoms of men [these earthly kingdoms] and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up the basest of men." In Daniel 2:20, we read, "Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God forever and ever; for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding. He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him."

We, as saints, know that this earth and all that is in it will perish with the using and that God is controlling above all the evil powers that are at work and letting men have earthly rulers and governors as they are in soul. Why should we trouble ourselves about such things? Jesus said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's." It is all right and godly in us to obey governors and rulers so long as they do not interfere with our obedience to God. Pay honest taxes and speak not evil of rulers but honor them as God places them in these earthly places. When we honor and respect them, we honor God; but we should never obey them when God's word and Spirit teach us otherwise, for God has first place in a saint's heart, and we ought to obey God rather than man or governments; for we have been purchased with His precious blood and we are not our own. We belong to Him, soul,

body, and spirit. There is an abundance of people in the world that are earthly; let them attend to politics. To that one who wants to get into earthly politics, Jesus would say, "Let the dead take care of dead things but go thou and preach the kingdom of God." One man wanted to follow Jesus but first wanted leave to go and bury his father, but Jesus said, "Let the dead bury their dead." There are but few in the world today who will give themselves, their time and talents to God without reserve, therefore there are millions to look after politics and earthly things.

God is allowing all men to do as they please now, but He will bring them into judgment. Let us, as saints, please to please the Lord all the time.

Of all the writers and those on record in the New Testament, where do we hear of any of them mixed up in politics? When they asked taxes of Jesus and the disciples, he had Peter to catch a fish that had a coin in its mouth and the tax was paid, that they be not offended. Paul exhorts the saints to honor the rulers and not to speak evil of them; but they should not mix up in the earthly things, for Paul said, "I keep under my body and bring it into subjection lest after I have preached to others, I myself be a cast-away." He was not of the world even as Christ and the disciples were not of the world.

Another thing that is very grievous in the sight of God is conforming to this world. Paul said, "Be not conformed to the world." Romans 12:2. Saints who conform to the customs, fashions, and fads of this world are earthly and show that they love and fear the world more than God. Worldly people dress immodestly, and many very indecently. Their customs should not be conformed to by saints of God. The wearing of gold, pearls, costly array; the putting on of unnecessary articles, such as ribbons, laces, and neckties is conforming to the world, and is condemned by the sacred word of God. One may say that the necktie is not a thing of the world; but that is not true, for it is a needless article and is put on for show and to be like the world. The world must have it on, and the soldiers are compelled to have it on, and those who do not want to bear any reproach will want it on; it is of the earthly man. Oh, that saints would be not of the world, then would Zion shine forth as in the morning time and God's blessings and favors would be mightily upon her!

—Fred Pruitt

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Lincoln, Nebr.—Dear Ones in His precious service,—I received the little bundle of tracts and the booklets on divine healing. I thank you. I shall make a deep study of God's healing. I was healed of the dreadful sickness for which I requested prayer. How I love, adore, and praise my Jesus, our Saviour! He knows us better than we know ourselves. He is so precious to my soul, and I desire to draw closer into his precious arms each day. This may take more suffering of the flesh; but if it does, and is to His glory, and will call after my loved ones, I say, Amen to His holy will, which is always perfect, we know.

Your sister in Jesus,

Mrs. Jesse Sultzbaugh



# Young People's Section

## *Thou Seest Not As Man Doth See*

O Lord; I know thou seest not  
As mortal man doth see,  
When Thou from thy throne on high  
Doth look down on me.

Men take a glimpse, and that is all,  
It's far as they can go;  
For they judge from outward looks,  
My heart they do not know.

O Lord, I do not know myself  
The little traits and arts  
That I should slay from day to day,  
O Lord, Thou searcheth hearts.

Thou seest not as man doth see,  
Thou knowest all the truth:  
Not one thought is hid from thee,  
For this thy Word is proof.

O Lord, I long to do thy will;  
Please guide my heart aright;  
Unto me, reveal myself,  
O Lord, turn on the light.

I can not understand myself  
Without thy truth divine;  
Let thy Spirit teach me, Lord  
Every fault that is mine.

"Search me O God, and know my heart.  
Try me, and know my way,"  
Be thou my Master and guide  
I will thy voice obey.

—Ulysses Phillips

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## **Editorials**

Roy Jennings, a member of the Guthrie congregation who has been at the C. P. S. Camp at Ft. Collins, Colo. for the past 13 months, arrived home April 8, having been given a medical discharge. We are thankful to the Lord with him for his release which has enabled him to be at home again with his wife and baby. The experiences he has had with the Lord during this time will surely prove to be of present and future benefit to him.

