

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 18, No. 4

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

November, 1947

Against A Thorn

Once I heard a song of sweetness
As it cleft the morning air,
Sounding in its blest completeness
Like a tender pleading prayer;
And I sought to find the singer,
Whence this wondrous song was born:
(And I found a bird, sore wounded,
Pinioned by a cruel thorn.)

I have seen a soul in sadness
While its wings with pain were furred,
Giving hope and cheer and gladness,
That should bless a weeping world;
And I knew that life of sweetness
Was of pain and sorrow born,
(And a stricken soul was singing
With its heart against a thorn.)

Ye are told of one who loved you,
Of a Saviour crucified,
Ye are told of nails that pinioned
And a spear that pierced His side;
Ye are told of cruel scourging,
Of a Saviour bearing scorn
(And He died for your salvation
With His brow against a thorn.)

Ye are not above the Master,
Will you breath a sweet refrain?
And His grace will be sufficient
When your heart is pierced with pain.
Will you live to bless His loved ones
Though your life be bruised and torn?
(Like the bird that sang so sweetly
With its heart against a thorn?)

(Poem Copied)—Geo. W. Stephenson

Who Will Suffer With the Saviour?

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as unto the Lord and not unto man." Col. 3:23.

Dear saints abroad and readers of "Faith and Victory" paper, greetings in the name of our loving Lord who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own precious blood. Just think of the suffering on the cruel cross where our loving Lord and Saviour died with a broken heart for you and me. Not a murmur, not a complaint came from his lips while He was suffering and dying for you and me and all the world beside.

He took your sins and my sins and the sins of the whole world on Himself. "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar he said, *It is finished*: and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost." John 19:30,31. "And behold, the vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom: and the earth did quake and the rocks rent."

Oh, I am so glad that Jesus finished the work the Father gave him to do, and I am sure you are glad too. When his disciples begged him to eat, Jesus said, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of." He said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me and to finish his work." The voice of God came down from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." God was well pleased with His Son because he was willing to suffer and die and shed his innocent blood to cover the sins of this lost world. Yes, God SO loved the world that he gave the very best that could be found in heaven to redeem poor lost men and women.

All that Jesus did, he did it heartily as unto the Father. He knew the Father loved the world and He was willing to suffer and die to save poor lost humanity. Jesus finished his work with a broken heart.

Now the question: "Who will suffer with the Savior, take the little that remains, of the cup of tribulation, Jesus drank in dying pains?" Oh, dear ones, are we willing to suffer and do it heartily as unto the Lord? Will we go with a bleeding broken heart when our heart is against a thorn, and still be

cheerful and smile while we tell lost men and women of a Christ who died to save them, and do all we can to encourage those about us to be true? Are we willing to suffer with Jesus? —G. W. Stephenson

—oOo—

The Kingdom and the Church

In the New Testament the Kingdom of God is mentioned many times and also the Church of God is often mentioned in relation to the children of God in the earth. It seems to be a question with some whether they are synonymous terms or otherwise.

The Scriptures bear out the fact that God is the Creator of all things that exist, of things that have life and things that have no life. All down through the ages past the Scriptures teach us that God has and is retaining his power over all living creatures, and this fact makes him the supreme ruler of the universe. Satan, who is reckoned by the Lord to be the "prince of this world" (John 16:11 and Eph. 2:2), a ruler over unsaved men, is also subjected to God; for in Job's case he had to get permission of God before he could destroy his property and children. Then he had to go back to God to get permission to afflict his body. In John 19:11 we have the words of Christ declaring to Pilate, "Thou couldst have no power at all against me except it were given thee from above." So God the Father was and is King over all the world.

After Jesus was resurrected and before he ascended, he told the disciples that "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (Matt. 28:18). We can easily see by these Scriptures that the Kingdom of God in one sense is a universal Kingdom, for God the Father and the Son are rulers over all.

In the parables that Jesus gave us in Matthew the 13th chapter, concerning the likeness of the Kingdom, we find that the Kingdom of God appears in the world in several different senses. When the disciples asked him why he spoke to the people in parables his reply was, "Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven." In other words, by understanding the meaning of his parables correctly, they would know the mysterious ways in which his words and teaching would produce its effects in the world or among men.

"Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also." Matt. 13:24-26.

In the 37th verse Jesus explained to his disciples the meaning of the parable: "He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one." According to this parable we learn that the Kingdom of Heaven will appear in one sense in this world as a wheat field with tares in it; or in other words, there will be real children of

the Kingdom and also professors that are similar in many respects.

Now let us consider the parable beginning in verse 45. Jesus said the Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a merchant man seeking goodly pearls, and when he found one Pearl of great price he went and sold all that he had and bought it. In this parable he speaks of the Kingdom of God in its oneness, as in the church of God.

In Luke 17:21 he told the people, "Behold, the kingdom of God is within you." When you have Christ you are in the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom is in you. When you have Christ you are also in the church of God. In its true and specific sense, the Kingdom of God and the Church of God are one and the same. Jesus said to his disciples in Luke 9:27, "There be some standing here that shall not taste of death till they see the kingdom of God." In Mark it is said, "Till they see the kingdom of God come with power." All spiritual men know that he was referring to the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the 120 disciples of Christ and they had power to witness for him. In reading the account of this in the second chapter of Acts, we find Luke referring to this body of people as the church, for he said, "The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Jesus referred to it as the Kingdom of God and Luke referred to it as the church.

In Mark 1:14 we read, "Jesus came into Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye and believe the gospel. Those that repented and believed the gospel became the Kingdom of God and on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit power was given unto them; and these were also called the church, a called out people, in the world but not of the world. In his prayer to the Father for his disciples, Jesus prayed (John 17), "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." Even then in their justified state they were of the Kingdom of God and material of the church. On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came into their very souls and they were endued with power to be His witnesses. Gifts of the Spirit were given, and the church was organized and set in order. This body of believers was also called the Kingdom of God, for we read in 1 Cor. 15:24, "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the Kingdom to God even the Father: when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power." This would be nothing more or less than the church of God which he has purchased with his own blood (Acts 20:28). Also in the last verses of the fourth chapter of 1 Thess. you can learn about the kind which are delivered up to the Lord in the air, and surely this is nothing but the redeemed, the church of God.

Paul, speaking of the children of God, said in Hebrew 12, "But ye are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, to the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

to the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect." In the 28th verse, speaking of the same people, he said, "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear."

In a specific sense the Kingdom of God and the church of God cannot be separated. In the 14th chapter of Romans we read, "For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost."

All of this we have when in the church of God. When Christ comes in and we are born again, we enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5) and are also in the church of God, for the church is the body of Christ (Col. 1:24). Christ is King of kings and Lord of Lords, and we who are the body of Christ, the church, are his obedient subjects, willingly doing his will. We are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. (Ephesians 5:30-31). —Fred Pruitt.

The Benefit of Little Things

It is in the spiritual as in the natural. When hoeing our gardens, every little weed we cover up helps to fertilize the land. While it is but a little, yet it all helps. So it is with our Christian experience—every little temptation resisted helps to strengthen us. Like the little weeds, it may not be noticeable for years, but we are on the way to a deeper experience if we successfully overcome all the little things we meet. It is like our crops; we go out and look at our crops and stand there for half an hour, but can not see any difference in them. You need not be uneasy, for if you are overcoming the trials and temptations as you go along, God is satisfied with your growth whether you can see it or not, for God is the one who permits the right kind of trials to come to us that will give us the proper development that he can be satisfied with.

Thus, since we are pleasing God, we ought to be satisfied with our experience of growth and development. What more can you do to be satisfied other than just to walk in the light God gives you? Is not that all God has given you to do? Then take what he gives you, and be happy. —Julia M. Tilton

Follow After Charity

"Follow after charity." 1 Cor. 14:1. Are you following after charity? Have you prayed until God has given you a vision of what charity means? We know the definition that Webster gives us: "Divine love for man; act of loving all men as brothers because they are sons of God; almsgiving; good will to the poor and suffering." But, dear ones, do we know what it means because we have had a revelation from God and it is deep down in our hearts? Is

it working in our lives today? Is that love for our fellowmen so strong that it makes us show it to all with whom we come in contact? Our prayer should be: "Lord, help us to have more charity." We cannot have too much.

