

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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O, New Year Nineteen Forty-Five

O, New Year nineteen forty-five,
Your greeting to us is new;
And what you hold in store for us
Is hidden from our view.

We cannot read your pages clear
Our vision is too dim;
But God above doth know, New Year,
What thou doth hold within.

He knows the many secret things,
That later you'll unfold—
The joy and gladness you will bring,
And blessings yet untold.

He sees the pains and sorrows, too,
That will be ours to share—
O New Year, will you bring us more
Than we can ably bear?

Our strength indeed is very weak,
And we alone would fall;
But God will guide our faltering steps,
Through Him we'll conquer all.

O, New Year nineteen forty-five,
Your greeting to us is new;
But soon we'll know the secret things
Now hidden from our view.
—Olive A. Phillips.

—oOo—

A Startling Vision Of Judgment

The following vision was given to the daughter of Mrs. A. C. Vailes, San Francisco, California, on Oct. twelfth, nineteen twenty-three. This girl was attending Glad Tidings Bible School at that place.

I entered the judgment hall, which seemed just like one of our court rooms. On the bench was Jesus, whose face was stern—not a smile, nor a frown, but like our regular judges here on earth. On his right hand side was a flight of stairs of the very whitest marble, and at the foot of the stairway was a white angel. On his left was a very narrow and dark stairway that led to the earth below and a black angel with white wings stood there.

I stood and looked and all the girls of the Bible school filed in, one by one. When Jesus saw us, there was not a smile nor a move on His face. He motioned us to His right hand and we stood there in a semi-circle and waited.

After a short while, through the middle aisle came twenty-one girls, all powdered and painted, with bobbed hair, very short skirts, and transparent silk stockings. They all stood around the Judge's seat. Jesus looked and said, "With your powder and paint and exposure of your flesh, you have dragged men to hell! Go to meet them." He motioned to the black angel to take care of them.

One by one they went down the narrow stairway. Jesus told me to go and see what awaited them. I followed the black angel as he walked behind the last girl. As they went down the black stairs, the stones burned as live coals. Oh, how the girls screamed and yelled, but they could not escape, for a black wall was on each side. Down, down they went. It seemed we were going to the very center of the earth. I did not feel the heat in any manner whatsoever. I was right behind the angel, and when he and I stepped on the stairs, they were black as before and did not burn.

Finally we came to an opening in the wall where was a large, high fireplace and an angel standing on each side. As the girls filed in, they stood in a semi-circle around the fireplace and both angels started to see to the girls. They took burning cinders and put on their faces for powder and live coals on their cheeks for paint. Oh! how the girls shrieked, but they were absolutely helpless and could make no resistance. One by one they had to undergo the process.

After they were through there and on their way out, they stepped on a kind of stool, while through another process their legs were frozen.

We started again on that winding stairway that seemed to lead us to the very center of the earth. On and on we went until we came to the lake of fire, where we stood. Something like a narrow water pipe or iron bar went right across the lake of fire. The black angel told the girls to walk on the pipe. With the least movement or turn they would fall into the fire, but not one of them fell down.

The twenty-one girls stood there while underneath could be seen the heads of men floating on the

liquid fires. The angel looked at the girls and said, "You have craved the admiration of those men; you shall have it for eternity;" then turning to me, said, "Let us go back." We came to the judgment hall. There were Jesus and the school girls just as we had left them. Jesus said to me, "Now, daughter, will you continue to use your powder and cream?" I answered, "No, Lord; never, never!" Then turning to the girls, He said, "Learn the lesson."

The girls went out and I was left alone in the judgment hall with Jesus, and both angels. Very soon, through the middle aisle, came twenty-one preachers, all with their Bibles in their hands and looking in every direction, with great boldness, as if they came to claim a reward. I looked and the first was Brother C—, who was the only one who did not carry a Bible, but his head was bowed and he was praying every moment as he approached the Judge. When Jesus saw him, His face turned into the most tender smile, as He said, "Welcome home, ye weary pilgrim." He motioned the white angel at His right, and from the stairs came two shining angels, one with a crown, and the other with a white robe. However, I was not allowed to see what followed.

The twenty other preachers stood around and awaited their sentence. Jesus looked at every one of them, and said, "Go where your congregations are awaiting you." He motioned the black angel at His left and the preachers went down the narrow stairway, dark and winding. The same thing happened as when the girls passed; the black stones turned to live coals. Down, down we went. It seemed we were going to the very center of the earth.

Finally doors were opened on the right side, and each minister entered to his church or congregation. The angel took me in with the first minister. It was just like a little church, only the walls were as of red-hot iron. The people were there in the pews. When the preacher came in, all in one voice said, "We have been awaiting you; what are you going to preach now?" The minister gave one loud yell, and said, "Hell is real!" He called the congregation to order and said, "Let us sing a song." They opened their books and started to sing, but instead of their voices, sharp tongues of fire came out of their mouths. I was horrified and hid behind the angel, crying, "Take me away; I can't stand this any longer!" He took me back to Jesus and I begged Him to let me go; that I could not endure any more of these scenes, but He told me to wait, that there was something I had to see.

We waited a short while in the judgment hall. Soon came, in great confusion, all talking at once and each one trying to get ahead of the other, twenty-one mothers. Some were expensively dressed and nearly all wore jewels. "Where are our daughters?" "Where is my daughter?" "What have you done with my child?" All were very much excited and their eyes wide opened. Jesus looked at them with His stern, unmovable face, and motioning the black angel, told the women, "Go to where you have sent your daughters."

The black angel motioned them to go down the

same narrow, black stairway, which they did, one by one, but this time the black stones did not turn to live coals as before. I followed just behind the angel, while down, down we went again. At last a door opened and we came into a large, square hall. It was a beautifully lighted ballroom and there were sixty to eighty girls, ranging from seven to twelve years of age, all performing the up-to-date dances. When I could see clearly what was going on, I was horrified and shook from head to foot.

The little girls were all naked and a huge snake was coiled around their bodies. I begged the angel to take me out. Just then he pointed to the front of the room, where all the girls were facing. There, on a kind of platform stood a dragon or a monster snake the tail of which spread several feet on the floor. The rest of the body was coiled up like a figure eight. Right in the middle of this figure eight was its immense head.

It was more than I could stand and I cried, begging the angel to take me out, which he did. We returned to the judgment hall and I asked Jesus to let me come back; that I couldn't stand any more of these scenes. He said, "Go and tell my people about it."

—oOo—

God Is Pleased With Obedience

The sacred Word of God says: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

All who really fear God and keep a tender conscience toward our heavenly Father will agree with me that the only proper way to train a child would be to instruct it and to rear it up in harmony with the teachings and instructions of the sacred word of God. If parents will be diligent to do this, the promise of God is that they will not depart from it as they grow older. On the other hand, if we, as parents, fail to do this, and allow them to be and act like the unsaved, worldly-minded people around us, then when they grow older they will not want to depart from that way. There may be exceptions to this rule, but they are only exceptions; and we, as parents, ought to take heed to the warnings of God's word and teachings, instructions, and exhortations of God's holy ministers lest we reap sorrow upon sorrow in later years, and find at the final judgment day that the blood of our children is upon us. Parents are responsible for the training of their children.

When parents tell their children not to do things that are wrong, they should see to it that they do not do them, or receive punishment for the same. When you tell the child not to do a thing, you should see that it obeys you and never allow the child to beg you into allowing it to do that which you have forbidden lest they lose confidence in you and feel that you do not mean what you say. Be careful not to make promises to the child that you are not sure you can fulfill.

We are instructed by the Lord to keep our children under subjection with all gravity. This means to keep them under subjection in a steady, quiet, col-

lected, serious manner. Parents must keep themselves under control. It is wrong to become provoked at a disobedient child, and hastily jerk it up and whip it. One correcting a child should speak calmly and firmly to it. Many times it would be good to take it off to itself and tell it how wrong it was for it to act as it did, and how it grieves you to have to punish it, but because you love it, it is necessary. Pray with it and for it, and if it has done wrong, it should also ask God to forgive it. Oftimes, if you deal with a child in this way, it will see that it needs a whipping. It is very seldom that a child will forget if dealt with in this manner, and the child will love you. Also, your soul will prosper as God will bless you in thus dealing with your children.