Another young man of the Guthrie congregation, Noel Anderson, reported for induction into the Army April 20. His classification calls for non-combatant service. He and his wife, whose name was formerly Evelyn Janes, have two children. Let us pray for this and the many other homes where the father has been taken away. Added responsibilities fall upon the mother in caring for and bringing up the children in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Here is some belated news of interest to the saints in regard to Bro. Marshall Tucker of the Guthrie congregation. This young man had gotten saved and was baptized some months prior to his induction into the armed forces about two years ago. Thereafter he objected to and refused to take up arms in training. For this act of disobeying a superior officer he was sentenced to five years in the Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas. Later the sentence was reduced to two years and on good behavior he was released in about 18 months. He arrived home last December in time for the Assembly meeting. Many prayers of the saints had gone up in his behalf, and through this test and the time in prison the Lord kept him with victory, and his testimony is an inspiration to the congregation. Though he was given a dishonorable discharge from the army, I am confident that he conducted himself honorably before the Lord. It was a case where, as the Apostle Peter expressed it, "We ought to obey God rather than man."

The writer and editor of this Young People's section was called up for his pre-induction physical examination on March 9. Having passed this examination and retained in class 4-E, I am now subject to call to be sent to a Civilian Public Service Camp. If the Lord permits and the usual procedure is followed, I will be leaving here within a period of weeks. I believe I am consecrated to do the Lord's will and follow out His plan for my life. We solicit your earnest prayers that His will be done. Should we have to go, please pray for the protection and care of the family, a fine consecrated wife and two small sons.

Several months ago when this draft question and other problems were confronting me, I earnestly sought the Lord and His word for knowledge and consolation. The Lord gave me for my own the scripture found in Rev. 2:10; "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." The first part of this text, "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer," keeps ringing in my soul, and I know I can go forward boldly with His never-failing promises and presence with me. Except we deny our self, take up our cross daily and follow him, we cannot be His disciple. The way to heaven is the way of the cross. God's way is a direct cross to the way the world is going, and how few are willing to stand with the Lord in opposition to the vast worldly throng!

Those who are called to believe on Christ to the salvation of the soul are also at the same time called to suffer for Him. This truth is expressed in Phil. 1:29, where we read, "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." Furthermore, we read

in 2 Tim. 2:12, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Jesus said to His disciples, "If they [unsaved people] have persecuted me, they will also persecute you." The good promise is that "if we suffer, we shall also reign with Him." 2 Tim. 2:12. The Apostle Peter encourages us with these words, "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed. Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." 1 Pet. 4:16;19.

To express my sentiments I would quote the words of the song by C. E. Orr—

"I do not pray that life be spent  
On flowery beds of ease;  
I only pray that Christ may guide  
Across the stormy seas.  
If thou wilt lead me by the hand,  
And guide my trembling feet;  
For thee, O Christ, I'll gladly drink  
The bitter with the sweet."

—L. D. Pruitt

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Loranger, La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Saints everywhere. I am so glad to add my little testimony in the paper as the Lord leads. I thank the Lord for saving me when he did. It has been some time since I wrote anything for the little paper. Bro. Stephenson is having a few nights meeting here now. I guess most of you who were at the Guthrie campmeeting know me. Your Bro. in Christ, Howell B. Joiner

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Dallas, Texas.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I feel led tonight to send my testimony. I've just been reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. I realize that through the testimonies and truths that are printed in the paper, I have been greatly blessed and drawn closer to God. Thank God that the love of Jesus is in my heart. I feel like I want to put my arms around all the saints and help them bear their trials and temptations. Truly I have a strong desire to spread the Gospel and I pray that I may be used in spreading the Bible truth to lost souls. My desire is so deep that I can not express it, but I know it is like a great over-flowing well. My cup is overflowing with love and thankfulness.

Pray that I may be in the Lord's service and that the "words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord."

Yours in Christ, Evodna Thurman

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Lynwood, Calif.—Dear Saints,—I believe it would be to the glory of God to tell of my experience concerning the draft board. While in New Mexico I received a notice from the transfer board of Los Angeles to report for induction March 20. As we were moving to California part of the family and myself came on in the car leaving Daddy, a brother, and Bro. Stonecypher to bring the truck and household goods later. The Lord blessed us with a safe and pleasant trip and on arriving in Calif. I received a card from the draft board stating that my induction had been postponed and I need not report for induction on March 20, but wait for further notice. I know it was the Lord's doing and I give him all the praise. He is mightier than man. May this testimony be an encouragement to other young men who are trusting in God. Yours in Him, Melvin Doolittle

Eufaula, Okla.—Greetings to the Saints of the Most High God,—I am a child of God and have been since December 1927. It is a great pleasure to live for the Lord and serve Him every day.