Paul tells us to "follow after charity." If a detective is following someone, he never loses sight of that person. So if we are following after charity, we never lose sight of it. We are showing compassion where it is needed. We are helping our brother when we see a need. We are concerned for those who are sick and are helping others bear their burdens. We aren't quick to criticize those who may falter or stumble, but ready to help with our prayers and words of encouragement. Charity in our hearts helps us to speak kindly.

We are living in a dark world of sorrow and disappointment all around us. Let us, as children of God, lift up the light of charity so its beams may fall on others that they may receive warmth to their hearts and know that God has given it.

—Mrs. Carl B. Miles

The Master's Question

Have you looked for My sheep on the desert,
For those who have missed the way?
Have you been in the wild waste places,
Where the lost and the wandering stray?
Have you trodden the lonely highway,
The foul and darksome street?
It may be you'd see in the gloaming
The print of My wounded feet.

Have you folded home to your bosom
The trembling, neglected lamb,
And taught to the little lost one
The sound of the Shepherd's name?
Have you searched for the poor and needy,
With no clothing, no home, no bread?
The Son of Man was among them—
He had nowhere to lay His head!

Have you carried the living water
To the parched and thirsty soul?
Have you said to the sick and wounded
"Christ Jesus can make you whole?"
Have you told My fainting children
Of the strength of the Father's hand?
Have you guided the tottering footsteps
To the shore of the Golden Land?

Have you stood by the sad and weary
To soothe the pillow of death,
To comfort the sorrow-stricken,
And strengthen the feeble faith?
Have you wept with the brokenhearted,
In their agony of woe?
You might hear Me whispering beside you—
'Tis the pathway I often go!

—Selected

"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.

(Entered as second-class matter June 30, 1930 at the Post Office at Guthrie, Oklahoma, under the act of March, 3, 1879.)
—SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—

Single copy, one year	\$.25
Single copy, five years	1.00
Five copies to any address, one year	1.00
Twelve copies to any address, one year	2.00

An exclusive, full gospel paper printed and sent out in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in the interest of all Christians, which body of believers constitute the one and only true Church of God.

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.

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

Phone Number 1523-J

The chapel where the church of God meets in Guthrie, Okla. is located on the corner of 6th St. and W. Warner Ave. Regular Sunday services are: Sunday School, 9:20 a. m.; preaching services, 11 a. m.; night services, 7:30 p. m.; Mid-week prayer meeting Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.; Bible Study Friday, 7:30 p. m.

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

Editorials

How soon, oh, how soon we shall all be meeting God in that great Judgment Day, for time is swiftly carrying us on to that final closing up day when the goats will be set on the left hand of the great and righteous Judge and the sheep on the right hand and the final state of every soul will be pronounced and swiftly carried into effect. Let each one of us be diligent to make our calling and election sure and not neglect this great salvation which is a "gift of God" to man, for God declares plainly in his letter to man: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23. People who live and continue to commit sin are earning the wages of eternal death whether they make a profession or not. It is not what we profess, it is what we are in our hearts that God regards, for out of the heart are the issues of life. James says that a fountain cannot send forth bitter and sweet water at the same time, neither will the good things that you do entitle you to heaven if there is some evil mixed along with it. God declares in His Word, "Ye cannot serve two masters." He also says that our righteousness is only as filthy rags in his sight. James says, "What is your life? It is even as a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away." James 4:14. Brother, think of the shortness of your time. You are here today and tomorrow you stand before the Judge. If your record is not clear in God's book you should repent and get it all clear. If it is clear, be diligent in keeping it clear by yielding yourself continually into the hands of God. Let us consider the goodness of God and not forget his severity toward the wicked, for Jesus Christ, figuratively speaking, is both a Lamb and a Lion—a lamb is harmlessness, meekness, and in not reviling, but a lion in strength and judgment—fulfilling his promises both to the obedient and the disobedient.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Time has been going so fast that it seems hardly possible that it is near Christmas time again. Last year we put out a "special offer" with premiums for subscriptions to the "Faith and Victory" paper, and we received several thousand new subscriptions for the paper. They will all be expiring with the December issue unless renewed as these subscriptions began with the January issue of 1947.

This year we are putting out another "special offer" with premiums for every one who will get ten subscriptions for two dollars and send it to this office before the fifteenth of December. You can send in new subscriptions or renew the old ones for your friends and keep the gospel going into homes where otherwise they might never hear the truth. Remember, our labors are not in vain in the Lord and we are exhorted in the Word to not "become weary in well-doing," for we shall reap if we faint not. You will find a subscription blank in your paper this time with space for ten names and

addresses and a self addressed envelope for your convenience in sending in the ten names and the two dollars to pay for same. You also get a choice of six premiums offered. These subscriptions will begin with the January issue of 1948.

No doubt many wonder how we can continue to print and send out this sixteen-page paper with such a small subscription price, when everything has practically doubled in cost. It is the Lord's doings and it is really marvelous in our sight. The only reason we can do this is because God moves on his truly sanctified children and they give of their substance. These free-will offerings make the continuation possible; otherwise we would soon have to discontinue the printing work and close the shop. We have the office building and printing machinery, with our own lives, all in His hands and He can do just as He pleases about the matter. Having had long experience in trusting the Lord for everything, and seeing how He works and takes care of that which is kept in His hand, we know that many will shine in the glory world that have never been heard of or known much about in this world. God has a goodly number of consecrated saints scattered thru the country who make gifts regularly to the "Lord's Print Shop." They can testify that we make no plea or hint to them for support of the work. We tell God about the needs and He talks to his children who have an ear to hear his voice and a willing heart to obey. In that way they get their orders directly from the Governor and Ruler of the universe and clearly realize that they are servants of His and not the servants of men. Truly, his ways are not our ways, neither are his thoughts our thoughts, but as the heavens are high above us, so are his ways and his thoughts above our ways and thoughts. (Isa. 55:8).

o—o—o—o—o—o

For many long years the church of God has been declared, taught, and talked about, printed and published, and circulated throughout Christendom, yet it is amazing to find so few that have a keen, clear realization of what the church in its organized state really is. Many claim to see the church and to be in the church who act contrary to clear light on the subject.

Jesus spoke to Peter and the other disciples about the true church and said the gates of hell shall never prevail against her. This statement is true, for man-made churches, which are the gates of hell, have never prevailed against her and never will, for she stands out clean and clear from all of them and is a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, and shows forth the praises of Him who has called us (the church) out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9).

Very few seem to understand the need of keeping their bodies presented to the Lord as a living sacrifice all the time. When they fail to do this, their consciences become defiled and contaminated with the things of earth and their vision of the church will be dim. Sometimes they retain only a

head knowledge of it and try to function in the church with human intellect instead of being led by the Spirit. Such will lead on to worldly conformity and human government.

When Jesus was teaching the disciples and praying unto the Father that they be sanctified through the truth, he said, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, are in me, and I in thee that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou has sent me." John 17:21.

Sanctified people are not separated from the Lord by any earthly thing and can and will function freely in their places in His body, which is the church. Paul, in speaking or writing about the church, says, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." Would you dare tell me that members who are really this closely compacted and knit together with Christ and the Father would be pulling against one another, having respect of persons and be manifesting literal relationship religion, or speaking evil of some and making slight remarks about others and conforming to the world in habits and dress? Those who really see the church clearly will become dead to their selfish interests with their affections on things above with a continual yielding unto Him that they may appear with Him in glory. (Col. 3:12). They will not make pleas for money and wrest the Scriptures in order to make men feel obligated to support them, making merchandise out of the free gospel. Brethren, I am persuaded that God will not accept any kind of a gift unless it is freely given and not persuaded out of folks. The only way we can be the Lord's is by our free-will choice. He told the disciples, "Freely ye have received, freely give."

