

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Upon Golgotha's Rugged Brow

Upon Golgotha's rugged brow,
Between two thieves the Saviour died;
While scoffers mocked and wagged their heads:
Away! let Him be crucified.

One thief cried, too, as he looked on
In pains of death and agony:
"If thou art truly God's own Son,
Come down and save us from this tree."

The other heard his comrade's voice,
And felt a sense of guilt and shame,
Rebuked him for his gross abuse;
And then he called on Jesus' name.

"O Lord! Remember me" he cried,
"When in thy kingdom thou hast come;
We suffer justly for our sins,
But nought of evil hast thou done."

The Saviour spoke in tender tones
While hanging there in death's cold vise:
"Today shalt thou be with me
In paradise." Sweet Paradise!

So from the middle cross the blood
Washed all his crimson stains away—
There's power in that cleansing flood
To cleanse each sinful soul today.

Who will acknowledge all their guilt,
Confess their sinful state, and shame,
Repent, and call with all their heart
Upon the Saviour's holy name.

In agony the Saviour died
There upon the middle cross;
Not for aught that he had done,
But to save poor sinners lost.

—Ulysses Phillips.

The God of Elijah

"And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters of Jordan, and they were divided hither and thither, so they two went over on dry ground. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more. And he took the mantle of Elijah which fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over." 2 Kings 1:8, 11, 14. God was with Elisha as he had been with Elijah. To answer Elisha's question, he just opened the waters of Jordan, and let him pass over on dry ground, as he had done for Elijah. When God was giving his servant Joshua orders and directions as to how to lead the children of Israel into the promised land, after the death of Moses, he said: "As I was with Moses, so shall I be with thee." God does not confine himself to any one man; only as they walk pleasing unto him, and keep his word. God was with Elijah and manifested his mighty power both to him and through him, because his heart was set on obeying and keeping the commandments of God. Praise God! We are, today, serving the God of Elijah; and as he was with him, so will he be with us, if we, like Elijah, will only tenderly and fearfully walk before him and keep his commandments.

Elijah's God was a God of power. So clearly did he make this manifest to him during the three years of drought when everything from a human view point was failing, God told Elijah to go down by the brook of Cherith, and stay awhile; saying that he had commanded the ravens to feed him. He was to get water from the brook and his food from the ravens. God has said in his holy word, "He that walk-

eth righteously, and speaketh rightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppression, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, and stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; he shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his water shall be sure." Isa. 33:15, 16. This was true of Jeremiah, of Joseph, of Elijah, and has been true of all of God's tried and faithful ones who have dared to stand true and uncompromising in the face of every foe.

After a while the brook dried up, and God desired Elijah to move again. Someone else needed a blessing. This time he told him to go up to the city of Zarephath, saying that he had commanded a widow woman there to sustain him. Had Elijah been like some of the modern day preachers, he would have gone to some of the more wealthy homes where finance was more promising, and made a kind of league with them. But Elijah did not do this. He went on to the city where God told him to go, and there he found the widow gathering two sticks to bake the last little loaf of bread she had, so that she and her son may eat it before they died. Elijah asked her to give to him first, which she did. It is recorded that she and he and her house did eat many days and the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail "according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah" (1 Kings 17:5, 6). This showed forth the miraculous power of God, as well as his mercy and faithfulness to those who put their trust in Him and keep His commandments. Many have been the times when God has taken the little we had and caused it to expand and last over a period of days until he could move and open a way which sometimes seemed miraculous, to supply our needs; not only in food and clothing, but also in automobile tires and gasoline. In our experiences in the service of the Lord, we have had occasion in these ways mentioned above to prove the power and the will of God, and He has always come to our aid in time. Not one time has God ever failed us; though he has seen fit to put us to the test, and has permitted our faith to be tried; which has enabled us to prove God was true to his word, as well as for God to prove us, and see if we would stand true to him. In Elijah, God had a man that would fear him and obey his commandments, and God could depend upon him to carry out his orders; and to execute his judgments upon the guilty and ungodly without fear or favor; and in so doing, Elijah found that the God of the Bible was true to his word, and would never fail him.

The God of Elijah is our God.

Our souls are made to rejoice as we behold the manifestation of God's power to his servants in ancient times; but it is more blessed to realize that we are today serving the same God. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of

his Son, much more, being reconciled [to God], we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement." Rom. 5:8, 11. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift. Amen.

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Matt. 1:23. Jesus said to Mary on the morning of his resurrection, "I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." John 20:17. In Christ we have a wonderful Saviour. He died that we might live. In the above text, not only as our Saviour, but also assimilates himself with us as our elder brother: "I ascend unto my Father; and your Father, to my God, and your God." In teaching the disciples to pray, he said, "When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven." How blessed to realize that we, poor sinful creatures of earth can, thru' Jesus Christ, be raised up from a state of spiritual death, and be made alive in Christ, and reconciled to God, and call him our heavenly Father. Praise His name!