I am a shut-in and haven't walked for thirty-four years; I am now thirty-nine. In those years I have learned to love the Lord and to know he is no respecter of persons. I can serve him anytime and anywhere. He will never forsake me as long as I trust him. When this life is over He will say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." I am asking the prayers of Bro. and Sister Pruitt and everyone that I stay humble at Jesus' feet and be one he will accept in the last day.

Your sister in Christ, Johnnie Mae Matthews

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Tucson, Ariz.—Dear Saints,—Praises be unto God for every good and perfect gift. I want to write a testimony of God's wonderful healing power manifest in behalf of our little daughter who will be one year old in June.

She has had trouble with her ears since we moved to Tucson in December. In January she had a severe attack with her right ear. My husband was away, so I called the minister from the Church of God here to pray for her. She was crying constantly when he came. We had prayer for her, but she kept crying. Bro. Denton said he thought we should pray again, so we did, and while we were praying God touched her and witnessed unto us that the work was done. Immediately she stopped crying. During the night her ear opened and drained quite a bit. By the next morning it was completely well. Praise God for healing power.

Since that time she has had slight attacks of ear-ache but each time we have prayed for her and God has touched her body. Her ears have not drained any more and they seem to be in perfect condition now. She can hear perfectly.

I would like to hear from any of the saints who care to write. We are out in Tucson away from any congregation of the saints and would appreciate letters of encouragement from any of you. Mrs. W. D. Bunting Address: S/Sgt. W. D. Bunting, 233rd. Hq. and A. B. Gr. Det. F., Davis Monthan Field, Tucson, Ariz.

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Batchelor, La.—Dear Saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Truly I am encouraged in my soul this morning. Jesus has done so much for me. I'm so thankful for the wonderful ways Jesus has of drawing people closer to him. We read in His word that the afflictions of the righteous are many but the Lord delivereth out of them all. Praise His good name.

Last Monday night I went to my mother's and found my little sister deathly sick. Mother and Dad were so worried, they thought she might die at any time. Daddy said to me, "Gladys, now you believe in prayer and I want you to pray for this baby." We layed hand on her and prayed and it seemed that my faith for healing took hold and I truly believed she was going to get well. I came home and went back Tuesday mornin and she was feeling much better. She was asleep and mother was going on about her work. Dad was in the field plowing. When he came to dinner he said, "Gladys weren't you surprised when you got here this mornin and found the baby so much better?" I said I wasn't because I had asked the Lord to heal her and I believe he would. He said, "Well, she sure is better. I praise the Lord for that." I believe it drew Daddy nearer to the Lord.

On Tuesday while at mother's, my little girl began

ry and wanted me to rock her to sleep. I did and she woke up with a hot fever. I started back home with her. When I got to my sister's house, I decided to spend the night with her. The baby had fever all night; Wednesday morning it was the highest I have ever known it to be, but yet I didn't think so much about her being sick. I just thought the fever was caused from a little cold. I went ahead getting ready to go home. That was about eight-thirty. We were sitting in the kitchen by the stove and I was fixing her dress. All at once I noticed her acting very strange. She threw her little hands up over her head and her body began to draw. She got as stiff as she could be and her face grew to one side. She was jerking and biting her tongue. By that time I had her in my arms and was calling on Jesus. I didn't know but what she was dying. I told my sister and her husband to pray and I found myself on my knees with my baby in my arms and we were praying for the Lord to touch and heal her. I've never heard such earnest praying before. Her little face and legs and hands were almost black, but I believed that Jesus could hear our cries. Praise His name, He did. He healed my baby and gave her back to me after it looked as though she were dying. Dear saints, you don't know how much that encouraged me to live for my Lord. I mean to always trust Him when afflictions come my way. My baby is just as well this morning and feels as well as she ever did. Praise the Lord. I want to live for Jesus the rest of my life and bring my baby up the way that is pleasing in his sight. I need the prayers of all the dear saints that I might have grace to stand at all times. Your sister in Christ, Gladys Cashio

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Brownsville, Oregon,—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all saints scattered abroad,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." Col. 3:17. "Whether therefore ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Cor. 10:31.

I believe it would be to the glory of God for me to add my testimony to the many in the "Faith and Victory." We enjoy reading the paper and get encouragement from the spiritual articles and testimonies. I want to give God the glory for healing me of an inward affliction that troubled me ten years. At times I could experience a hard lump in my left side. (I never went to a doctor to be examined.) I had two attacks of vomiting and dizziness and frequently had severe pain in and had to go to bed. We prayed and the Lord gave relief but now He has healed me completely. I praise Him for it.

I also feel like mentioning about my eyes. They were sore and seemed weak. I could hardly see to read a needle or read my Bible at night. I had worn glasses for several years and thought I needed stronger lenses so I went to have my eyes examined. I was told stronger lenses would not help, I should go to an eye specialist. I came home and turned it over to the Lord, our Great Physician. We have trusted Him thirty-five years and He has never failed us. He healed my eyes and we give Him all the praise and honor.