Parents should not tease their children, for by so doing they will either provoke them to anger, which the Lord forbids parents to do; or will cause them to lose respect for them until their teachings will not have the weight with the children that they should. A child in its innocent simplicity believes what its parents say, and takes them seriously, even as the Lord expects us to believe Him and take him seriously. How would we feel if the Lord would tease us? We would be deeply hurt and would never know when to believe Him.

If a child is not brought under subjection to its parents, it will not honor others in authority. This is the cause of the alarming amount of juvenile delinquency in our land today. Even if such children do not become criminals, they will grow up to be self-willed and will not be in a condition to submit to the laws of God.

The Lord expects his people to meet together for the purpose of worshiping him and edifying one another. Few people realize what great damage they do to the cause of God when they take part in or allow actions which disturb the sacredness of a worship service. Babies are attractive and can do many clever things, but they must be taught that the place of worship is not the proper place to display their cleverness. Grown-ups who allow themselves to be entertained by babies and children during services are committing several evils: they fail to hear the part of God's word which He wants to get to them; they disturb and prevent others from getting good out of the service; they break the sacredness of the service; they show disrespect to and discourage the minister who has labored in prayer and study to obtain something from God to feed their souls, making him feel his efforts have been in vain; they set the wrong example before others; and it is not training up the child in the way it should go. It will grow up with the impression that church services is just a "place to go," and that preaching is not to be taken seriously; so it will be hard for the Lord to ever bring conviction to its heart through the preaching of His Word, when He has ordained that souls should be saved through the preaching of His Word. The child should be taught that when we meet for worship it is a sacred gathering. It should not be allowed to run around over the house nor to do things to attract

the attention of others, for this spoils the sacredness of the meeting.

Children are quick to imitate others, especially their parents. Sometimes naughty conduct in children may be traced to similar conduct in the parents. Parents often boast to others about what a smart child they have, yet they often act in its presence as though it had no intelligence. You may spend much time telling your child the way he should go, but if you do not show it the way, your talking will be just idle words to it. It can understand what you do much better than what you say. Since our actions have such a weighty influence upon others, is it any wonder that the Lord warns us that our actions shall be weighed in the judgment day? Every seed sown in a child's heart will grow. Let us be careful what kind of seed we sow, for we shall reap it.

Some parents may say, "You are giving us a big job, and one that will take much time." Yes, it takes time to rear children right, but God will bless you in so doing and your children will grow up and call you a blessed father and mother. —Fred Pruitt

—oOo—

Have We Learned of Jesus?

Have we learned of our loving Saviour
In the year that is past and gone;
Or have we been too busy,
Hurrying on with the throng?

Have we learned to be more submissive
To the precious will of our God?
His plans are surely blessed,
Tho we feel the chast'ning rod.

Have we learned to be kind and gentle
And patient and loving and true,
To do unto our brother
As to us we'd have him do?

Have we learned to endure in silence
Tho we're misunderstood by all?
Jesus knows—that should comfort
And keep us from every fall.

Have we learned to be ever trustful,
Always living by faith alone?
Thus we shall please our Savior,
And come boldly to the throne.

Help us Jesus, to face the New Year
Truly grateful for lessons learned;
But we need to be humble,
That Thy grace will not be spurned.

We are glad for the invitation
To ever come and learn of Thee.
In heart Thou art meek and lowly—
May we ever yield to Thee.

Make us a blessing in Thy dear name
To all souls on our New Year's way;
We all must learn of Jesus
To keep from going astray.
—Rosella Slifer

"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

Rome, Ga.—Dear saints—I am willing to pray for anyone in trouble, or sick, or discouraged. I will pray until victory comes. Those writing me will receive earnest prayer and a letter. Lydia Brock, 10 Coral Ave.

Stanley, Wis.—Dear Brother and Sister Pruitt—Your little paper has been a great help to me. I would not want to get along without it. It contains more for the money than any religious paper I have ever seen.

We felt very much at home with the saints at Minneapolis, Minn. shepherded by Bro. Stephenson. We feasted on the good things of God. There were those who tried to make us believe no body of people is more spiritual than the Gospel Trumpet people. I did not believe it. I started out to find something better; and, praise, God, I found something like God speaks of in his Word.

Your sister in Christ;

Mrs. Alice B. Adams

Editorials

By the time our readers receive this paper, the opportunities of the new year of 1945 will be near at hand, as "Old Time" is fast filling up his ages, and all of us are swiftly passing on to that final day of reckoning. God is letting every man, woman, boy, and girl do just as they please now, but in that final day they shall be brought into judgment. In Rev. 6:14, 17 is a prophecy of the great day of God Almighty: "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

Peter, in speaking of the conditions that will exist when the final judgment arrives, says, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also, and the works that are therein, shall be burned up." 2 Peter 3:10. He says: "Burned up;" not, burned over, as false teachers assert. This scripture is too simple and plain to need any comment. All who will not believe these plain statements of God's revealed word will soon be made believers in that day; but their doom will be sealed, for it is too late to repent then. Oh sinner, hasten to the Saviour's feet today with godly sorrow for sins committed; for the sacred Word says: "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation." Heb. 2:3.

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The work at Faith Publishing House is progressing nicely and in harmony with the planning of God. The new addition to the building is now finished, and we have moved some of the machinery into it. This makes a room 22 ft. x 22 ft. and gives us room that we have long needed. I was not thinking it could be done, but the Lord knew. We moved at His command. We surely do appreciate the extra room it gives the printing work. It is truly the "Lord's Print Shop."

The 10 x 15 Job Press arrived Friday evening, December 8th, from Cleveland, Ohio. It weighed 1700 lbs. The freight on it was \$39.22; the machine, motor, and other attachments cost \$470.00, but we consider it a good purchase. We have used it a little, and find that it operates smoothly and nicely. We do thank the Lord for this machine to use in His print shop. A self-feeder and a heavier motor have been ordered for the 12 x 18 Job Press. The Lord is getting His shop equipped for doing much more printing than usual. No doubt He knows the war will soon come to a close, and then the shop will be ready to print and send out the gospel by the printed page in much larger amounts and reach many more souls than at present. We are sure that God will reward those who are sending means to help pay for the machinery and build-

ing. I am sure that it is God working in and through you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure. May God's grace abound toward and upon each one.

We can look back over the past year with much satisfaction, as we have a realization in our souls that we have used all that He has placed in our hands to His glory, and that the gospel of Christ has been printed and sent forth in its purity and cleanness, causing many to hear, believe, and be saved. I believe that I am one of the most contented and happy men in the state of Oklahoma, for I am neither receiving honor nor dishonor from any man; but seek in all things to please our heavenly Father, who is the supreme ruler of the universe and giveth us freely all things to enjoy. Glory be to his name!

We step out into the new year with great faith and confidence in Jesus Christ, the Son of God the Father, and as the Psalmist David said concerning the sun: "Rejoicing as a strong man to run a race." Psalm 19:5. We know that our living, ruling God will keep that which we have committed to him against that day, and will cause us to triumph over every foe.

We are not taking nor receiving any credit for the great blessings the Lord has bestowed upon us and the workers and the work here at Faith Pub. House, for we truly know that it is only God working in and through us to his glory and to the salvation of precious souls. Not only has he worked through us to accomplish these satisfactory and pleasing results to him, but he has also worked in and through many of our readers and the workers here at the office to accomplish these glorious things, and your reward will be sure and your life pleasing to him as you continue to yield yourself into his precious, true, guiding hands. The whole church, or body of believers which is the church, working together by yielding continually unto God, brings about glorious results that please the Father and cause His Spirit to rejoice in our souls, making us happy in the Lord. Each and every reader can be exceedingly happy and filled with heavenly joy throughout the coming year, if he will separate himself from this old world and all sin and live as one who is alive from the dead, yielding unto God continually, realizing that he is not his own. Glorify God in your bodies and your spirits which are his.

Wife and I and all the workers here at the Faith Publishing House, the Lord's Print Shop, join together in prayer and wishes that all of our readers will receive rich graces from God throughout the new year of 1945, bringing joy and gladness to your hearts so that you will have peace in these earthen vessels and good will toward all men, and more so as the days of the new year roll by.

Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 10:12: "They measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise." Many precious souls are caught in the corruption of this world because they have been measuring themselves among themselves and by so doing have gradually drifted

from the simplicity that is in Christ Jesus until now they have only their own self-righteousness and are traveling the broad way to destruction with a profession of Christ. When brothers and sisters in a congregation begin to measure themselves among themselves, the devil will get some prominent one among them to step aside just a little from the narrow way and the others measuring themselves among themselves will follow him or her in different manners and ways. Then he may begin to take up with some worldly way and others will begin to make excuses for themselves, saying, "If he can do that, I can do it too." Soon the whole congregation is of the world, and making big claims with merely a profession of religion, having self-righteousness. Paul warns that people who do thus are not wise.

Again, we find some among the saints who make a profession of Christ who are hypocrites in heart. They may act like saints in many ways and may dress in modest apparel as saints should, but they do not bear the fruits of the spirit. Others, looking at them, come to the conclusion that the way one dresses counts for nothing in the eyes of God, then go on in their worldly and ungodly dress, allowing a hypocrite to ruin their souls and all who follow them, too.

Another thing to be considered here is that those who are catering to the world in dress and other forms become darkened in soul to a certain extent until they are incompetent to judge in all cases what the fruits of the Spirit are. For instance: A saint may discern that some are drifting with the current of the world and for their good and because he loves their souls may begin to teach, instruct, warn, and admonish them; and they, not willing to receive instruction or correction, think the saint is harsh, hard, set, or stubborn because he does not uphold them in their drifting ways, and judge that he is not bearing the fruits of the Spirit, when the trouble is in them and the Spirit of Christ is working in and through the one thus judged. A soul that begins to conform to the world in any manner is getting on dangerous ground and will in time lose his soul and cause others to be lost.

Dear ones, the Word of God is our standard, and each one of us should be sure that "I," as an individual member in Christ's body, measure to the truth of His Word even if sister, brother, father, mother, or preacher does otherwise. In so doing we shall be counted wise by God the Father even though we may be looked upon as fools by compromising fathers, mothers, brothers, or preachers. Let each of us seek the honor that comes down from God above, and not to be men-pleasers and time-servers and lose our souls.

Hear the words of Jesus, the Son of God, which are recorded in John 12:48: "He that rejecteth me and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." Dear reader, when you will not receive, practice, and do His words, you are rejecting Him, no matter how much you profess otherwise. The greatest sin and most universal one is unbelief, and the effects of unbelief are in great evi-

dence in the world in a variety of ways. It is manifested by many by their earthly attachments keeping them so busy that they have no time for the Lord. This shows that their faith is in earthly things rather than in God who gives all these things. Others show it by being partakers of wars which bring slaughter and misery to God's human creatures. They fear the people and governments more than they fear God who rules above all things and powers. And a great multitude show it by catering to the vulgar and indecent styles of the world in one way or another.

God plainly states over and over again in His sacred word: "Thou shalt not kill." If we are aiding those that slaughter and kill God's created beings, we are rejecting Christ and his words. Murder is murder in the eyes of God whether it be in war or otherwise. The commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," was given by Moses who gave out the oracles of God to the people. When Jesus came preaching the kingdom of God, he taught us that if we have hate in our hearts, we are murderers in the sight of God. Read Matt. 5:43-45 and 1 John 3:15. One would certainly have to reject Christ to persuade himself into being a partaker with those that are murdering men.

Then think of those who are turning from the truths of God's word and catering to the fashions and vulgar styles of this old sin-blighted world. Jesus, speaking through the apostles Paul, Peter, and John, teaches us plainly not to conform to the world.

Jesus said to the disciples: "Ye are not of the world even as I am not of the world." He told the professing Pharisees: "Ye are from beneath, I am from above; ye are of this world, I am not of this world." If we retain the Spirit and words of Christ, we, like Christ, are not of this world. Paul says in Romans 12:2: "Be not conformed to this world." And again in 1 Timothy 2:9, he instructs women (and it will also apply to men, boys, and girls) to adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness (retaining modesty and heavenly virtues) and sobriety. The brazen, forward women of this world are absolutely contrary to this sacred teaching. He also told them not to adorn with broidered hair nor gold, nor pearls, nor costly array. Not many women today wear shining broidering in their hair, but they do worse than that when they cut it off and do away with that which God has given them as a covering.

Peter speaks about the same thing in 1 Peter 2:2, 3; and John speaks plainly and clearly: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world." The lust of the flesh, the eyes, and the pride of life take in all these things of a worldly nature that men and women are indulging in who possess more or less unbelief in their hearts and are not careful to obey the sacred word of God, being some that measure themselves among themselves and by themselves, and who, God says, are not WISE.

NOTICE TO SAINTS

Bro. A. J. Stokes, who lives at Distant, Pa., is planning on having a revival meeting this coming summer at that place or near by. He has secured the use of a good grove for the meeting and also a large tent. It might be called a campmeeting, for he expects to have some tents for folks to live in while attending the meeting.

With the exception of some Gospel Trumpet people, who cling to old standards in heart, Bro. Stokes practically stands alone in defense of the old-time truth at that place. All who live near this place who are interested in having a real old time campmeeting in that part of the country, should write to him and help him in any way possible to bring this about. He is looking to God by faith for he has a burden for souls. Write him and assist him all you can. Let us all work while it is day, for great troubles are ahead of all the faithful. Let us rescue all we can.

Fred Pruitt (Editor)



Beautiful 1945 Scripture Text Calendars can now be obtained for 30 cents each, 4 for one dollar, or 9 for two dollars, postpaid. By ordering early, we were able to obtain a good supply. We have them ready to wrap and send to you the day your order arrives. Order early, so you will be sure to get your calendars.

Bed-time Prayer Reminder, cross that glows in the dark. 15 cents each.

Father's Evening Stories for Children. This book has been enlarged to 64 pages and has more pictures in it to enlighten the children. Beautiful paper cover. Price 15 cents each.

Reference Testament for Ministers. Price \$1.25.

Large Print Bible for old folks. Price \$3.00.

Large Print Testament with Psalms for old folks. Price \$1.50.

Reference Bible, cloth bound. Price \$2.00.

Small paper bound New Testament. Price 15 cents each.

1944 "Faith and Victory" Year Books

The eleven issues of the "Faith and Victory" paper for 1944 have been bound together in book form. These "Faith and Victory" year books are now ready to send to our readers. Price 40 cents each, postpaid. If the monthly copies have been beneficial to your soul, you should send them to your friends in book form.

NOTICE

Sister Leona Green of Lake Charles, La., Route 1, Box 420A writes she has lost the names and addresses of those who ordered some of the kodak pictures from her that she took at the Monark Springs campmeeting and would like to hear from the different ones and how many they ordered.

CORRESPONDENCE

Highland, Calif.—Dear saints,—I feel it would be to the glory of God for me to give my testimony of God's gracious dealings and his great loving kindness to me.

People tell us the days of miracles are past and healing is not for people today; but, I praise God, it is for us today if we will only trust him and believe his promises.

For some time I had had occasional heart attacks. The Lord would help, but if I over-taxed my body a little I would have further trouble with my heart action. The spells became more frequent, until a year ago last spring my condition became very serious. I was here at home alone most of the time, as my three children are in school and husband works. I would be doing my work when my heart would flutter and seemingly stop. Many times I would not have time to get off my feet until I would fall unconscious, and sometimes lie that way for hours, part of the time unable to tell if life was in me. The children would come home from school and find me unconscious or unable to get up. Sometimes I had lain in that condition almost all day alone, not able to get myself a drink. We could find no one to stay with me, and our nearest neighbor is a block away, so we just put our trust in the Lord.

I became so bad that large black spots caused by bursted blood vessels were on my body continually. I knew the Lord would have to help or I could not last long. We decided it would be to God's glory to have a doctor examine me; for if He saw fit to take me home, those black spots on my body could cause the family trouble at a coroner's inquest without a doctor's examination. I found I had low blood pressure and a partial collapse of the lung. It would close at times until little or no air could be taken into it. While that lasted I would almost smother to death. The suffering was terrible. I also had an enlarged heart with serious heart action. It would skip beats and almost stop, then at other times it would beat so fast it would send the blood so fast it would clot and the pressure would cause blood cells to rupture causing the black and blue spots with other complications.

Last February I took a severe spell, and the family thought I was gone at different times through the night. Husband called the saints. When Bros. Wilson, Orr, and Stover and Sisters Wilson and Orr came, I was unconscious and very weak. They prayed and held on to God for me. I regained consciousness. They sang some of the beautiful songs of Zion and obeyed the word, anointing and praying for me, and the dear Lord instantly healed me. I arose, dressed, and walked into the living room a well woman.