God not only proved himself to Elijah; but he proved himself through him. When at the brook of Cherith, God proved himself to him by feeding him through the ravens. "And he went and did according to the word of the Lord: and the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook." (1 Kings 17:5, 6). "And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up. And the word of the Lord came unto him saying, Arise, get to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: Behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. And he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he was come to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand. And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die. Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me there of a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and thy son. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth. And she went and did according to the sayings of Elijah, and she and he, and her house, did eat many days." (1 Kings 17:9-16). The margin says a full year.

God was here manifesting himself to Elijah, and to the widow woman and her house as well. Now, we shall see how God proves himself through Elijah.

We find that this widow woman's son became sick, and the sickness was so sore, that he died. She brought her son unto Elijah; and he took him up to

his room, and laid him upon his bed; and he prayed unto the Lord. God heard and answered his prayer and brought the child back to life; and he delivered him alive unto his mother. The woman said to Elijah, "Now, by this I know that thou art a man of God." Thus, we see that God used Elijah to prove himself through him.

Again, we find that God proved himself through Elijah when Elijah challenged the false prophets of Baal to show who was the true and living God. They were each—Elijah and the false prophets—to select a bullock, put it on an altar as an offering, and the God that answered by fire was to be the right one. The false prophets put their bullock on the altar, but no fire was put under it. They called upon their God all day, but no answer came. When they were convinced that their God could not answer, Elijah put his bullock on the altar; and to make sure to the false prophets and the people who stood by, that there was no fire under it, he commanded men to pour twelve barrels of water over the altar, and the water filled the trench. Then Elijah came near and prayed unto the God of heaven. Fire fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, He is God."

So again, we say, that God proved himself through Elijah in refuting the false prophets and their false doctrine in his day. And if we, the people of God, in these last days, will live in humble obedience to God and walk in the old paths of his precious truth, God will show himself strong in our behalf by his saving and keeping power; and cause us to see and comprehend more of his goodness; and will also work through us to the benefit of others. The record of the life of Elijah shows him to be a man of God in every detail. He lived in sacred nearness to God; and was always ready to obey his Master's will. God honored this life with his divine presence, sustained him with the temporal needs of life, and at last took him home with him to heaven.

We, who now live upon the earth, have far better privileges than Elijah had, in that we have, not only God the Father to dwell with us, but we have also the Son and the Holy Spirit to abide in our hearts as well. So with the glorious trinity of divine power, he says He will give us power over all the power of the enemy, and will be with us always, even unto the end of the world. And at last He will carry us to heaven, to that home he has gone to prepare.

Let us serve Him faithfully and be ready. Amen.

—L. L. Perry

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The Miracle Man

Jesus Christ was born in the meanest circumstances, but the air above was filled with the hallelujahs of the heavenly host. His lodging was a cattle pen, but a star drew distinguished visitants from afar to do Him homage.

His birth was contrary to the laws of life. His

death was contrary to the laws of death. No miracle is so inexplicable as His life and teaching.

He had no corn fields or fisheries, but He could spread a table for 5,000 and have bread and fish to spare. He walked on the waters and they supported Him.

His crucifixion was the crime of crimes, but, on God's side, no lower price than His infinite agony could have made possible our redemption. When He died, few men mourned; but a black crepe was hung over the sun. Though men trembled not for their sins, the earth beneath shook under the load. All nature honored Him; sinners alone rejected Him.

Three years He preached His gospel. He wrote no book, built no church building, had no money back of Him. After 1900 years, He is the one central character of human history; the perpetual theme of all preaching; the pivot around which the events of the age revolve; the only Regenerator of the human race.

Was it merely the son of Joseph and Mary who crossed the world's horizon 1900 years ago? Was it merely human blood that was spilled on Calvary's hill for the redemption of sinners and which worked such wonders in men and nations through the centuries?

What thinking man can keep from exclaiming: "My Lord and My God." —Sel.

Articles for Sale

Oxford Bibles with Morocco leather overlapping covers are now in stock. These are well made and just the kind of present your friend needs. They are teachers' and ministers' Bibles with Reference and Concordance. There is a good variety from which to choose; some with good quality Bible paper and others with India paper; some with zippers and others without; prices range from \$9.00 up to \$14.00 each. One is a "Basket Weave" Reference Bible with zipper, size 5 by 7 inches for \$8.50.

We carry in stock boxes of "Everyday Assortment" folders. There are 25 folders with envelopes to match in each box, consisting of folders for cheering a sick friend, sympathy, get-well, greetings to a shut-in, welcome to a new baby, and birthday all beautifully colored designs with suitable verses. You will like these folders. \$1.00 per box, post paid anywhere in the U. S. Assortment No. G3549. Order by number.

"Correspondence Folders," No. 69 consists of 12 folders with envelopes to match. These folders are also attractive in different colors and an appropriate Scripture verse for occasions. They are of the "Sunshine Line." One box of twelve assorted folders with envelopes to match sent anywhere in the U. S. for 50 cents post paid.

Easter Assortment—Box of 10 folders and envelopes. Lovely designs. Postpaid to you for fifty cents per box.