We still praise Him for salvation. He is our all. While the world is torn by war we have the love and peace of God in our hearts. Three of our sons are in service; please pray that the protecting hand of the Lord may continue to be over them.

Your sister in the Lord, Emma Luehring

Merced, Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all lovers of the truth,—I am so happy in this present truth. I have learned so much the last two years since taking the little "Faith and Victory" paper. It is food to the hungry soul and brings out truth I could never get before. It has so many good articles and testimonies.

My son, for whom you agreed with me in prayer, is healed of appendicitis. We give God all the praise and glory. We have faith in God and in the prayers of you dear ones. When we get in trouble He is an ever-present help. I have two boys in the service of the United States; one, my oldest boy, and the other is only 18. Please remember them in prayer. God has helped me much in having to see them go and I truly need your prayers. It seems hard to give them up for they have not accepted the truth. We lost a grandson March 2. Please pray for the mother that God will save her. Her husband is across the sea and doesn't know of the child's death. In Jesus' name, Mrs. Alice Brewer

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Hastings, Nebraska—Dear Brother Pruitt and all the saints in Christ Jesus,—Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore, I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus (through the "Faith and Victory" paper) and love unto all the saints cease not to give thanks for you all, making mention of you in my prayers.

I had the blessed privilege of entertaining Bro. and Sister C. Z. Stonecypher in my home here at Hastings. I believe they are true saints of God. He told me some of the great things that God had helped him to accomplish through the ministry of the Word.

Praise the Lord, He is not slack concerning his promises to the children of men. The Lord is still on His throne even in this time of war. As the angel Gabriel said to Daniel, "There shall be a time of trouble such as there never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people [Israel] shall be delivered . . . And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament: and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever." Dan. 12:1-3. The Lord also spoke through Malachi concerning these shining ones who fear the Lord and spake often concerning Him. "They shall be mine, saith the Lord of host in that day when I make up my jewels." Mal. 3:17. They will come out of every kindred, tongue, people, and nation in great variety, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Praise the Lord. Heaven will be illuminated and garnished with these blood-bought souls. There will be harlots transformed, demon-controlled men redeemed, and taken out from the pit like gems taken out of the bowels of the earth. But they will be polished after the similitude of a palace. (Psa. 144:12.) Men talk of the supreme architect of the universe. The Word of God has nothing to say concerning an architect but it does recognize the Lord as the creator, the sustainer, the one who will bring about the dissolution of the heavens and the earth which are now reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. And it does recognize Him as the creator of a new heaven and a new earth. Paul wrote to the saints in Corinth, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." 2 Cor. 5:1. We should not covet the mud hovels down here when God has an undefiled and incorruptible inheritance that

fadeth not away reserved in heaven for us. (1 Pet. 1:4) When Peter tells of this remarkable inheritance he speaks to those for whom the inheritance is prepared. "As obedient children not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as he which hath called you is holy so be ye holy in all manner of conversation." 1 Peter 1:14, 15. There is only one way to change a sinner and make him a partaker of the divine nature. That way is the way of the cross, the way of complete cleansing through the blood of Christ. Christ spoke of a necessity for all those who would have a part in the heavenly kingdom: ye must be born again. In Jesus' name, James A. Dyer.

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San Bernardino, Calif.—Dear Friends and readers of "Faith and Victory" paper,—It does my heart and soul good to read the wonderful testimonies of people who really love the Lord and are hungry for more of Him. He means so much to me in many ways. He has healed and helped when everything else failed and was of no value. I thank Him today for all I am or ever hope to be. Without His abiding love, life would indeed be dreary.

I would like to testify of the instantaneous healing of my eight year old boy. About two months ago he was playing in the yard with a small part of iron from an airplane. The inside was hollow and contained a kind of acid which would come out with fire and smoke when water was added to it. Not knowing the danger and thinking it was fun, he went to an out-door hydrant and turned the water onto it. I was not feeling well and was on the back porch about twenty-five feet away with a woman who was doing some washing for me. We heard him scream and as I ran to him I saw the iron on the ground smoking and spurting fire. Smoke came from his eyes and he was screaming, "My eyes are burning." I just felt weak all over. I knew that if any acid was in his eyes, only God could help or he might be blind. I began to cry out right there and to call on the Lord to heal him. We went to the porch and when I rubbed a cloth over his eyes my neighbor saw fire fly from his left eye. I asked her to go across the street and call my husband and tell him to come home from work. The boy said, "Mother, pray for me." We went into the dining room and fell on a couch and called on God to heal his eyes. When the neighbor came back I was washing the boy's face. She looked bewildered and said, "Well, what happened? Has he no pain?" (She is unsaved and doesn't know how to trust God for things.) I was thanking and praising God for what He had done and told her what wonderful things He could do and would do for us if we would only believe. She said, "Indeed a miracle has been done here today, for I saw fire fly from the boy's left eye. "When his daddy came home shortly after, the boy was smiling and said he had no pain. We took him to a doctor to find out if any of the acid were in his eyes. The doctor said they were all right except a small raw spot in each eye. As we left for the doctor's office some red spots formed on the boy's face but they soon disappeared. Son said, "Mother I prayed all the way to town that the doctor would find nothing wrong with my eyes." I do praise the dear Lord that he was all right. It was a wonderful experience that I shall never forget. My neighbor was touched very much.