I would not accept any gift from any man for the work of the Lord unless I felt it was being freely given as unto the Lord. About nine months ago a brother came to us and wanted to give us \$150.00 to use in the Lord's work. He was aged and we hesitated about taking it, but he insisted, so because of his earnest desire we took it. Just recently he became troubled about it and wanted it back. We gladly gave it back to him because we do not want any money to use in the "Lord's work" unless it is given freely and held that way. Brethren, we are going to be called upon to give an account of what we do and how we treat one another and we should be honest with our fellowmen, honest with God, and honest with ourselves. The humble and lowly way is always the safe way.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Manly Jones who lives at Florence, Colo. would like to get in touch with any saints that live near.

o—o—o—o—o—o

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sister McCowan of California is sorely afflicted with sugar diabetes and a large growth of some kind in her side. Her body has wasted away to a mere skeleton, but she has faith in God for her healing and is completely trusting God. Pray for her complete healing.

National Campground Report

The marked increase in interest and concern for the national campmeeting was very noticeable during the past campmeeting held in July at Monark Springs, Mo. The attendance was much larger this year and a number of saints decided to build cabins on their lots, Lord willing, and have them ready for the meeting next summer, which will be held July 23 to Aug. 1, 1948. Others inquired for lots to buy, but practically all suitable building lots have been sold. If any one has a lot to sell, let us know and we can get in touch with those who want to buy lots. Please remember also that lots and improvements cannot be sold for more than the actual original cost, and all assignments of title must be approved by the trustees.

Bro. Sherman Burris, a carpenter of Lincoln, Ark., has arranged with some of the saints to build their cabins, and perhaps others will want him to build cabins. The approximate cost, including labor and material, would be \$150 for a 12 x 16, native oak cabin with composition roof and siding.

For the past three years Bro. and Sister James Morris have been the caretakers on the national campgrounds and the saints have paid them \$30 per month. At the business meeting during the campmeeting this summer they were retained as caretakers with the agreement that the monthly payments were to continue only until Oct. 1st of this year, at which time Bro. Morris was to begin receiving the old age pension from the state. However, we still pay the electric bill which is a minimum of \$3.00 per month and make available for their use a cabin with the cooperation of Sister Gladys Piper.

The new dining hall was completed to the point where it was used during the last campmeeting and was much appreciated by all those in attendance. When the campmeeting was over and all expenses connected therewith were paid, there was just a little more than enough in the treasury to pay the debt on the dining hall. There are now no debts on the grounds or buildings, and we thank the Lord for that. However, the balance now on hand is very small with which to make further improvements.

In the business meeting at the last campmeeting a number of improvements were decided to be made, and these cannot be made without an expenditure of money. Here are some of the improvements required by next campmeeting. The rostrum in tabernacle to be completely refinished, 200 new song books to be purchased, buy or build new seats for the tabernacle, buy camp tents for campmeeting use, and the need for rest rooms in the basement of dining hall was discussed. The dining hall needs more finishing touches—painting inside and out, doors, windows, and partitions in basement, and stairway to basement. A cement block pump house needs to be built and the electric water pump installed with water piped to the dining hall. The

trustees will not be able to have these improvements ready for campmeeting without the wholehearted support of the saints individually and collectively. Let us not wait until campmeeting time to become concerned about these improvements, but give generously now so these items will be ready for your use at next campmeeting. He that soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly. Let us compare our consecration to that of the early church when they had all things common, and there was no lack of material or spiritual blessings in the cause of God.

Let each one give, whether little or much, as unto the Lord, and send to the undersigned for the National Campmeeting Fund.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secy.-Treas.
1005 W. Mansur. Guthrie. Okla.

Tulsa, Okla.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name to all the saints,—Today finds us still on the firing line. We find it a great privilege to be fit to be a soldier of God.

I have thought ever since the Monark Campmeeting that I would send a brief report of the good meeting. About 185 to 200 saints were on the grounds all the time, and there were a large number of ministers for the preaching of the Word. Because of a contract job, Bro. Barton was hindered from attending except on week ends, but the Lord wonderfully helped out in every need.

We were thankful to be able to buy a new stove and that we were permitted to use a sister's oil stove. So with the three butane stoves and one oil stove, we did fine. Only a few times were we short on cooked food for the tables. I believe everyone was well cared for.

Because of the embarrassment caused by a shortage of tents we feel we should now urge the saints to be sure to order your tents far enough ahead of time so we can get them ordered. They have to be trucked from Joplin and paid for whether they are used or not, so we do not order a large amount unless we know they will be used. We have no way of knowing how many will be needed unless you let us know ahead of time that you want one. Start saving your tent money now and send it in a month ahead of campmeeting time so we can order tents for all. Ten more cots have been added to our supply. We are still in need of cot ticks. The quilt supply ran out this summer and still folks were cold at night. If you have extra bedding, feather beds, etc. that you want to put to work for the Lord, send it to the Monark Springs Camp ground, in care of James E. Morris, Neosho, Mo. R. 3. We will thankfully receive anything useable—dishes, silverware, chairs, beds, quilts, mattresses, etc. There is plenty of storage space. If more is sent than we can use at Monark Springs I'll see that it gets to some other campmeeting to be used.

There is a need for dishes, silverware, dish towels, bedding, etc. at the state campground at Guthrie, Okla. Let us do our best this year to furnish these needy places.

There is another matter of which I wish to speak. There is a small new congregation in southern Kansas, composed of saints from Coffeyville, Chetopa, and rural districts, pastored by Sister Albert Eck. They are small in number but are putting forth an effort to build a place for worship in Chetopa. They need our prayers and cooperation.

Let us put our means to work then see that we do our share to lead souls to God. We find much to do for the Lord and so few that will say, "Here, Lord, let me

do something." We find old saints in need of supervision and care. Look about and see what God will have you do. Remember, a soldier is not working for himself. He works for his country. The Lord's soldiers must not work for self, but for God. Our country is straying from God and we must bring them in. Here, Lord, send me.

Yours for a clean gospel, Sister Sam Barton

Obituaries

Carl J. Iverson was born March 17, 1860 in Norway, and departed this life Sept. 4, 1947 at his home near Chatsworth, Calif. at the age of 87 yrs., 5 mos., 18 days.

He came to America when a young man and settled in the Chatsworth community, back in the pioneer days and remained here until his death.

In 1888 he was united in marriage to Augusta Wogman. To this union were born five children: three sons, Aaron, Joseph, and Carl; and two daughters, Anna and Cenna.

Brother Iverson was saved soon after coming to this country and has lived an upright life and trusted in God for many years. His service to God and fellowship among the saints these years has been sweet.

During his last illness of a few weeks, it was very precious to be in his presence and to hear him rejoice and praise the Lord, and many times he expressed his desire to go home and asked us the last few hours he lived to pray for the Lord to call him home. In his dying hours he expressed a love and deep burden for all his children and asked the saints to continue to pray for the salvation of their souls.

He is survived by his sainted wife, who is in her 91st year, three sons, and two daughters, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral service conducted by O. B. Wilson, jr. assisted by A. E. Harmon and I. D. Stover.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Bro. J. B. Thorn who lived at Neosho, Mo. passed on to his reward Sept. 23, 1947. He was eighty years old. He had been professing Christ in the church of God for many years. He was quite well known among the saints, as he usually attended the campmeetings in different parts of the country. He was of a quiet, timid disposition and the enemy would accuse him and try to crush his soul and he would often come to the altar of prayer in the campmeetings for help and restoration.

He often testified that his calling of the Lord was to travel on the highways, hand out gospel tracts, talk to souls about their need of Christ, and print Scriptures on appropriate places along the highways warning the people of the pending judgment and the need of preparing to meet God in peace. He spent most of his time at this job during the last twenty years of his life. He would go on long trips hitch-hiking and walking most of the time to meet up with individuals along the way and to put up mottoes to attract the attention of travelers and cause them to think about Jesus. He would often be without any money, and if the Lord so allowed it, he would sleep by the roadside, suffering and denying himself to get the gospel to men.

His funeral was held at the saints' chapel at Neosho, Mo. on the 25th of September conducted by the writer. Because of hurried arrangements, the body was buried on the County Farm near Neosho, but later the saints were not satisfied to leave it in that poor wilderness-looking place, so Bro. Sam Barton and other brethren took the body up and buried it in the Granby, Mo. Cemetery where his brother was buried a few years ago.