I was able to do my work; and there was plenty to do, for I had been so frail so long.

I got along fine until one morning in April my boy woke up sick, not able to get up. I got the girls off to school, did the milking and feeding, and was performing other duties when I began to ache and feel very bad. I looked to the Lord, but I continued to grow worse. A severe fever arose and at one o'clock I could stay up no longer. When husband came home I was aching and suffering all over my body with a very high fever. He again called the saints. The Lord instantly healed me and I had a good night's rest and arose the next morning. The fever had been so high the skin on my body was dry and like it had been burned and peeled off over almost my entire body.

The enemy was not satisfied. It seemed he set in to do, his best to kill me. In a few days I began suffering with gas forming in different parts of my body. I fought the enemy and suffered until Sunday evening my body became so weak I could not lift my hand, and could scarcely whisper, and I was getting weaker. Husband sent our daughter to phone the saints. It was almost meeting time, so they had special prayer for me and God came to our rescue. I rallied, took some nourishment, and went to sleep. After meeting, a car load of the saints drove over sixty miles to be with us and found us all asleep. Oh, the love and care God's people have one for another!

The enemy was not yet satisfied. I got along fine for a week, but Saturday night I took a severe hemorrhage of the stomach (which I sometimes have since the birth of our last child), vomiting and very sick. This caused other complications to set up and by Monday I was very sick. When husband got home from work, he called Bro. and Sister Stover. They came. I was suffering terribly and a severe pressure on my spine caused me to go into convulsions about 9 p. m. and I suffered all night. More saints were called. Bros. Wilson and Harmon and Bro. and Sister Stonecypher came. God, true to his promise, did not fail us. About 6 a. m. He touched my body. I arose, dressed, and came out for breakfast.

One day in July when I was about my work, I fell and slipped some vertebrae and fractured my hip socket. The children tried to help me up, but could not. They called husband home and after prayer I was lifted up but could not sit down nor get up without being lifted. The following Sunday we had meeting in our home. I was again anointed and prayed for. I had to be helped to the chair for prayer, but got up and walked away without help. What a mighty God we serve! I do not understand how people get along without such a friend and Saviour.

I got ready and attended the Oregon campmeeting, came home and attended the Pasadena campmeeting, and have been very busy since. I am so glad for the way of life and salvation. I want to do all I can for Him who has done so much for me.

I want to thank each one who has been so faithful in this time of affliction, and each one who so kindly remembered me with letters and cards of cheer and comfort, for I shall not be able to write each one separately.

Pray for us. Your sister in Christ, Nellie Poulos.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Kansas City, Kans.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I see in the "Faith and Victory" paper where you are purchasing a printing machine to further the work of God by printing tracts and books to help carry the message to lost souls that they may be saved. I am glad I can have a part in helping to send the message. Enclosed you will

find ten dollars to help on the machine. I attended your campmeeting in August and was wonderfully helped spiritually and physically. After receiving full light on the Word, I was rebaptized by holy hands there, buried with Christ, and arose to walk in the fulness of his life until the perfect day when we all shall be like him. I am asking the saints to pray for me that I may grow strong in the faith of Christ and press on through, and obtain the crown that awaits the faithful.

I have been wonderfully helped through your books and tracts, especially the "Faith and Victory" papers.

I request the saints to pray for me. I am afflicted in my back and hips. May God bless you all. I would like to attend the December meeting there.

Yours in Christ, Mrs. Elva B. McDonald

Lewisburg, Ohio—Dear brethren and sisters at the print shop,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. Praise His dear name forever! The "Faith and Victory" is a great help and blessing to me. I can hardly wait until I read it each time when it comes.

Praise God, He still has a people, a church which is not in Babylon, not built with man's hands (as if He needed anything or any worldly material to build it), the apostles and prophets the foundation and Jesus himself the chief corner stone. What more would we need? Praise God, that is all I need. There is no building of any kind anywhere that can compare with God's church. God's plan of salvation is easy to understand. We do not need any other organization in the church. If we follow Jesus, our true Shepherd, He will lead us in and find room and work for all, and He will be our God and we shall be His children. If we are born of the Holy Spirit we are members of His church.

I desire the prayers of all the saints that I may live true and humble and be worthy to be one of God's children.

Etta J. Miller.

Leachville, Ark. R. 1,—Dear saints, —Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I desire to do God's will. The Lord has been so good to me I do not feel like I can ever repay him. Oh, I wish I could do more for him!

I have trusted the Lord for healing for eleven years and have always found him a friend in time of need. I want to thank the dear saints for their prayers last spring. I was very weak. My husband's aunt requested prayer for me and the dear Lord healed me, praise His name. In September our baby was very sick and in the hospital, and I truly believe the Lord heard and answered prayer once more.

I have four children and I pray the Lord to help me to bring them up in a way that is pleasing to him and that they will remember their Creator in the days of their youth. I desire the prayers of all the saints for my children and my unsaved husband.

May the dear Lord bless all of you at the print shop that the work may continue and lost souls be brought to Christ. The "Faith and Victory" is food for my soul. I want to be a worker for the Lord. Pray for me.

I would like to hear from some of the saints. Your letters would be great encouragement to me.

One who loves the Lord, Mrs. Nellie Gray

Portland, Ore.—My dear Brethren,—About 7:30 this p. m. I picked up your paper and began to read it. As I read on, I felt that it was God's message to me. We do not know how your paper came to our home, but let it be as it may, it is here.

I have been in the ministry for several years and God

called me out of the dead and dictator's churches. When I read your paper I decided to write to find out more about you. I see you believe in holiness.

Your brother in Christ, Homer C. Williams

Hennessey, Okla.—Dear Saints,—This leaves me still saved and on the battlefield for the dear Lord. I am glad that I can report victory over the power of the enemy. I was down in Louisiana a few weeks ago and found the saints still living for the dear Lord. Praise His dear name. Sister Carrie Washington was very sick with tonsillitis. We fasted and prayed and God healed. Bless His name! What a wonderful God we serve in one body. Pray that I keep true.

About the 16th of December my address will be 1330 W. 37 St., Los Angeles, 7, Calif. Sis. Annie Wiley

Jefferson, Ore.—To all the dear saints, greetings,—The Lord opened the way for us to sell our little place near Lyons, Oregon, and has located us at Jefferson. We live across the street and one block south of the bus depot on highway 99. All saints and ministers are invited to stop with us when God directs you this way. Should any come when God has us away from home, call Brother Noah White, phone 555. They will welcome and help God's people.

Just at this time the Lord is giving us a meeting in our house. He has sent Brothers O. B. Wilson, Jr., Victor Orr, and Francis Doolittle from Calif. to be with us. The truth is coming straight and pure by the power of the Holy Spirit. Heaven is blessing and we are rejoicing in Him and His truth. The saints are coming in from different points and we know great good is being done for God to last through eternity. God is moving His people forward, and unity and love is being manifested as we walk in all the light and truth being delivered to us.

With perfect love for God and all His holy remnant we are yours in Him. Sam and Beulah Wilson

Obituaries

Robert Lee Glasgow departed this life at his home in Salem, Oregon, Dec. 1, 1944, lacking only one day being 8 years old. Brother Glasgow embraced the faith of the Evening Light Reformation about fifty years ago. He preached the full gospel for thirty years. He had suffered affliction for the past thirteen years and was confined to his home. He bore his affliction with patience and fortitude, and was a blessing to many who visited and talked with him. His testimony was that he was looking forward to his "house not made with hands; eternal in the heavens." He leaves to mourn his passing his sainted wife, nieces, and many friends. Many of the saints know him. He labored at Guthrie, Okla., for a number of years. Funeral services were conducted Dec. 4th at Salem by Brothers Charles Carter and Sam Wilson. Texts were Rev. 14:13 and 1 Thes. 4:14, 18.

Aaron Edgar Post was born Oct. 2, 1856, near Jesseville, Ill., and departed this life Dec. 9, 1944, at the age of 88 years, 2 months, and seven days.