I hope this writing will glorify the precious name of our Lord and encourage other dear souls to trust our Saviour in time of need. Pray for me that I may have a closer walk with the Lord. Mrs. Ruby Miles

Chicago, Ill.—Dear Bros. and Sisters,—I am doing just fine in my body. The Lord has helped me and I can eat and sleep and feel stronger. I thank you all for your prayers. Please do not stop praying for me, I want to know the Lord better.

I am sending a little money as a token of love; I am not trying to pay you for your prayers but I know you are living by faith and every little helps, no doubt. May God bless all is my prayer. Ola Washington

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Forest City, Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the saints,—We write in the name of our dear Lord who has bought us. We owe our lives to Him. He is so good to all his children. We are glad for salvation today. We don't know what we would do without God as he cares for us day by day.

We had a real day of thanksgiving March 14. It was raining and my husband was turning the water on at the cistern. He had his hand on the pipe and a bolt of lightening hit the house, went down the lead pipe into his right hand, crossed his body, and went out his left foot. He was thrown about six feet. His right arm and hand were a dead weight with no feeling and helpless for some time. His left limb and foot were numb. A hole in his foot was somewhat like a large nail would make, sulfur color in the center while all around it was red and appeared to be burned. His shoe and foot both smelled strongly of brimstone. He thought his time had come to depart from this life but God saw fit to leave him with us. We cannot thank him enough. Praise the Lord, His promises are true. Husband was able to go about his duties next morning.

We wrote, asking you to pray that Richard, our son, be taken out of the infantry. He is about to be transferred to a new field. Keep praying until he is out of that place. God has been good to us. He has been in service for eighteen months and is still over here. He was thrown from a motorcycle and received a heart injury and was off duty for three months but is sound and well now. He is a firm believer in prayer although he is not saved. Pray for his salvation. We desire to see the children saved at any cost.

May God encourage you all in your work for him and supply all your needs. Sister Floyd Knapp

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#### Meeting Report—Anthony, Kansas

We feel it would be to the glory of God to tell about the good meeting we had here at Anthony. About the first of March we decided we needed a revival meeting. We began to pray for God to send whomever He wanted to the meeting. On March 15, Bro. Egbert Allen came from North-west Missouri; March 20 Bro. Victor Or and Bro. Ostis Wilson, Jr. came from Calif. On March 22, Bro. Edd Whipple arrived from North-west Mo. The Lord wonderfully answered prayer in sending us ministers. It seemed that it would have been incomplete without any of them.

The Word of God went forth with power and was edifying to the church. The afternoon prayer meetings were exceptionally good. We feel these meetings have been a special blessing to us. We are thankful that God still has ministers who will preach His word in its purity.

We extend a hearty welcome to any of the saints who can visit us at any time. We love God's children with all our heart. We want to bid each one God speed.

We are encouraged to press on and do what we can in the service of God. May God bless His saints everywhere, is our prayer. Bro. and Sis. Murphy All

Meno, Okla.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings to you in the holy name of Jesus. As it has been a long time since we have seen you saints, I feel like writing to let you know we are well and saved. I am enjoying myself in the Lord who has done so much for me. He saved me from all sin and gives me sweet peace in my soul. By his grace I can trust Him with soul and body.

I am also trusting Him to take care of my boys in the army. Paul is over-seas and Edwin must also go soon. Please pray for them, I know the Lord is able to bring them safely home to us. I leave them in God's hands. Dear Sister Pruitt, since we all have boys in the service we can sympathize with each other and pray one for another. God bless you and keep you is my prayer. Your sister in the one body of Christ,

Mrs. Dan Eck

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Distant, Pa.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the workers, Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. May God's rich blessings rest on you all, is my prayer.

When the evening light truth was first preached in this place, truly we were sitting in darkness, but saw a great light and we realized that since we had been sitting in the region and shadow of death, the Lord in His mercy allowed light to spring up. (Matt. 4:16) I belonged to the Free Baptist church but when the truth came, I wanted to get out of it and I got out. I made a full surrender to God and He took all the bad habits out of me and cleaned me up and sanctified my nature and filled me with joy unspeakable and full of glory for which I give Him all the praise. He set up His kingdom in the hearts of a few and we worship Him in spirit and in truth. People walked for miles to hear us sing and praise God and some got under conviction and got saved. Your Bro. in the Lord, A. J. Stokes.