NOTICE TO THE SAINTS

Bro. Thorn stayed with us here at the print shop in 1926 and part of 27. He helped us to move the old print shop, or part of it, to the present site, and also helped to build the new building, and then said, "I must be on my way to fulfill my mission in life of walking the highways and talking to men, handing out tracts, and posting up signs."

He certainly suffered much for the cause of God, and because he spent his time working for the Lord and souls he did not have enough to take care of his funeral expenses. He had \$95.00, but the funeral expenses were much more than that, and then the taking up of his body and placing it in a suitable place was added expense.

If any of the saints feel led of the Lord to help pay the remainder of the funeral expense, you can send it here to the publishing house and we shall see that it is used in this way. I understand that there is something like \$140.00 yet to be paid.

—Fred Pruitt

Articles for Christmas Gifts

DeLuxe Scripture Text Christmas Folders with envelopes to match, 21 in box, beautifully colored. \$1.00.

Christmas Greeting Folders with envelopes to match, Scripture text, in colors, 12 in a box for 50 cents.

Bedtime Prayer Reminder, a beautifully made cross that glows in the dark. 15 cents each, five for 70 cents.

God's Gracious Dealings. This book contains 191 pages with eleven pictures and has the reputation of being deeply interesting and helpful to saints, and often sinners become convicted and get saved by reading it. It is a good gift for a friend who thinks about his eternal welfare. Price 25 cents or six books for one dollar.

New Testament with Large Print for old folks or Bible-readers who have dim eyes. A fine gift for your aged friend or relative. Price \$1.75.

Odors from Golden Vials by C. E. Orr. This book has 78 pages with paper cover. It is full of good soul food. Price 20 cents each or eight books for \$1.00.

Egermeier's Bible Story Book. The whole Bible is presented in chronological order, accurate in historical detail, interesting to children, illustrated with over 200 actual photographs, beautiful color reproductions and drawings. 608 pages, cloth bound. Price \$2.95 each.

1948 Scripture Text Calendar depicting Bible scenes and characters, fixed to hang on the wall. Size 9½ by 15½ inches. It is, as usual, a beautiful calendar, price 35 cents each, three for \$1.00, 12 for \$3.50, twenty-five for \$6.75.



Above articles Post Paid to any address in U. S.

National Minsters' Meeting

The national ministers' meeting to be held at Guthrie, Okla. will begin Dec. 15th and close Sat. the 20th, making a session of six days. This leaves five days between the ministers' meeting and the Guthrie assembly meeting. (The saints at Guthrie are praying that the Lord will direct some of the ministers to stay for it.)

The national ministers' meeting here at Guthrie last year was a grand success. Many questions were brought up and discussed by the ministers which was a great benefit to all. It is good for the ministers to get together at least once a year to counsel together on things pertaining to the kingdom of God and the best interests of the church in general, to get acquainted with one another and have a better understanding of all the work of God everywhere.

Those who are led of the Lord to help finance this ministers' meeting can send their offering to Faith Pub. House and we shall see that it is used in that way. Meals will be served at the dining hall. Sleeping room will be furnished, but be sure to bring blankets to keep you warm at night if possible.

Every minister that can should attend this meeting.

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

Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting

The state assembly meeting at Guthrie, Okla will begin Friday, December 26, 1947 and last ten days. We are expecting the usual good assembly meeting with ministers from over the state and also from other states. Those wanting help in soul or body should attend this meeting. The full gospel will be preached as the Spirit of God directs and anoints. The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. Food and sleeping quarters will be supplied for all who come. Those coming should bring blankets for your need for there will be a shortage of blankets and covers.

Those sending offerings and supplies for the state assembly meeting should send it direct to Bro. O. C. Porter, whose address is 511 E. Springer, Guthrie, Okla. He is the treasurer of the state funds. Please do not send them to us here at Faith Pub. House.

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

A SUCCESSFUL REVIVAL

Gordo, Ala.—Just about the time we would have had our meeting advertised in the "Faith and Victory" paper, Bro. Geo. Hood took seriously sick. The weight and responsibility of the meeting rested upon him and me, so we abandoned the hope of having a meeting this summer.

However we prayed, and Sister Hood (his wife) sent word to Oklahoma asking for prayer. The saints in Okmulgee and other places also prayed and the good Lord healed our brother, for which we give Him all the glory and praise.

We then decided that the good Lord wanted a meeting, as well as we, so we made preparations and trusted Him for results.

We felt led of the Spirit to send for Bro. G. McMillan of Okmulgee, Okla. No minister among us stands for the whole truth. We made ready a brush arbor, and on Sunday, Aug. 24th, by God's help, we were able to start the revival meeting. It rained us out one night and we had meeting in our home. Two were saved that night. Four were saved in the meeting and were baptized. Others were reclaimed and healed of their backslidings.

The Lord worked, and to Him we give the glory.

We thank the Lord for the help of the saints in Okla.

in contributions and prayers, and especially the good saints at Hoffman. Their kindness was highly appreciated. "Many thanks" to all, and to the good Lord for making it possible for us to have a meeting.

The revival closed Sept. 31, and a successful revival it was. We were able (by God's help) to send our brother minister back home to Okmulgee, Okla. He sympathizes with conditions here very much.

Pray for us. Two things here we need: A meeting house and a pastor. We are trusting God for both.

Your saved brother,

Alex Mullins

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

La.—Dear Saints,—Greetings in the name of Jesus, Saviour, Sanctifier, and Healer. Praise His name! I'm on the road to glory this morning, doing all I can to make my calling and election sure. How sad it will be for some when they stand before Him with their self-righteous robes around them, to be cast out. The enemy is deceiving many.

I feel like telling some of the good things the Lord has done for me. My natural birthday is January 13th, and on January 14th, 1945 I was born again. That is the most wonderful thing of all. Bless His holy name! I was sanctified at Midway campmeeting this year.

He has healed me many times. I was healed of gall bladder trouble at Midway. Early last year I fell and sprained (or broke) my ankle. I had my daughter call the saints here to pray for me. Sister Mae Carver came to see me and prayed that the Lord would cause the swelling to leave and heal me completely. That was prayer meeting night, and I was there! Praise His name! I drove the car to prayer meeting. My ankle has never bothered me since. He has healed me many times of other afflictions. My husband, daughter, and other loved ones are unsaved. Please pray for them.

We are thinking again of building a place to have services here. Pray that the Lord will reveal His will in the matter and supply. At present we are meeting in the Y. M. C. A. of Beards Industrial Plant. We want a church building of our own.

Your sister in Christ,

Jewell McCaskill

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

Mich.—Dear saints of God and the one true church, greetings in Jesus name,—I feel led to write my testimony and to ask for prayer that God will heal my left hip and leg. I have arthritis and I know God can heal me for I trust Him always. I am very lonely here. The only place we have to worship is in a sect church. I go, but I only believe in God and will not take anything that is not Bible. It grieves my heart to think that Wife and I cannot be with the saints of God. Pray for us. Your brother in Christ,

William Colegrove

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

Ark.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—I will write a few lines just to tell what the Lord has done for me. I was saved about ten years ago, but I was the only one in our home living for the Lord and it seemed more than I could do so I went back in darkness, but the Lord picked me up again. I ask all of you saints to pray for me that I grow stronger in faith and closer to my Saviour. Please pray for me. I read the "Faith and Victory" paper and get much good out of it and would not want to be without it for it is much help to me. I read it from cover to cover then pass it on. Please pray for me that I stand the test.

Mary Mason

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello Children:

I want to tell you about a little girl who was hurt and Jesus healed her. Jesus heals us when we get hurt or sick, doesn't he? Donald told us about Jesus healing him when he was hurt. Jesus can do anything. He can do big things as well as small things. We love Jesus so much, don't we? He hears us when we pray.