He was married to Mrs. Belle Shaw in 1912, at Springfield Tex. To this union was born one daughter: Mrs. Edna Davenport of San Antonio, Tex. Besides this daughter he leaves a brother, S. P. Post of Guthrie, Okla., two stepsons, John and Charley Shaw of San Antonio, Tex., two stepdaughters, Mrs. Mary Ferguson of San Antonio, Tex., and Lt. Florence Shaw of Camp Chaffee, Ark.

Young People's Section

Upward In The New Year

Still upward be thine onward course:
For this I pray today;
Still upward as the years go by,
And seasons pass away.

Still upward in the coming years,
Thy path is all untried;
Still upward may'st thou journey on,
Close by thy Savior's side.

Still upward e'en though sorrow come,
And trials crush thine heart;
Still upward may they draw thy soul,
With Christ to walk apart.

Still upward till the day shall break,
And shadows all have flown;
Still upward till in Heaven you wake,
And stand before the throne.

—Anon.

Editorials

"The land whither ye go to possess it is a land of hills and valleys and drinketh water of the rain of heaven: a land which the Lord thy God careth for: the eyes of the Lord are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year." Deut. 11:11, 12.

The foregoing scripture may be applied to the future path of life of God's people. Today, dear young friends, we stand upon the verge of the unknown. There lies before us the new year of 1945, and we are going forth to possess it. Who can tell what we shall find? What new experiences, what changes shall come, what new needs shall arise? But here is the cheering, comforting message from our Father. "The Lord thy God careth for" it, and His "eyes are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year."

Our strength and courage is to come from the Lord. Here are springs that shall never dry: here are fountains and streams that shall never be cut off. No heat, no drought can parch that river, "the streams whereof make glad the city of God."

The land is a land of hills and valleys. It is not all smooth nor all down hill. The hills collect the rain for a hundred fruitful valleys. Ah, so it is with us. It is the hill difficulty that drives us to the throne of grace and brings down the shower of blessings.

When we pass through the dark valleys there is an unerring Hand to lead us, even as David expressed it. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." David again writes of the Lord, "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is ful-

ness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." Psa. 16:11. So the secret of having a "happy" new year is to keep in God's presence at His right hand.

—L. D. Pruitt.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Guthrie, Okla.—Dear Saints of God,—I am glad that I can say I have found the church in all of its glory and splendor, spotless and blameless. After being dissatisfied with sect churches for years, I was led by the Lord into the wonderful light, into the real church of God.

After the Monark Springs, Mo. meeting, which was my first to attend, I was sure in mind and soul that the saints are the chosen people of God. Having lived in the Pruitt's home and been in several meetings since, I can say that the saints preach the whole truth and live it day by day. I am satisfied with this humble way of living, and I mean to never turn back on the Lord, but to keep my eyes toward heaven.

The Lord has been so good to me. He has healed me of several afflictions which were incurable by doctors; but, praise the Lord, he knows all about these bodies.

Let us ever keep in the order of the Lord and do his will at all times. I mean to make heaven my home, regardless of the price, for I know that heaven is cheap at any cost.

Your sister in Christ, Evodna Thurman

o—o—o—o—o—o

Scio, Oregon—Dear Bro. Pruitt—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I feel led to write and send you these words which came to me this evening.

Jesus Will Help You

Jesus will help you each battle to gain;
Yes, Jesus will help you your trophies to win;
Yes, Jesus will keep you by day and by night;
He surely will help you to stay in the right.
Yes, Jesus will help you to overcome sin,
If you will give your heart unto him.

This was very encouraging to me, and I hope some other young person will give his heart to the Lord.

I am surely thanking the Lord this evening for his goodness to me. If it weren't for Him shedding His precious blood on Mount Calvary, we could never have been saved, and we could not live for Him. It makes me weep at times to think of all he went through that we could be saved. I want all of you to pray that the Lord may have his way in all that he would have me to do.

Pray for the meeting which we plan to have soon. I thank the Lord for servants who know His will and do it. May the dear Lord bless all your dear hearts.

Your sister in Christ, Marie Busch

o—o—o—o—o—o

San Bernardino, Calif.—Greetings to the young people and readers of "Faith and Victory"—I am thankful for this privilege to testify that the Lord has wonderfully saved me and keeps me saved from sin. It is wonderful how the Lord loves and cares for His children and that He is no respecter of persons. We can serve Him now in the days of our youth, while the evil days come not. I hesitated at first to yield myself to the Lord, because my plans were to enjoy the pleasures of this world; have my fun first, and then when I grow older I would serve the Lord. But, praise the Lord, His plan far surpasses ours. He saved me three years ago, when I was sixteen years old, took care of me through school, and gave me

the job I desired; and I feel like praising Him for it.

There is real pleasure and joy in serving the Lord. I have lost friends and had tests and trials, but I am still happy in serving the Lord. There are no worldly pleasures that could measure up to the pleasure I find in Jesus. How sweet it is to trust in Him, to depend on Him for everything. Few young people have given up all to follow Jesus, but I am encouraged to go all the way with Him.

May the Lord bless you. Do remember me in your prayers. Your Sister in Christ, Alta Lee Davenport.

WOE!

"Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets." (Luke 6:26.)

Most of my readers have, no doubt, heard the expressions, "That man didn't have an enemy," and "Everybody spoke well of him." But Jesus said, "woe" unto him (or her, as the case may be). When one does uncompromisingly what God expects of him, he can not expect everybody to speak well of him; because a man, so to speak, is run by spiritual power, and for a false spirit to speak well of a man or woman is incompatible with a spirit of that character. Hence one must watch and be on his guard against seducing spirits whose only aim is to flatter, deceive, and say no real good, but bring a "woe." In order for ALL men to speak well of us and agree with us, we would have to connive at some things, with some people, which is at variance with the truth and then be something else when we are with the other fellow. We would have to be "turncoats" and deceivers. However, we believe it is said of some good people that they don't have an enemy, when if the truth were sought out, they do.

Another "woe" is pronounced on those who "laugh now." Jesus did not mean by this that we should never let such a thing as laughter be seen upon our lips. But He was pronouncing this "woe" upon those who were and are having their "good time" in this life (Luke 16:25). The blithe, extreme, literal laughter depicted on the lips of poor to-be-pitied souls that we see so prevalent today, is a manifestation of that giddy, hilarious, sinful life that Jesus pronounced a "woe" upon. The devil is making a special effort these days to get people to laugh away the sincerity of life, to treat it as a mere playground for flesh-indulgence and sensual gratification and to eat and drink and wear attractive apparel (Matt. 6:25; Luke 12:13). This woe is applicable to those who are satisfied with life after the flesh and think they are enjoying such, and nothing to the contrary disturbs their hilarity.

—J. H. Pierson.

The Cleansing Of The Sanctuary

God had a sanctuary upon earth at one time. It was the Holy of Holies in the temple at Jerusalem, and in the tabernacle before the temple was built by Solomon. In there behind the veil was the Holy of Holies and in there was the MERCY SEAT. The High

Priest was allowed to enter this HOLY place but once a year, and then only with the blood, lest he should be destroyed.

Well, this sanctuary had been defiled by idolatry, by the Jew and by the Gentile nations. God's sanctuary had been defiled by idolatry; they had filled it with heathen worship. And so it also has been with us. At creation, the heart of man was God's rightful SANCTUARY, but because of the fall of man it no more was a dwelling place for God's Holy Spirit. Our heart is only satisfied when filled with its rightful owner. God has created us with a longing in our heart to worship, love, and adore our God, and nothing else on earth can fill this vacancy, for God has reserved this place for HIMSELF ALONE. And in HIS dealing with man, it is the heart that God asks for. God does not ask us to give HIM silver, gold, gems, sheep, or oxen, but He does say, "My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways." Prov. 23:26. And if we yield this to God, He will be pleased with our sacrifice. If we give HIM our heart, then He also gives us HIS HEART, and in Christ we are hid away with God. God, by the blood of Christ, cleanseth our heart from all defilement, drives out everything that would dishonor HIM, and when cleansed of all filthiness of the flesh, He takes His rightful place in our THRONE, the HEART. As long as God dwells there, our heart is God's throne, and we are sealed by His presence. We have a little heaven right down here upon earth, because the Lord of Glory is enthroned within our being, and keeps us by His grace and power. Thank God for such a wonderful Saviour who is able to dwell in our heart and keep us for eternity.

I. E. Kriebel

Song of the Redeemed

"The zephyrs seem to float to me
Sweet sounds of heaven's melody,
As angels with the white robed throng
Join in the sweet redemption song."