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Spokane, Wash.—Dear Saints of God,—I want to testify for my Lord. I know I love Him above all else in this world and to do His will my highest aim. Praises be to His name forever and ever. I know I have done out little, but one writer has said, "Little is much if God is in it." My heart's desire is to do more and more and be willing to suffer for Jesus' sake. I truly love every one of God's dear children. I was just thinking of the ones I can write to and always get a response. And I find it means much for me to be true to God and His dear saints who are willing to do all they can to help a struggling soul make the landing sure. I do pray God to help His servants to see more eye to eye, to love each other more that they may be co-workers together. Many today are looking for the right way to travel. May God help us everyone to be able to direct them in the way our great loving Savior trod. Let us pray one for another. I humbly solicit your prayers.

Your in the one faith, Jessie Holloman

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Boley, Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I greet you in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me well and saved. I am living for the dear Lord, trusting him for both soul and body. Mother is getting along very well. She still can't walk. We still desire the prayers of the saints. Pray for the Lord to continue to bless us in soul and body.

Dear saints, I thank you all for the donation you sent me. I was in much need and can truly say that my dear brothers and sisters did not love in words only but also in deed. I thank you all more than I can express. Your saved sister in Christ, Annie Bowen

Minneapolis, Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' name. Today finds me saved and happy in the Lord. I wrote you for special prayer about one month ago and God undertook in my behalf for which I praise him. Also last fall I wrote you and asked for prayer for my son. He had severe headaches but he was delivered. I haven't had any complaints since. What a mighty God we serve.

We are expecting Bro. and Sis. Key the 21st of April to hold some meetings here. We need your prayers as we are still without a pastor. Pray for the meeting that God will save our young people and others.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. C. W. Benson

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Los Angeles, Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I have received the "Faith and Victory" paper for one year. I surely have been helped by reading all the good testimonies. I am glad to know that a large number all over the United States are holding up holy hands, thanks be to God our Father. I love all the saints everywhere.

Pray for me, dear saints, my soul is burdened with a very hard problem. I know God is able to help me. Pray much for your sister in Christ. Christine Lewis

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12 papers each month, one year .....	2.00
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BIBLE STUDY

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Order Sunday School supplies about two weeks before beginning of new quarter. The price of the Primary Picture Roll is \$1.15, and the Lesson Cards are 4 cents per set. Each set contains cards for one pupil for each Sunday in the quarter. These sets cannot be broken. Send order to Dorothy Byers, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie

PAUL CROSSES INTO EUROPE

Sunday, May 7, 1944

Daily Readings and Meditations

May 1 to 6.

- M. Lydia won for Christ Acts 16:11-15.
- T. Sanctified suffering Acts 16:16-24.
- W. A jailer won for Christ Acts 16:25-34.
- T. Paul's supreme objective 1 Cor. 9:16-27.
- F. Paul's supreme confidence 2 Tim. 4:9-18.
- S. Paul's supreme hope 1 Cor 15:50-58.

Printed Portion ..... Acts 16:13-15; Phil. 3:7-14.

Acts 16:13. And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

14. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Phil. 3:7. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung that I may win Christ,

9. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10. That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12. Not as though I had already attained, already perfect: but I follow after, If that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Golden Text: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:14.

Practical Truth: Before the Christian there is a glorious future toward which he does well to press on through wholehearted service for Christ.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

After the Lord by His Spirit showed Paul that He had chosen him for a special work, he with Barnabas went to different cities in Asia Minor, preaching the gospel, then returned to Antioch from whence they started. Some of the results of this first missionary journey were studied April 23. The events of last Sunday's lesson took place after they had returned to Antioch. For some time they stayed in Antioch "teaching and preaching the word of the Lord." Then Paul decided to "go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do." He took Silas and started his second missionary journey. They visited churches which he had established on his first trip. He had been stoned at Lystria, but his labors there had not been in vain, for when he returned he found Timothy who was such a promising young man he took him along. They had plans to go one way, but the Lord directed them another way. While spending a night at Troas, Paul had a vision. A man of Macedonia (in Europe) stood by him, and said, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." He obeyed the vision, and they (Luke joined them at Troas.) went to Philippi which is "the chief city of that part of Macedonia." The conversion of Lydia was the first visible result. Here a church was established which is well known in early church history.

The historical part of Paul's missionary journey is interesting, but let us go deeper than that for a practical application. Think what it would have meant to us if Paul had not been willing to leave home and friends and suffer the loss of all things for Christ. We can scarcely imagine what great changes took place in the world because Paul and his company crossed into Europe.