I was that little girl, and was about ten years old. I was playing in the yard with my brothers and sisters. My older brother was throwing us over his back and we were supposed to land on our feet, but I fell wrong and hurt my back. The pain was very great and I began to cry and shake all over. They took me into the house and put me on the bed. The first thing I asked for was prayer. Ever since I could remember I had always asked for my father to pray for me when I got sick or hurt, and Jesus always healed me. So now I wanted my father to pray for me. They sent for him and it seemed he would never come. He told me later that his first thought was to hurry as fast as he could but the Lord stopped him and made him know he should not hurry or he wouldn't be able to pray. So when he came into the room he smiled and came over to my bed. He put his hand on my head and asked me if I believed Jesus would heal me when we prayed. I said, "Yes," so he began to pray as Mother and my brothers and sisters knelt around the bed. I felt the healing power of Jesus go through my body and all the pain left. The shaking stopped and I was so quiet and happy because Jesus had touched me. My back was a little sore after that, but no more pain.

Jesus is so good to us and will make himself real to us if we believe in him. He will never fail us.

The Bible tells in James 5:14, 15, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up. . . ." So you see we can call for the ministers or anyone who can pray the prayer of faith and Jesus will heal us.

Let us tell other boys and girls about how Jesus can heal and when they get sick they will pray to Jesus.

And when you pray to Jesus, thank him for keeping you well and healing you when you get sick.

—Aunt Marie

ONLY TRUST

Oh, the peace of trusting Jesus,
Heavenly comfort, rest indeed!
Just to think that He has promised
To supply our every need.

If we ask in faith believing,
Casting every doubt aside,
He will never, never fail us,
If we in His Word abide.

—Jackie Scott (13 years old)

Mo.—Dear friends in the Lord,—I am still trusting the Lord as my Savior, and I praise Him for what he is to me. I am happy in my soul for I know the Lord is with me. My little sister is sick. Pray for her. We surely have a time with her at night. Pray for me to make heaven my home. Your sister in Christ,

Mary Louise Reed

VOICES

Despair whispers: Lie down and die;
What's the use to go on?
Then no more grief, no more cries,
Just die and have it done.

Cowardice, standing close at hand,
Says: Go back to your worldly way;
You can't take the Christian stand,
It's too hard a game to play.

Precipitancy cries: Do something now!
This idleness you cannot afford—
And you barge ahead, not knowing how,
Instead of calling upon the Lord.

Satan advertises a pleasant road
And urges everyone to take it;
But God's child will take the simple road
Of life—God's road—and never forsake it.

The Master's voice, soft but firm
Commands all those who will listen
To stand still, a lesson to be learned,
Seek the Lord and know His salvation.

Heed God's voice above all the rest
And patiently await His direction;
Stand still or go ahead—know it is best,
For His is the Voice of Perfection.

—Midge McGee

CORRESPONDENCE

La., Sept. 11—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—I have felt for some time like I should write you. I have a growth of some kind on the side of my face by the side of my right eye. It has been there about six or seven years I believe. For quite awhile after it appeared it did not seem to grow much. But a few months (maybe a year or more) ago it grew some and sticks out about ½ inch or more and it is about an inch or more long. I was anointed and prayed for several months ago and felt like the Lord was going to do something about it. I have even felt up there with my hand, for it to be gone. The Lord hasn't yet removed it and I think it is time now for Him to heal it for me. My trust is in Him. It is very noticeable and many people remark about it, and when folks see it is gone I want to be able to tell them, "God healed it."

Sept. 16.—I'm writing to let you know how the Lord has blessed the growth on my face. I mailed a letter to you Saturday, but guess you didn't get it before the place on my face opened Sunday morning. The place is almost flat now. I'm so happy about it. I thank God for doing this for me. I know He can heal us if we live to please him. That's my desire, to please Him in every way.

—Cassie Price

For the glory of God I cry out an alarm! Don't do it! What? I have heard from the pulpit, radio testimonies, and read printed articles, booklets, and tracts on the subject of salvation and noticed a vital truth often misused by not giving all of the truth as it is in the gospel of Christ. Just think of the damage done to the cause of Christ by not giving the whole truth contained in Romans 1:16. A part of the truth so often given is: "the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation." They leave out the cause: "To every one that believeth." In Acts 8:37 after Philip had preached the resurrected Christ to the Eunuch and the Eunuch asked Philip if he could be baptized, Philip said, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." It is of vital importance to believe the gospel from the heart, the gospel which is the beautiful reality of the Son of God including His life, death, resurrection, and second coming.

One who fears God,

S. A. Ayers

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

Calif.—Dear saints of God,—I want to write my testimony for the honor of God. He has been so good to me that I want to do something for Him. The Lord saved and sanctified me and has settled and established me deep on the solid foundation that Christ laid. It has taken trials, and heartaches, and things I never imagined would ever come upon me, to draw me very near my Lord. I find the Lord the same yesterday, today, and forever. He was very near to Hezekiah when he lay dying and the Lord said he heard his cries and saw his tears. The Lord hears our cries and sees our tears today and I am glad we can feel he is as near to us as he was to the men of old. He was near to Daniel, to Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego, and many others, and I find Him near to me. He has answered my prayers instantly. When I was going thru long trials He was my strong refuge. It has taken fasting and prayer and a settled determination to hold fast to the faith I had in God since I was first saved.

Twice the Holy Spirit has come upon me so wonderfully blessing me. I felt so very near the Lord and my cup was surely filled and running over. I prayed that the Lord would never let that sweetness of peace leave me. Then again I was greatly blessed with that sweetness and joy in my soul which cannot adequately be expressed in words. This time I awoke in the early morning after dreaming I was helping some girls escape going into eternity unprepared. I arose from my bed and knelt in prayer and it seemed the Lord was right here. He seemed so very near. I promised Him I would work for Him in some way to save souls about me, for I want to help in any way the Lord wants me. I want to awaken souls who are asleep in sin who cannot see that this world is fast coming to an end and think there is plenty of time to get ready.

I thank the saints who prayed for me lately and before I was saved, and for their letters of encouragement. One sister said to me, "I prayed for you before I ever saw you." Thank God! we are all one big family of God's. How I do love the saints of God! Lucille Elliott.

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

Miss.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—I am saved. I got saved in meeting here, and I am not sorry that I gave my heart to the Lord. Bro. Carver was with us in the meeting. He talked to me about my soul. I realized that if I would die I would go to hell, but thank God, I am not going to go there. I am going to live with the Lord when I die. Four were saved in this meeting. Some people will not give their hearts to God. They do not think He is coming back someday after His own,

but He is. I want you all to help me pray for the lost and dying world. I think people ought to quit their ways. I want you to pray that I keep the right way.

I think Bro. and Sister Hilbun is coming here to live. I hope and pray that they will. Bro. Carver talks like if it is the Lord's will he will be with us next time we have a meeting and we are praying that it will be the Lord's will for him to be with us.

I thank the Lord He cleaned me up from smoking and using lip stick. Bro. Carver told me to quit using lip stick and I told him that people say I look good with it on. Some people had told me that, but I thank God I don't have to have it since I got saved. When people get saved they can live right if they continue to let the Lord help them.

Miss Flora Ruth Pugh

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

Oregon—Greetings to all the dear saints scattered abroad,—As it has been some time since I sent in my testimony I feel the Lord would be pleased for me to tell what he has done for me.

Above everything else I want to praise Him for salvation that saves and keeps us each day. The Lord truly is my all in all. If it were not for the Lord at times I would not know what to do. He is my comfort by day and by night. Some time back I had such a heavy burden on my heart that at times it seemed I couldn't stand; but one night away in the night the Lord spoke these words to me, "Commit all thy ways to the Lord and he will bring it to pass." That truly was an encouragement to me, and I am trying, by the Lord's help, to keep all my ways committed to Him. At another time He brought Psalm 97:14 to me. His Word means much to me. Sometimes He brings a precious song to me and I awake in the night singing. When I was so burdened that the Lord brought the words to me that I mentioned first, about that time I awoke singing, "On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, All other ground is sinking sand." I surely did praise the Lord for that. At another time I kept singing, "A shield He is to them that trust, a joy to those that seek his face." I sang those few words over and over for three or four days. Then I saw it manifest that the Lord was a shield to them that trust him.