During the ministry of Joshua Thomas on Dels Island, Chesapeake Bay, a campmeeting was in progress when a wonderful event of supernatural manifestation took place. Large numbers of people were being converted and made happy in Jesus one evening, when all at once angelic voices were heard above the tree tops singing the sweetest heavenly melodies ever heard by mortals. This event was recorded by reliable authority. (Book, "Parson of the Islands," 1872).

Those early Methodist campmeetings were widely known for the wonderful power of God in the salvation of so many people. The altar would be crowded with kneeling penitents, praying for salvation from all sin. Sometimes meetings would last almost all night. Many hundreds would be saved at a single ten-days campmeeting out in the open air under the grove of trees. Those pioneer ministers preached heart-felt repentance unto full salvation, and no one was received or fellowshiped as saved until they had been soundly converted. There just had to be a true evidence of a change of heart and life as defined in Romans 10:10.

Our Saviour tells us in Luke 15:7 that there is rejoicing in heaven among the angels when even one sinner is saved. 'There is no song, be it ever so sweetly sung by mortals, that can ever be compared to that which will be sung by the angelic choir on that great day when the saints come triumphantly marching in, singing the wonderful story of the Christ who suffered, bled, and died upon Calvary's cross to complete the marvelous plan and work of God to redeem the souls of mankind.

No one can learn or help sing that song but the redeemed of the Lord (Rev. 14:3). You who sing in the church choir or in the congregation in the many sectish religious organizations and who are unsaved and know it, did it ever occur to you that you dishonor God? Perhaps you say, "I have a gift to sing and love to do it, because there is nothing else I can do in church work." The Lord is just as much displeased with such as though you attempted to personally tell Him you believed and loved Him when you knew in your heart you did not. Such is an abomination to God, for you are speaking an untruth, whether singing or praying of an experience you know nothing of in your heart and very life.

I venture to state that many in paid choirs are singing to be heard and seen of men, and for pride or selfish reasons. For the sake of your soul's eternal welfare, let conviction lay hold upon you with godly sorrow at heart and confess your sinful nature, repent and receive the new spiritual birth in Christ Jesus; and then you can sing fervently from the depths of your soul and heart as never before. The Lord will put a new song in your heart and you can sing in the spirit and understanding, joyfully unto the Lord. Melodies from your heart go up to God the same as your fervent prayers, a sweet-smelling savor, an everlasting sweet perfume that glorifies God. Remember, the saint expresses the truth with praises to the Lord in spiritual songs and melody. "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord." Eph. 5:19. "Singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Col. 3:16.

The apostle Paul declared he would pray and also he would sing with the spirit and understanding so all could hear and understand him. (1 Cor. 14:15).

—John H. Griffith

—oOo— Who Is To Blame?

Mothers who are saved and sanctified should know that they do not belong to the world, and ought to gladly bear the reproach of the cross in rearing their children. They cannot please God if they allow them to pattern after the worldly-minded professors of religion who live around them. The world today puts out fashions and fads that are indecent and vulgar to those with a tender conscience toward God. Godly mothers should not even try to imitate these vulgar styles in dressing their little girls or boys,

but should see to it that their dresses come down below the knee, in order to preserve their modesty, and thus train them up in a Bible way. This is the only way to keep clear before God. To imitate the world in dressing children would not be training them up in the way they should go; but would be pushing them out to be gazed at by carnal men. This entices the vulgar men to think evil thoughts, and kills the child's modesty. By the time such children are in their teen age, their souls will be bound by a love for the world and its evil ways.

The man that stands on the street corner or any other place and tells a smutty joke and the man who laughs at the same are both guilty before God; but the man who tells the joke would be in the greater sin. In comparison to this, the mother who trains her little girl up with scanty and immodest dresses which attract the attention of a boy or man, causing him to have evil and vulgar thoughts (and perhaps insult the girl) is doing wrong. One could not blame the girl much if she was trained that way by her mother and knew no better. But who would be in the greater sin, the man that insulted the girl or the mother that put short, immodest dresses on her girl? I say in the fear of God that the mother is in the greater sin, for in half clothing her girl, she became a partner with Satan in enticing the man to sin by arousing his fleshly carnal nature.

A short time ago there appeared in one of our large daily papers a short article telling of a man who had kidnapped a young girl and carried her away for immoral purposes. No doubt, this young girl was half dressed and the mother was more to be blamed before God than the man; yet the mother was pitied and the man was handled very roughly by the law. O, mothers, awake! I am speaking to mothers who profess to know God. Your immodestly dressed girl may be kidnapped for immoral purposes, and then whom are you going to blame? Saints should not even try in the least degree to conform to this fast, vulgar-dressed, cigarette-sucking, and worldly-minded, hell-bound generation of unbelievers. Almost all the churches of the world are conforming to the god of fashions that are indecent, vulgar, and degrading; but saints in light should not begin to follow such ungodly ways, for it will darken their vision of truth and prepare their souls to be damned with all those who follow them.

This world has made rapid strides toward hell in the past thirty years, and it seems as time goes on the faster they go. Thirty years ago the vulgar dressed women with their hair bobbed were cornered off by the police in what they called "The Red Light District." Today they brazenly walk the streets of our cities unmolested, and would consider it an insult if the police would tell them to put on clothing to hide their nakedness. And worse yet, many of them profess to be followers of the lowly Lamb of God. What an abomination all this is in the sight of God. The Bible says that the "wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God." In a general sense, this nation has forgotten God, and when we consider the awful corruption and ungodli-

ness that is in the world, we wonder if Sodom and Gomorrah could have been any worse, whom God destroyed with fire and brimstone. Who is to be blamed for this condition? Someone may say that the devil is to be blamed. Yes, I say the devil and all of his agents are to be blamed. Many preachers are going to burn in hell because they failed to cry out against this evil. They have withheld the sword from blood, so the blood of many will be upon their own heads. Someone may ask, why is it that men and women of this generation are so corrupt and ungodly? I can tell you in just a few words: They fear the devil and the world more than they fear God, and by so doing they are brought under the power and influence of the God of this world, and the deeds of darkness and corruption will they do.

Oh, saints in light, walk in the light, lest darkness come upon you and you fall into the ditch with the blind guides which are so numerous in this world of sin and wickedness. —Fred Pruitt.

—o—o—o—

CORRESPONDENCE

Bangor, Mich.—Dear saints scattered abroad,—May the Lord bless you all and grant your every desire according to his will, is my prayer. It has been some time now since I have written a testimony for the paper; but God has been so wonderful to me I think it is time for me to declare his goodness to others.

God saved my soul from sin almost eight years ago. I was living deep in sin when Jesus rescued me. My salvation has meant a great deal to me and I have been pressing on, learning more and more of his goodness and grace.

Last January God sanctified my soul. Since then I have been more settled in him. I have also since then trusted God for the healing of my body and also my children. He is the best physician there is. We do not use any medicine. Sometimes we get in his way and have to suffer a little longer until we let him take over.

It is truly faith in him that brings the healing.

Recently my children have had a siege of bad sores on their bodies. They had infantigo before and God healed them. This time the sores were of a different form. I kept calling on God until it seemed I could not stand it much longer. I asked the saints to pray and wrote to Pro. and Sister Key of Hammond, La. and also wrote to the saints at Guthrie. Since then my little girl's sores have completely healed up and I know God has touched my little boy and that his will be gone soon. Praise the dear Lord.

In the last few months I have taken my stand for the truth as the Bible teaches it and as our forefathers and Bro. D. S. Warner preached it. Before, my soul never had rest, and now I have perfect peace—glory be to God.

Our house caught fire two weeks ago, and my husband was up north hunting. I know if God had not helped me I would have been completely unnerved; but God gave me grace and helped me through it all. After it was over the thought came to me that "All things work together for good to them that love God." I have rested on this promise ever since, and I am committed unto Him, and whatsoever his will is, is what I want to do. It is wonderful to trust in Jesus. I had a burning lump in my stomach after the fire—nerves, I guess—so

I went to my neighbor's. When she went to find me some shoes I prayed for God to help me and he took the pain away immediately. I have felt all right ever since.

I would be glad to hear from any saints who care to write.