We cannot do all that Paul did, but we can all be earnest in serving the Lord and as obedient to His leadings as Paul was. We have a debt to pay to those who are unsaved, Untold suffering might be the result of

just one saint neglecting his duty. It is a dangerous thing to be "at ease in Zion," yet many are guilty of this who testify that they live above sin. Untold blessings will come to the human race by the faithfulness of one saint.

The second part of our lesson is part of a letter which Paul wrote to the Philippian church when he was a prisoner at Rome.

"Mine own righteousness" is that which is worked out in one's own strength by keeping the letter of the law. When one yields to Christ, the Lord gives him a new heart and he does right because it is in his heart to do so. This righteousness comes by faith through the cleansing blood of Jesus.

Man can never know Christ by studying books written about Him. A personal soul-contact is necessary. The power of His resurrection is that power which He gives His believers which enables them to triumph over the death of sin.

One must press to get into the way of the Lord, and press to keep in it. Things which hinder our pressing forward should be forgotten, or left behind.

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#### PAUL IN THESSALONICA

Sunday, May 14, 1944

Daily Readings and Meditations

May 8 to 13.

M. Paul preaching in Thessalonica Acts 17:1-5.

T. Intrusted with the gospel 1 Thess. 2:1-12.

W. Called to sanctification 1 Thess. 4:1-12.

T. Watch and be sober 1 Thess. 5:1-11.

F. Heirs of eternal life Titus 3:1-7.

S. Spiritual co-operation 1 Thess. 5:12-28.

Printed Portion .....Acts 17:1-4; 1 Thess. 2:1-1

Acts 17:1. Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:

2. And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

3. Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered and risen again from the dead; and that that Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

4. And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.

1 Thess. 2:1. For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in unto you, that it was not in vain:

2. But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.

3. For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile:

4. But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.

5. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness; God is witness:

6. Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, the apostles of Christ.

7. But we were gentle among you, even as a nursing mother cherisheth her children.

8. So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto

- 9. For ye remember, brethren, our labor and travail: for laboring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God.
- 10. Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe:
- 11. As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children,
- 12. That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

**Golden Text:** "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks." 1 Thess. 5:16-18.

**Practical Truth:** Paul set for all time a worthy example of evangelistic and pastoral labors.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

When Paul went to a city where there was a Jewish synagogue, his custom was to preach in it first.

The fact that Jesus had been crucified kept many of the Jews from believing that He was the promised Messiah. Paul showed them from the Old Testament, which the Jews recognized as being inspired of God, that it was prophesied that He would suffer. If you had been in Paul's place, could you have proved this same thing to them?

Paul had a genuine love and concern for those who accepted Christ, and though the nature of his work as an evangelist made it necessary for him to establish a church then go on to other needy fields, yet as a good pastor, he often prayed for those left behind and often sent others to see how they were prospering in the Lord.

Some time before he wrote the letter, part of which is the second part of our printed portion, he had sent Timothy back to Thessalonica to see how the congregation there was prospering. After Timothy returned with a favorable report, Paul wrote to them to further encourage them and express his satisfaction over the good news that his labor among them had not been in vain.

In verse two Paul refers to the time when he and Silas were beaten and put into the jail at Philippi. Though they were severely persecuted there for preaching the gospel, they went on to Thessalonica and continued to preach boldly. Had they been seeking honor of man, they would have changed their message of truth which always brought persecution, to one which would "tickle the ears" of the hearers. It was God who called Paul and sent him forth to preach; it was God's approval that he wanted; and it was God's reward for which he was striving; therefore he was determined to fulfill his mission. It is quite natural for one to strive to please the one who has hired him if he wants to keep his job. For this reason preachers who are sent out by man-made churches, strive to please man rather than God.

Paul's love for the souls of men and for God's cause, prompted him to put forth every effort to set a good example while he was among them. Notice how he described his conduct and see if you could truthfully recommend yourself likewise. You don't have to be a minister to set a good example: In his speaking he used no deceit, or uncleanness, nor guile, nor flattering words. Tell the meaning of these words and discuss how and for what purpose preachers would practice them. In conduct among them he was gentle, holy, just, and unblameable. He was affectionately desirous of them and labored night and day because his desire to do all he could for their souls was so great.

PAUL IN CORINTH

Sunday, May 21, 1944.

Daily Readings and Meditations

May 15 to 20.

- M. Paul in Corinth Acts 18:1-4.
- T. Paul's hymn of love 1 Cor. 13:1-13.
- W. Love in daily life Col. 3:12-17.
- T. Love for our neighbors James 2:8-17.
- F. Love to Christ John 14:19-24.
- S. Paul's debt to all men Rom. 1:8-16.