My son Carl and Bro. Stubbs were hauling a load of gravel out of the river bottom and had a steep place to ascend. Carl stalled the tractor and the brakes would not hold it so he went over the side of the bank. The tractor turned over on him. It could easily have killed him. When he came home and told me about it I thanked the Lord that He was a shield to them that trust. I cannot thank the Lord enough for all He has done for me. He has healed me of many different things this summer. I had had one affliction ever since husband passed away over seven years ago. The Lord is so good to me. Many lonely hours I would spend if it were not for the Lord. Pray for me that I will ever be true to the Lord.

One for the whole truth, Emma Busch.

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

Okla.—Dear Saints, holy greetings in Jesus' name—I am glad to be saved and to have the privilege of testifying for the Lord through the paper. I thank the Lord for healing me of a very bad foot infection that was real serious. For three weeks or more I could not wear any shoes or walk very much, but I do thank and praise the Lord for healing me and that I am able to walk again. And I thank the saints for their prayers. The Lord is my helper in every time of need and helps me to be an overcomer.

I am glad to be in the church Jesus purchased with his own blood and the one John saw, the holy city New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. In it we find everything we need and do not have to go down to Egypt for help. For he said, "Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book." Rev. 22:7

Pray for me.

Sister Lewis Williams



Michigan—Dear ones in Jesus,—Greetings in the name of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. I know of no other name more lovely in which to greet you than the name of Jesus. Glory to His holy name! Today still finds me saved and walking with God the best I know how. I am glad that I am in the holy way (Isa. 35:8). This way is far above the ways of any sectarian way, no matter how much holiness they profess.

I have been with quite a number of sects and experienced many of their experiences of being saved and sanctified. For over ten years I built on these experiences, then in 1946 God started to show me I was lost and deceived by the false teachings of sectism. Before this I would have told anyone who asked concerning my spiritual state that I was saved and sanctified. In July 1947 I experienced the baptism of tongues in a Pentecostal meeting. Only about two weeks later I was called by the Devil, who came as an angel of light, to preach the Pentecostal gospel. This call came to me early in the morning about three o'clock and it is one of the most outstanding experiences I have had in my life. I shall never forget this experience, nor would anyone who ever went through it (I cannot tell all now, but if anyone wants to know they can write me and I will gladly write them and relate the whole story to them.)

Yet above all this, in July, 1946, God spoke to me and showed me I was lost and all that I could see was darkness ahead of me. I felt as though I had sinned away the day of grace and was lost eternally. God showed me I had been deceived by false prophets. I felt terrible. I requested prayer of the saints and had another experience and felt some better for a short time. I went to another sect (Nazarene) and received their experience of new birth and sanctification. This also faded away soon. There I was again in total darkness, headed for a devil's hell. I thought some of taking my life, but then I thought I would be in hell where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. I had prayed for eleven years but never had I prayed like I started to cry and pray in 1946. Then the Lord showed me I was possessed with devils. I went to different churches to have them cast out, but found none who were able.

I read that there was to be an old fashioned church of God campmeeting in Kalamazoo, Mich. twenty-five miles from Allegan where I live. I have no car, but promised the Lord if it was his will that I should go to this campmeeting to spare my life and I would settle it one way or the other. If the saints were unable to cast out the devils I would have to spend eternity in hell. I asked God for three months to spare my life. Now I thank God that He did, for in July of 1947 I went to the Campmeeting in Kalamazoo.

I went to the altar Saturday, July 5th. The devil went also and gave me another experience. I went home claiming victory, but before I got home the devil had me buy a pack of cigarettes and smoke. So there I was again almost down in despair. I thought strongly of taking my life this time for I felt I had gone too far.

But something told me to go back and try once more. I went back Tuesday night July 8th. When the altar call was given the devil said, "There is no use in going."

I agreed he was right, but then Bro. Earl Brown said, "Maybe there is someone here who isn't right with God. Maybe the saints think you are all right. Why wait till you stand before the judgment bar of God and then be lost eternally? Why not confess it out now and the saints will pray with you?" I cannot remember the exact words he used, but words to that effect. Then the Lord spoke and reminded me that I had asked Him to spare my life so I could settle it for eternity. I could hold back no longer. I went forward to the altar determined to settle it at any cost. Several of the saints knelt with me. I told them my condition and that I was possessed with devils. Bro. Pruitt, Bro. Orr, and Bro. Allen, and perhaps others that I did not notice knelt with me. I told them that I had never been saved but had been building on sectarian experiences. They asked some questions and Bro. Pruitt started to call upon God. They laid hands on me and asked God to loose me from the power of the devil. I felt the power of God as they rebuked the devils in Jesus' name. It seemed as though all my strength was gone. Bro. Pruitt asked if I was still agreed. I tried to answer, but could not as the devil was choking me, so I nodded yes. He prayed again. Soon the evil spirit that was choking me had to go. I felt greatly relieved, but I felt something trying to jibber jabber in another tongue. The Lord told me the tongue spirit was still there, so I asked them to pray that God would deliver me from the Pentecostal spirit. Bro. Allen prayed while we all agreed. This spirit did not like to go, but when God commanded it to go it had to go, praise God. This was the last one to leave, and oh, what a relief! I felt like a different man. I felt free to talk.

The old devil did not yet give up. He still tried to keep me under his power. He still wanted to claim me as his own. Had it not been for Bro. Pruitt whom God used to show me my condition the devil would have won the fight. He told me that I needed to get saved now that the devils were gone for I could not have been saved with all the devils in me. So I started to cry to God. God showed me to confess to the brethren that I had lied to them. I did and they forgave me. I went back to God and confessed my condition to Him. Soon God gave me this Scripture, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. I took it by faith. God said, "The Bible is your written guarantee that your sins are forgiven." Oh, glory to God! Praise the Lamb for sinners slain. Now I know I am saved for I came the Bible way. Soon I began hungering for the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The devil tried to deceive me on this again, but God is faithful that promised. Sept. 5, 1947 I was walking home and talking with God. I said, "Lord, I don't know what to do. I have done all I know to do. I'll give up my wife and children and all I have. I'll put them all on the altar."

The Lord said, "I am not asking for your wife or children or anything you have. I want you."

I said, "All right, Lord, here I am." I saw what the Lord wanted and once again came the Bible way and the Lord baptized me with the Holy Ghost while walking home. Praise His holy name! This is not a sectarian experience, for I received this from God. I can say with Peter, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel, And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh." Acts 2:16, 17. Praise God, this promise holds good today.

This experience cannot be found in any sect church, for a sectarian spirit and the Holy Spirit do not agree. I can honestly say I tried to find this salvation in the Baptist denomination, Wesleyan Methodist, Salvation Army, Jehovah Witness, Seventh Day Adventist, Pentecostal, Gospel Trumpet Church of God, Full Salvation Union, Dutch Reformed, and Nazarene. I had all these sect spirits in me and God had to deliver me from them all before he could save me. Praise God, today I am free from all sectism and humbly walking with God.

How is it with you, dear friend? Are you saved? Or are you building upon a sect experience? Do not let the devil deceive you. Do you have the victory over sin, the world, the flesh, and the devil? There is a place of quiet rest near to the heart of God; A place where sin cannot molest near to the heart of God. Dear friend, if you are still in sectism and are saved read 2 Cor. 6:14-18; Rev. 18:1-6; and Jer. 23. If you have no place to worship, try getting alone with God. Write to Bro. Fred Pruitt, 920 West Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla., he may be able to direct you to a meeting near you or send you tracts to help you along. You may be evil spoken of by the denominations but the Lord will take you in. The church of God, or God's church will do all to care for you. This is only written to the glory of God, to help some soul along the pathway of glory.

Your blood-washed brother, Gerrit Joostberns

—ooo—

The Only Physician Who Never Lost A Case

There are doctors of all kinds who are trained for the various branches of medical work, but there is not one who can say with truth that he can cure every kind of sickness and never fail. Suppose there was a man who announced publicly that he had power to cure every conceivable sickness. Would we not say he was an impostor? Perhaps we would call him insane to claim such super-human power. But what should we say of one who claimed not only to be able to heal every physical and mental sickness, but also to CURE ALL TROUBLES—spiritual and moral, as well as physical—no matter what it was? We would say he is either insane or SUPERHUMAN. Such a man has appeared, and this is His claim:

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28.