Your sister, bought with a price, Margaret Brant

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Shawnee, Oklahoma—Dear Saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I feel impressed to send in my testimony today. This is Thanksgiving Day for some; but for me, every day is a thanksgiving day to my Lord for all he means to me. I am saved and sanctified and encouraged to live for God.

I want to tell the saints everywhere how I was healed last July at the Monark Springs, Missouri campmeeting. I had been afflicted for about one and one-half years and was getting worse all the time. I couldn't stay up all day. I had to do a little work then go lie down and rest, and then do a little more. Sometimes I was in bed three days at a time without being able to get up. I had not said much about being sick, for I knew God knew all about it and would heal me in His own time and way. When camp meeting time was coming and neither my husband nor I was able to drive that far, we began to call upon God; for we were sure He wanted us to go; yet neither of us was able to sit up all day at one time. We began to get a little stronger all the time until we were able to make the trip. There I was anointed and prayed for. I did not feel any better, but I was sure God had healed me. I told Him before I was prayed for that I was not looking for feelings, but would take it by faith in Jesus' name. He took me at my word, for that was the way I received my healing. I just counted it so and began to improve from that time on. By the time I came home I was much better. I was weak, but not sick. I could work all day at a time. Now I work all the time and never have to lie down in the day time. That has been four months and I am well today. There is healing in His name; I have found it so, praise His dear name! Also, my husband, Archie Souder, is much better and we truly thank all the saints for their prayers. Amen. Sister Myrtle Souder

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St. James, Mo.—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesu's precious name. I am still saved and holding to God's unchanging hand. I am still trusting Him to lead me through this dark world with victory in my soul. I know His grace is sufficient to take me on to the glory world. He says, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." I thank God that he has given me clean hands and a pure heart to worship him in spirit and in truth. I can love my enemies, and I have a deep love for the people of God and for God's church. It means more than all this world to me. I love to fall on my knees and cry out to God until I feel His mighty power bubbling up in my poor soul.

I received a card from Sister Lily Mae Glass. I have never seen her; but, oh, how her sweet words did comfort my soul! I love so much to hear from the dear saints and to read the testimonies. I love the "Faith and Victory" paper. It is so pure and clean and just suits me. I feel that the workers at the printing shop are fully dedicated to God, and I love them.

My desire is to live a pure life so I can be a help to others, and after I am gone that my life will still shine out to this lost and dying world. I want to be as the clay in the Potter's hands, that God can use me to his glory. I want to live close enough that I may hear that still, small voice saying, "This is the way. Walk ye

in it." I am truly glad for this strait and narrow way—the Bible way. It just suits me. Thank God that I am not deceived. I can see the one way and the one church—the church of God.

Pray for me that I will always be humble and prayerful and obedient to my dear Saviour. Mrs. Roy Pruett

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Jesus, The Light Of The World

John 1:1, "And the word was with God and the Word was God." That word was made flesh and dwelt among us in the person of Jesus Christ who was the son of God. He said of himself, "I am the light of the world." This world was a dark place. He was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew him not. He came to His own and His own received Him not. His own were the seed of Abraham, his chosen people. He was their only Savior. A few did receive Him and to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.

Jesus was a great light and many were drawn to Him. In a short time a multitude was about Him. He healed the sick, the lame, and blind. Jesus said as long as He was in the world He was the light of the world. (John 9:5.)

Jesus let his light shine wherever He was. He turned none away who came to him for help. He even restored life to some who had died. Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. Jesus was lifted up by His death upon the cross, but it seems His lifting up has lost its drawing power. The power of sin controls in many lives, yet Jesus said the work of salvation was completed. John 19:30.

Jesus said of His children, "Ye are the light of the world." Matt. 5:14. They are to lift Him up by a holy life. Jesus also said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16. Neither are God's children to hide their light under a bushel. Some try to shine on Sunday but at the same time use filthy tobacco. God is not mocked. He will remove our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west if we are willing to have it so. Psa. 103:12. God is only glorified in His obedient children. There are souls who have no fear of God before their eyes. Jesus has prepared a holy and heavenly way for us so we may have a happy peaceful life, with all the world shut out. Praise the Lord.

Jesus also said He was the true vine (John 15:1) and His Father was the husbandman. All the branches that do not bear fruit are taken away as they are of no good to the vine, the vine being better off without them. The other branches will also be able to bear more and better fruit if dead branches are taken away. The branches that bear fruit are purged so they may bring forth more fruit, which is holiness, righteousness, and purity of life. Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:20. How careful we should be that we bear good fruit. As the branches abide in the true vine,

the fruit will be good even as the vine is good.

Jesus also said, "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep." John 10:11. Verse 9 reads, "I am the door." The sheep are God's children cleansed by His blood. Jesus says His sheep hear His voice and follow Him, but a stranger they will not follow for they know not the voice of strangers. All who are truly in the sheep fold have come in through Christ, the door. Those who entered some other way are thieves and robbers.

All true followers of Jesus are of one mind. (1 Peter 3:8) The mind of Christ is to control all, so they will strive together to be of one accord, with no division among them. The Holy Spirit teaches all, and leads in the way of holiness, the Bible way. All are one body. Jesus is the head of the body which is the church, the bride, the Lamb's wife.

—F. W. Spour

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BIBLE STUDY

Order Sunday School supplies about two weeks before the 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 Genevieve Capps, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie.

THE CHILDHOOD OF JESUS

Sunday, January 7, 1945.

Daily Readings and Meditations

January 1 to 7

- M. The King is born. Matt. 2:1-12.
- T. The flight into Egypt. Matt. 2:13-18.
- W. The return to Nazareth. Matt. 2:19-23.
- T. The King of Peace foretold. Isaiah 9:1-7.
- F. The prophecy fulfilled. Luke 2:8-20.
- S. How the King was received. John 1:1-14.

Printed Portion Matthew 2:13-23.

Matt. 2:13. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

14. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

15. And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

16. Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceedingly wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

17. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

18. In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

19. But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

20. Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.

21. And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

22. But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judea in the room of his father Herod he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

23. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

Golden Text: "Behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest." Gen. 28:15.

Practical Truth: God prepared the way for the coming of his Son and protected him after he came.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The class should read all of the second chapter of Matthew for today's lesson; because our printed portion tells what happened after the wise men made their long journey to visit the young baby, who was born "King of the Jews." Herod, who had been appointed king of the Jews by the Roman ruler, fearing that his position was endangered by the birth of another king, performed the terrible act of cruelty described in today's lesson.

It is vain to try to fight against God, for what He has said, that will He do. Not only did He care for His Son to enable him to escape the wicked plot against his life, but he also immediately punished Herod.

Herod was stricken with a terrible disease which repaid him for some of his cruelties and gave him a foretaste of the punishments which awaited him after death (Read Eusebius' Ecclesiastical History, Chapter VIII). "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." He knew the Jews would be glad he had died, so in order to cause people to mourn at his death, he ordered noblemen from every village to be put to death at his death. Herod surely had many traits of his master, Satan. Satan knows his doom is sealed and that his time is short so he is gathering all he can and shutting them up in his prison house of sin so they will have to die with him and that there may be sorrow at his death.

Though God's judgments fell upon Herod, he was not the last agent to be employed by Satan to accomplish his diabolical purpose. It is ever his business to destroy the life of Jesus out of the earth, that he may reign in the hearts of people. But God is more powerful than Satan and will care for His own and will punish Satan and all of his agents. Satan even uses religious bodies of people and individuals to accomplish his purpose. These religious people study the Bible enough to know what is truth—that Christ desires to be born into the hearts of human beings so he can rule and reign here, causing them to live righteously—but they are afraid they will lose their jobs if the people, who pay them for their deceptive teachings, should understand the truth; so they keep them in ignorance and darkness concerning the truths of God's Word. This they are unable to do by force in this time of abundance of Bibles, but they try to "kill Jesus" by explaining away the meaning of much of the Word of God.

Those who know the history of the church, which is

the body of Christ, know how Satan tried to kill it in its infancy.

If Christ has been born in your heart, take heed to every warning which comes from God that the child may be protected; because you may be sure that Satan will try to kill him.

JESUS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY

Sunday, January 14, 1945

Daily Readings and Meditations
January 8 to 13

M. John the forerunner Matt. 3:1-11.

T. Baptism of Jesus Matt. 3:13-17.

W. Temptation of Jesus Matt. 4:1-11.

T. Jesus retired to Galilee Matt. 4:12-17.

F. Jesus calls four fishermen Matt. 4:18-22.

S. The Spirit of the Lord Isa. 61:1-9.

Printed PortionMatthew 3:13 to 4:11.