Printed Portion .....Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 13.

- Acts 18:1. After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;
- 2. And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.
- 3. And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.
- 4. And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.
- 1 Cor. 13: 1. Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.
- 2. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.
- 3. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.
- 4. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
- 5. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
- 6. Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
- 7. Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
- 8. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.
- 9. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.
- 10. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.
- 11. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man I put away childish things.
- 12. For now we see through a glass darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
- 13. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

**Golden Text:** "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." 1 Cor. 13:13.

**Practical Truth:** The supreme grace which should characterize a Christian is love.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Paul's stay in Athens was short, but not too short for him to deliver to them the message of Salvation. Some accepted, but we have no record of a congregation being established there.

The first part of our lesson is only an introduction to the account of his labors in Corinth. Read the full account in Acts 18:1-18. Corinth was notorious for its



wickedness. Many of the converts to Christianity there had not practiced a high standard of moral living before they were saved so Paul was confronted with many problems in dealing with them as a church. Some of these problems are mentioned in the epistle to them, which we call 1 Cor. First he mentioned many things which they should not do, then in the thirteenth chapter explains what divine love in one's heart will make of him. Is it not a good picture of a Christian? Are you so filled with divine love that people will think of you when reading this description?

Love includes patience, kindness, generosity, humility, courtesy, unselfishness; does not boast nor show off, is never glad when others go wrong, is calm under trying circumstances, does not hold grudges, and will last when everything else has failed or ceased to be.

Following is Moffatt's translation: "Love knows no jealousy; love makes no parade, gives itself no airs, is never rude, never selfish, never irritated, never resentful; love is never glad when others go wrong, love is gladdened by goodness, always slow to expose, always eager to believe the best, always hopeful, always patient."

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### PAUL ENCOURAGES THE CORINTHIANS

Sunday, May 28, 1944

#### Daily Readings and Meditations

May 22 to 27.

- M. Living for eternity 2 Cor. 4:16 to 5:8.
- T. New creatures in Christ 2 Cor. 5:14-19.
- W. Keeping the commandments 1 Tim. 6:11-14.
- T. The grace of liberality 2 Cor. 8:1-15.
- F. Living to the glory of God Eph. 3:14-19.
- S. Spiritual freedom Rom. 8:1-4, 12-18.

Printed Portion ..... 2 Cor. 4:5, 16-18; 5:1, 5-8, 14-19.

2 Cor. 4:5. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

16. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

17. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things are not seen are eternal.

5:1. For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

5. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

6. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

7. (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

8. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

14. For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

15. And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them and rose again.

16. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the

flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh yet now henceforth know we him no more.

17. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19. To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Golden Text: "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. 2 Cor. 8:9.

Practical Truth: The hope of heaven, made possible to us because of Christ's atoning death, should give us courage and zeal.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God's true ministers have but one aim in preaching and that is to help the souls of men to see the light of the gospel of Christ. To do this each minister must keep himself hid in Christ so that only Christ may be seen.

Bro. Orr has written about two ministers. After one had preached, the congregation said, "What a wonderful preacher we have." After the other preached they said, "What a wonderful Saviour we have." Those who consciously use "enticing words of man's wisdom are preaching "self," not "Jesus."

Man's body, which is earthly, perishes, or decays, does all earthly things; but when the soul is alive in God, it is fed by the Spirit, and age only brings to added strength. Paul's afflictions seemed to be as great as any human could bear, but he called them "light" because he was comparing them with the glory which he would afterward receive. If a Christian should look at the trials, afflictions, and the burdens of the cross in this life, he would give up in despair; but when he considers the glory to be gained if he continues to keep the right attitude of soul in them and the shortness of this life compared to eternity, this eclipses the sufferings. Let us look more at the eternal things, than the temporal things.

Paul compared our earthly bodies to a tabernacle tent, which is not a permanent dwelling; and the glorified bodies, which the Lord will give when we successfully complete this life for Him (He said "We know, to a building or permanent dwelling).

Satan tries to constrain people to do things for him through habit, love for the praise of men, love of comfort, etc.; but Jesus constrains through love. I love in coming to this world, bearing the shame and reproach which was heaped upon him by sinful men when he could have had the praise of angels, and dying for us to rescue us from our dead state of sin. It should be constraint enough to break the hardest heart. Sometimes people are constrained to do right because of respect for parents and their childhood training; but one is not where God wants him to be until he is moved to act right because Christ's dying love has conquered his heart. Then he would do all that he does to the glory of God, and not please self, but Christ.

If there has been no time in your life when things passed away and all things became new, you are not yet in Christ; you are still dead; Christ's love dying for you has profited you nothing; and the only knowledge you have of Him is after the flesh.