These are the words of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Perfect Man, and the *only one who dare make such a claim.*

And for nearly 1900 years he has been substantiating this claim in the *lives of millions of people*, Jews, Gentiles, Moslems, and Heathen.

I came to Him in 1915 with all my sins and He forgave and cleansed me. Then I came with my bodily sickness and He healed me and has been my Life and Health, Joy, Victory, Peace, and Hope ever since. I am a Jew, too, but God is no respecter of persons, but accepts *all who come unto Him.*

This claim of Jesus, the Christ, the GOD-MAN, is absolutely undisputable. Millions of men, women, and children in all lands have their sins forgiven, the power of sin broken, and their sickness healed by this blessed Saviour, and His cry still rings out,

"Come unto ME all!" No one else can offer such pardon and cleansing and healing, and no one else can provide it, because CHRIST alone paid the price for us with His blood. "He suffered, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God." 1 Pet. 3:18. And to those who refuse to come to Him, He says, "Ye will not come unto Me that ye might have life." John 5:40. Oh, friend, "Come." Whatever your sin that burdens, whatever your trouble that worries, whatever your sickness that weakens and distresses you—in all your weariness and all your burden, whatever it is, Come unto JESUS who calls you. He says: "Come ALL." Don't be left out. Do not be unhappy, unsatisfied. He says: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" John 10:10. "Jesus of Nazareth . . . went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him" Acts 10:38. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever" Heb. 13:8.

He knows all about your sin, for "He was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin" Heb. 4:15. And so "He is able to succor them that are tempted" Heb. 2:18.

He knows all about your trouble and sickness, for "He is a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and by His stripes we are healed" Isa. 53:3, 5.

Try this Saviour. He never turned any one away. "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:38.

Come, friend. Come NOW. Do not say "NO" to such a loving call! "He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness" Psal. 107:9. "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." Psal. 103:3. "I am the LORD THY PHYSICIAN" Ex. 15:26. —Sel.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Roll of 5 "Faith and Victory" papers, one year . . .	\$1.00
12 papers each month, one year	2.00
25 papers each month, one year	4.00
50 papers each month, one year	7.50
100 papers each month, one year	14.00

BIBLE STUDY

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim. 2:15.

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.15; Lesson Cards 5c per set.
Order from Faith Pub. House, Guthrie, Okla.

CHRISTIAN STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Sunday, November 2, 1947

Printed Portion James 3:1-6; 4:4-10.

James 3:1. My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

2. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

3. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

4. Behold also the snips, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.

5. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

6. And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

4:4. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

5. Do ye think that the Scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

6. But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

7. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

8. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.

9. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

10. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Memory Verse: Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14.

Practical Truth: Speech is a power for good or evil and should be carefully controlled.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In the first verse of our lesson James has merely repeated the teaching of our Lord in Matt. 23:8, "Be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren." The Lord in His teaching has plainly reproofed the pride of the Rabbis or teachers, "They love the chief seats in the synagogues, and the salutations in the market-places." He also teaches that the man who desires to pull the mote of his brother's eye must first have the beam out of his own eye, and then he can see clearly to pull the mote out of his brother's eye (Luke 6:41, 42). Those who would be teachers need to consider the fact that they seriously increase their responsibility and the judgment of a teacher is a more searching and severe thing.

In our study last Sunday we partly discussed the evil of an unruly tongue, but now we take it up farther.

As a rule the tongue just puts out what is in the heart. Jesus said, "From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." So the first step toward governing the tongue is to seek the Lord for the experience of having His laws written in our hearts and minds. But even then we need to guard our tongues and keep them consecrated to the Lord to speak only as the oracles of God.

Unguarded speech is too often regarded as a human weakness, and is not usually estimated as bearing all the characteristics of sin. The unruly tongue is described as a "sharp sword" (Psa. 57:4). We have seen many suffering from its wounds and many even fatal. Many times people who mean no evil by what they say, permit their tongues to run in such a way that damage is done.

Let us point out a few of the ways in which people, and the Christian in particular, need to take heed: Speaking in a high tone of voice, thus giving the listener the impression that the speaker is angry; speaking of cherished wrong feelings which are likely to make the words unkind or even unjust; and speaking hastily, or before taking time to think, which often is accompanied by regrets. What are some ways of guarding our speech?

1. By speaking seldom and only after thought. 2. Practice a quiet tone of voice. 3. Remember how you desire others to speak to you and of you. 4. Avoid speaking when excited. 5. Let your speech be always with grace seasoned with salt. Let us pray as did the Psalmist David, "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth: keep the door of my lips." Psa. 141:3. For "whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles."

Among the many sins of the tongue are idle words. "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Matt. 12:36.

It seems that man has always had a struggle to get self under subjection and completely turn loose of the world and cut every shore line that they might launch out into the deep eternal truth and promises of God. The double-minded people who try to hold the world in one hand and keep on good terms with God too are not God's friends but his enemies. They need to humble themselves and repent, be subject unto God, "mortify their members which are upon the earth." Peter instructs us to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, that it may exalt us in due time. Many blessings flow through the channel of humiliation. Through humility we find strength in God. Humility preserves the graces of God in us. As we grow in grace we become more humble and realize that all things are of God. The devil is a personal foe and is powerful, but if we will resist him and submit to God we can keep victory over him. "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world." The devil "tempted" Jesus, "entered into" Judas, "desired to have" Peter, and "hindered" Paul. He is a foe to all the souls of men and uses his "wiles," "darts," "snares," and "angel-of-light cloak" to try to deceive us. As we resist him steadfastly in the faith he will have to flee, for Jesus Christ fought and conquered him, and through Him we can have the victory again and again.

— oOo —

A CALL TO RIGHT LIVING

Sunday, November 9, 1947

Printed Portion 1 Peter 1:13-23; 4:1-5.

1 Peter 1:13. Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you: at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

14. As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance;

15. But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

16. Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.
 17. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

18. Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19. But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20. Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

21. Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

22. Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23. Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

4:1. Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

2. That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

3. For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revelings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

4. Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:

5. Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

Memory Verse: Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Cor. 10:31.

Practical Truth: Disciplined living promotes our highest welfare.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind." Be sober, hope to the end, be obedient, refuse to live after the fashion of your former lusts. Be holy, even as He which hath called you is holy. "Let your loins be girded about and your lamps burning" (Luke 12:35). To gird means to bind tightly together, the pulling of ourselves together, bracing up that we might present a strong front to the enemy. A good example of having the loins of the mind girded is found in Joshua. When others were undecided and wavering he boldly stated, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15). It is important that the Christian have his mind so girded about with truth that his thoughts are not loose and wandering, heedlessly trailing over this thing or that, allowing imaginings of the former heathen lusts to creep in and rob him of his sobriety and love for the truth. Following are some things that ungird the mind:
 1. Frivolous reading, such as funny papers and magazines.
 2. Pleasure, as an aim in life. 3. Bad associations.
 4. Carelessness of attending meeting regularly. 5. Neglect of reading the Bible and secret prayers.

There is a godly fear and there is a fear of man, a slavish fear. One fears whom he serves. If a man serves God then he fears God and is diligent to do all He commands of Him; but if he serves man and the world then it is the same whom he fears. "No man can

serve two masters." Matt. 6:24. If we serve the Lord and have our conversation without covetousness, and are contented with the things that we have, then the Lord hath promised He will never leave nor forsake us, "So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." Heb. 13:6. Suffering or not, let us not be fearful of men and always "be ready to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear" (of God) 1 Pet. 3:15. We need not be fearful, for "who is he that will harm you if ye be followers of that which is good?" As Paul standing before the counsel could say, "Brethren, I have lived before God in all good conscience until this day" (Acts 23:1). So Peter urges the persecuted saints that they should have and keep "a good conscience, that wherein ye are spoken against, they may be put to shame who revile your good manner of life in Christ."

Our redemption was a costly ransom. Christ's death freed from "vain conversation" and put our conversation in heaven that we may be holy as he is holy. One can not claim a pure soul if it is not backed up by a pure life.