Matt. 3:13. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

14. But John forbade him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15. And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

16. And Jesus, who he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17. And lo, a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

4:1. Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered.

3. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

4. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

5. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

6. And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

7. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

8. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9. And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

11. Then the devil leaveth him, and behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Golden Text: "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." Matt. 4:10.

Practical Truth: Decisions made when facing one's lifework usually give character to the entire life.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

John the Baptist had been baptizing and fearlessly telling the people of their sins and commanding them to repent and bring forth fruits which would show they had repented; but his message was completely changed when Jesus came to be baptized. According to John 1:33, he did not fully know Jesus until the Spirit descended upon Him, yet he discerned the holiness which Jesus possessed.

Jesus knew no sin, but he was baptized that in all things he might be an example for us. Perfect obedience brought words of praise from the Father and the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:22 says Jesus was "approved of God." This should help us to understand better the scripture, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God." We should study His Word with an open heart and a willingness and desire to fulfill all righteousness and render to Him a life of perfect obedience. Then we who have been made sons and daughters through faith in Jesus will be recognized and "approved of God."

It was God's plan that His Son should be tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin; "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted."

After Jesus began his ministry he taught his disciples about two gates and two ways—one was the strait (or difficult) gate and narrow way, and the other was the wide gate and broad way. He taught this lesson from his own personal experience. He was on the narrow way, but Satan did all he could to entice him onto the broad way, which is a way of self indulgence. He showed Jesus an easy way to satisfy his fleshly desires, an easy way to prove he was the Messiah and gain followers, and a way to gain the praise of men and satisfy carnal ambition.

There are but two ways for human conduct. To travel the narrow way, one must obey the voice and will of God; and to travel the other, one obeys the suggestions of Satan. The will of God is revealed to us by His Word and His Spirit. Satan is very clever in transforming himself into an angel of light, and he is always ready to suggest a way which is more pleasing to the flesh than that which God has given us. Some people carelessly play with sin. They let the devil deceive them into thinking that there are many little no-harm things which they can do and still get to heaven. Though they gave them up in order to get saved, they begin to feel like they have deprived themselves of too much and now that they are saved it will not do any harm to pick them up again. The devil never pictures his things in their true light. He could not get people to nibble at his "no-harm" bait if they knew his purpose was to catch them in his dangerous "sin trap." Those who yield to little temptations will have no power to overcome greater ones. Sin is a serious thing. If we die in our sins, we cannot go to heaven. Bunyan said, "Better, though difficult, the right way to go; than wrong, though easy, where the end is woe."

STANDARDS OF THE KINGDOM

Sunday, January 21, 1945

January 15 to 20.

Daily Readings and Meditations

- M. Jesus teaching and healing Matt. 4:23-25.
- T. The secret of blessedness Matt. 5:1-12.
- W. The law of love Matt. 5:38-45.
- T. Jesus teaching to pray Matt. 6:5-15.
- F. Loving our enemies Luke 6:27-38.
- S. Christian duties Eph. 4:25-32.

Printed Portion Matthew 5:3-10, 43-48.

Matt. 5:3. Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

43. Ye have heard that it hath been said, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy.'

44. 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;

45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47. And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48. Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Golden Text: "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5:10.

Practical Truth: The way which Jesus pointed out for those who desire showers of blessings from God, is not one which appeals to the carnal-minded.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The word blessed means, "favored with blessings; happy; heavenly; holy." Man's idea of blessedness differs from God's. He tells us that His thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are His ways our ways. When one is favored with good health and worldly comforts, men are likely to think of him as being blessed. But Jesus said, "Blessed are they that hear the word of God and do it." When Jesus calls one blessed, he means that his soul is in such a state that there is no friction between it and God. When in this state, one enjoys happiness which the world cannot give nor take away and all such will inherit an eternal blessing. One can enjoy this blessedness even if he loses friends, health, and all earthly possessions.

Eternity-bound soul, are you seeking God's blessings or temporal blessings? Are you more concerned about hearing and doing the Word of God than about hearing and doing things to keep your body healthy and comfortable?

As God had Gideon to give his army tests which would sift out those who cared more for temporal comforts than for God's cause, so Jesus gave the beatitudes to sift out those of his followers who desired to receive temporal blessings and positions of honor in a temporal kingdom which they thought he had come to set up. Only the humble would desire to live the life which He pictured in the beatitudes.

False disciples now who do not want to humble them-

selves to obey Jesus' teachings, will dare to teach people that they cannot expect to be able to live up to the instructions in the sermon on the Mount, and that Jesus meant it only for some future age. Those who fail to enter into a life of blessedness here will not enter into a place and state of blessedness when this life is over. If you are expecting to enjoy the blessings of heaven, remember Jesus expects you to be poor in spirit, realizing that you in yourself are nothing that God may be all and in all; to mourn because of sin and for lost souls; to hunger and thirst after righteousness, and esteem the words of His mouth more than your necessary food; to be meek or possess an humble attitude toward your fellowmen (This is not weakness as carnal people think, but requires much strength and grace.); to be merciful to others even as God has been merciful to you (To be merciful does not mean to make allowance for and compromise with sin); to love purity with all your heart (evil thoughts and words come from an impure heart); to be peacemakers, contending only for the truth which ends contention and brings peace to men's hearts; and if you are all of these, the blessings mentioned in the 10th and 11th verses will be yours too, because the Word of God tells us that all who will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

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LOYALTY TO THE KINGDOM

Sunday, January 28, 1945

Daily Readings and Meditations
January 22 to 27.

- M. God's kingdom first Matt. 6:26-34.
- T. Danger of riches Mark 10:23-31.
- W. Solomon's wise choice 1 Kings 3:3-14.
- T. Living by the Golden Rule Matt. 7:7-12.
- F. Loyalty through giving 2 Cor. 9:6-15.
- S. The two builders Matt. 7:24-29.

Printed PortionMatthew 6:33; 7:12, 16-29.

Matt. 6:33. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

7:12. Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

16. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17. Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

21. Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have we cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23. And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

24. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and

the winds blew, and beat upon that house: and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house: and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

28. And it came to pass when Jesus had ended these sayings the people were astonished at his doctrine.

29. For he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.

Golden Text: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33.

Practical Truth: Loyalty to the kingdom of God is required of Christ's followers.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

People who believe the kingdom of God is to be set up in some future age would not understand how to obey Matt. 6:33. The Word of God tells us "The kingdom of God is within you," and that it "is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." When we understand the nature of it, and that it is in existence now, and that true Christians are subjects of the kingdom; then we can understand how to be loyal to it. To be loyal to it would mean to place its interests above our own, and to obey all of its laws.

Some who have once been loyal subjects of the kingdom of God have failed to obey the law of putting it first in their lives and have drifted into a state of carelessness and indifference concerning it, and do not take seriously the teachings of the Word of God nor put them into practice. The Lord has mercy upon them for awhile and cares for them tenderly as a gardner would care for wilted plants to try to revive them; but if he gets no response, He will blot their names off His book and they will lose their citizenship; because indifference toward the things of God is contrary to His laws.

Though the Holy Spirit fills one's heart with zeal to work for God, yet zeal alone is no guarantee that one is a subject of the kingdom, for citizenship cannot be bought or earned with good works. Many who desire to imitate Christianity by outward acts are very zealous, yet they have never experienced a change of heart. Notice verse 22. The only real test is the fruits that a person bears, which is a holy life. People have a right to watch Christians and expect holy conduct from them.

Christ closed his sermon on the Mount with a parable by which he showed the need of putting His teachings into practice. The devil does not care how much preaching one hears just so he does not take it seriously and permit it to be the means of transforming his life.

A house is our place of abode and a shelter from the elements. A good house is usually costly, and one who is putting his life's earnings into a home would not want to build it in such a way that it would be easily destroyed. He would not think of putting all of his money into a beautiful front for people to look at and make the inside of flimsy perishable material; yet people are doing that all the time in a spiritual way. They do not want to pay the price of a genuine heart experience, so they polish up the outside to make people think they are good Christians, but their living quarters will not bear inspection. There is no soul rest there, and no shelter from sin. Let us not build on false hopes, but on the sure word of God.