Christ's suffering in the flesh directs our thoughts to his physical sufferings on the cross, and it is evident that he accepted it all as God's appointment for him. "The cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" indicates his willingness to go through. His human nature shank, but he gained the victory in Gethsemane. We must have the same thought of God that Christ had. We must also have the same thought of self. We must be dead to self will and self seeking and get the spirit or mind that he had, be like him, and we too shall triumph over the weakness of the flesh. Suffering should not cause us to err spiritually.

—oO—

BUILDING CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

Sunday, November 16, 1947

Printed Portion 2 Peter 1:5-11; Jude 17-21, 24, 25.

2 Pet. 1:5. And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge;

6. And to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness;

7. And to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity.

8. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Jude 17. But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

18. How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

19. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.

20. But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21. Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

24. Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

25. To the only wise God your Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Memory Verse: As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him. Col. 2:6, 7.

Practical Truth: After we have experienced the new birth, the greatest business of life is the building of Christian character.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Growth is very important in the Christian (or spiritual) life the same as in the natural (physical) life. We are instructed to grow in grace. If God's graces within us grow they must be cultivated. As cultivation of the soil breaks it up so plants can grow, even so God must break up our life that His graces may grow. This cultivation will not seem so pleasant to us. It comes by means of trials and tribulations. The soil has not the right of choice but must yield to the cultivation; but God has given us the right of choice. We can yield unto him when he permits the trials to come, and his graces can then grow, or we can be stiff and rebellious and his graces will be choked out by our self life.

Growth is a sign of life. We must diligently apply our hearts to the business of searching for food in the Word of God which will nourish and keep life in us and keep us growing. We should not be content with any one Christian grace, but should nourish it so as to gain others. You will find that each grace exercised properly helps you to gain others. "Add to your faith virtue." This virtue is not merely chastity, but strength, the same as that which led Paul to say, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13). "A man of knowledge increaseth strength." (Prov. 24:5). Now that strength lies in knowledge, surely the righteous man will diligently search for it. Temperance includes general self-management in all lines, or a balanced Christian life. Patience is not only practical, but it is necessary. Look up Scriptures on patience and perhaps it will surprise you to learn the many reasons for the need of patience in the Christian life. Godliness—the right conduct in every respect toward God and man. Brotherly kindness is to "be kindly affectioned one to another, in honour preferring one another." Rom. 12:10. We should give diligence to make our calling and election sure. Negligence will endanger the safety of our position. It is by invitation we enter the service of the Lord. To accept the invitation is to make the life of Christ our example. Diligence in the study of God's Word will bring the assurance of truth. Let us lay aside every hinderance and run the race with patience.

The Lord Jesus told us very plainly how he kept himself in the love of God. He said he did always those things that please the Father. Christ being our example, we too must do always the things that please him by following every word and counsel in his word. Our Christian duty is set before us: "Keep yourselves in the love of God." God is able to guard and guide his people.

— oOo —

THE WAY OF LOVE

Sunday, November 23, 1947

Printed Portion1 John 2:7-11, 15-17; 3:13-18.

1 John 2:7. Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

8. Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

9. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

10. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

11. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

15. 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.

16. 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.

17. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

3:13. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

14. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

15. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

16. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

17. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

18. My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

Memory Verse Follow after charity 1 Cor. 12:1

Practical Truth: A true Christian has the spirit of love which manifests itself toward others.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Love is a characteristic of God and His children, of which John has much to say. It is not a new commandment that we love one another, but an old one, even from the beginning. We should love one another, "not as Cain, who was of that wicked one and slew his brother," but in deed and in truth. It is true that Christ loved the world so much that he laid down His life for it, and it is also true of His followers that many have, and others are willing and ready to lay down their lives for a testimony of Jesus.

"The darkness is past" or the "times of your ignorance," as Paul terms it. "And the true light now shineth." Man can now have a knowledge of God's will through the revelations of the Spirit. If he will walk in that light and not grieve the Holy Spirit he will see the stumbling blocks that the enemy puts in his way and can avoid them. Many fall into the traps of Satan because they are walking away from the light instead of in it. God is love, and his Spirit within a heart will cause that heart to love everybody. The Holy Spirit and hatred will not dwell in the same heart.

Some have become acquainted with divine things, then have reached out after the things of the world until the life of Christ was smothered out. In this lesson Christians are warned against the desire of earthly

things. The Christian is not to covet after the things of this world, for in so doing he makes these things his god. The love of God and the love of the world are not agreeable and cannot dwell in the same heart. For all that is in the world, all that it can promise and boast of is only sensual, and even its promises it cannot fulfill. If you have not the love of God, you have no peace, no happiness, no holiness, and no heaven. The profits, honors, and pleasures that the world offers are destructive to spiritual life.

The lust of the flesh is sensual and impure desires, which seek their gratification in strong drink, tobacco, excess of eating, and the like. The lust of the eye is inordinate desires of every sort, such as costly array, trimmings, bedecking the body with jewelry, etc., splendid homes and furniture, finery of every kind and decorations of all sorts. The pride of life will include a number of things, such as, seeking for honors, titles (D.D., LL.D, Rev., etc), boasting of ancestry, family connections, intellect, accomplishments, great offices, honorable deeds, and the like. All these are not of the Father but of the world. If we love God we shall not want the world. It is by living much alone with God, by casting off the burden of things not needful to the inner life, and by narrowing our desires and wishes to the necessities of our actual lot that we become acquainted with the things of the unseen world. The true Christian keepeth himself unspotted with the world. We have the privilege of choosing which of the two things we desire. The world passeth away and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever. And we know we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren.

—oOo—

THE PROOF OF A CHRISTIAN

Sunday, November 30, 1947

Printed Portion1 John 4:15-21; 5:10-13; 2 John 4-6.

1 John 4:15. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

16. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

18. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19. We love him, because he first loved us.

20. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21. And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

5:10. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son hath not life.

13. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

2 John 4. I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father.

5. And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.

6. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

Memory Verse: He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 1 John 5:12.

Practical Truth: A real Christian has an inner experience and gives evidence of it outwardly.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

A great number of people in our country claim to be Christians who are, in plain words, "children of their father the devil" (See John 8:44.); and they have the mistaken idea that no one has a right to say whether they are Christians or not. The New Testament teaches very plainly that by their fruits we shall know them. In Rev. 2:2 the church at Ephesus was commended by Lord because they had "tried them which say they are apostles and are not and hast found them liars." In the first part of the first chapter of 1 John, from which this lesson is taken, is a warning to try the spirits. According to our lesson title we can expect to find in this lesson, the Bible standard of a true Christian. There are babes in Christ who are living to all the spiritual light they have, who have not yet reached this standard. To them we would say, "Press on," for one is not equipped with "standing grace" until this higher plane of being filled with the Spirit is reached.

This experience is sometimes called Sanctification. One definition of sanctification is to be set apart, but it also means a state of perfect holiness. Christ perfects them that are sanctified. Holiness means inward likeness to God.

"Confess," as used in the Bible, means to acknowledge with ones character and conduct as well as by mouth. The devil can put out counterfeits in religion, but he cannot counterfeit a holy god-filled life. Therefore if one's life or conduct proclaims the divinity of Christ, truly God dwells in him and he in God.

God has the experience of "perfect love" for each of His children and it is His will that they have it. Blessed are those who can truthfully testify with John: "We have known and believed the love that God hath to us."

This perfect love makes us as He is in this world—pure, holy, and loving. The daily life of a Christian should portray Jesus to the world. Christ's gentleness and yet boldness against wrong, kindness and firmness, humility, sobriety, holiness, separateness from the world, and hatred of sin should be manifest in the lives of His true followers. Loving one's brother will not prevent one from telling him the truth and being true to his soul. "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor." If silence concerning a wrong would work ill to a brother's soul, then love demands a rebuke or reproof; but if the rebuke or reproof comes out because of some malice or grudge against a brother the rebuke would work the ill and a wrong spirit would be working in the heart of the one who gave it. In previous lessons were proofs of true brotherly love.

The portion of our lesson from 2 John teaches us that a true Christian will keep the commandments of the Lord as recorded in the New Testament. Jesus said the Holy Spirit would bring to our remembrance his teachings. The Spirit of Christ dwelling in one will cause him to walk in harmony with His teachings.