"New Testament Church and Its Symbols" by Fred Pruitt, recently revised and enlarged; 145 pages with good paper binding. It portrays the true church with Bible symbols in a plain simple method, making it easy for spiritually-minded people to understand. Price 25¢ each, five for \$1.00, twenty-five for \$5.00 post paid.

"FAITH AND VICTORY" 16-Page Holiness Monthly

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting month, and we omit this month to attend these meetings) by Fred Pruitt, assisted by Mary A. Pruitt, and other consecrated workers at FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.

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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.

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. 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

A Paper for Children

Many calls have come here from time to time from saints who desired clean literature that they could use in Sunday schools, children's meetings, etc.

The Lord has laid it upon the hearts of some of the saints to have a four-page weekly leaflet printed, called "The Beautiful Way." This will be edited by Sister Marie Miles of Chino, Calif., assisted by others, and printed at Faith Pub. House.

A set will consist of 13 weekly leaflets (one leaflet for each Sunday of each quarter). The price will be 10¢ per set in quantities of five or more sets to one address, and 15¢ per single set.

By the help of the Lord, we shall endeavor to print only material which will be good for the child's mind and soul; and we believe it will be interesting to children of different ages. The last page will contain comments for the International Sunday school lessons.

If you have had experiences with the Lord which you feel would be of interest to children, please send them for publication in this leaflet. The children are also invited to send in articles, testimonies, or poems. The success of this undertaking will depend much upon your interest and cooperation.

Editorials

There are two kinds of faith in the world among religious people: one is heart faith and the other is head faith. The Apostle Paul knew this, for he says in Romans 10:9, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." First we see that confession is made by the mouth, which is head faith, and that is good so far as it goes, but next it is believing in thine heart which is heart faith that brings salvation to your soul. The soul can never be saved by head faith alone. It is believing in thine heart that brings salvation to the soul. By their fruits, Jesus says, we shall know them. According to this rule we observe that nearly all that confess and profess Christ just have a head faith. Heart faith, if held on to, will put action in the soul that possesses it and they will own Christ under pressure and manifest his spirit in kindness, gentleness and forbearance. Heart faith will cause one to believe God for the healing of their body. Head faith will weaken and send for an earthly physician. Head faith is strong when all things are favorable; but heart faith is just as strong when all things seemed to be against them for they know that God is Almighty and cannot be hindered by any person, power or thing. Head faith will trust until they see things getting worse. Heart faith says, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust Him."

We have a text of Scripture found in Deut. 7:17 which reads thus, "If thou shalt say in thine heart, these nations are more than I; how can I dispossess them?" People that do not have heart faith will not move God to do any thing. He works according to our faith. Jesus told the centurion, "As thou hast believed, so be it unto thee." Matt. 8:13. Head faith will shrink and give way when great issues confront them. Heart faith will count God faithful and much greater than the issues. Head faith will hold on to the material things and the filthy lucre, denying God the right to use them, fearing that He would not give back again. Heart faith will believe God's word and give liberally for they know that He has said that "the liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." Prov. 11:25.

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The new Linotype machine is now in the "Lord's Print Shop." It came through in good condition in harmony with our prayers unto God. This is March the first, and I have written the company to send a man to erect the machine, but they have replied that their service men are busy at present, but will send one as soon as possible, so we shall look to God for patience and await our turn. We are very thankful to God and those that he used in supplying the means to purchase this machine as it will be a great advantage to the work of God among men. Some dear souls have treasures laid up in heaven as these machines are good for forty or fifty years and it will be working for the Lord and souls long after some of us are laid under the sod.

It takes a lot of money to keep a work like this

going and our monthly bills are quite large, but we serve the true God who is a thousand times greater than all obligations and he has consecrated children that he can depend upon to hear and do his will. We do not fear the devil, but we fear God and we know that he can easily handle the devil for Jesus conquered him over nineteen centuries ago and gives us the victory again and again, thank the Lord.

Bro. Darius Gibson of Seymour, Mo. was here in the middle of February and had meeting at the chapel for several nights and we all enjoyed his messages of truth. At the present writing (March 1st) he is in California holding meetings. His preaching is much encouragement to the saints and God is using him in reaching souls with the gospel.

Bro. Cstis Wilson of Glendale, Calif. came to Oklahoma to be at the funeral of his father and has been holding meeting at Shawnee and was here at Guthrie for eleven days holding meeting. This meeting was a blessed one as the Lord worked in a very precious way. The messages given from night to night were a great blessing to the saints and our souls were fed on the good truths of His precious word. All the saints enjoyed it so much as the heart searching messages dropped from the lips of clay. Several were at the altar for help and some to get saved during the services.

Bro. Wilson went from here to Anthony, Kansas.

Jesus, in speaking of the eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed, said, "Think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:5.

This statement is true today for if men will not humble their hearts and repent of their sins, they will not only perish literally, but their souls will be in the flames of hell and torment. Jesus Christ the Son of God has made a complete redemption for each soul that will repent and believe on his blood sacrifice for all their sins. Godly sorrow worketh repentance and when one becomes sorry because he has committed sin and asks God to forgive him, he will be saved. In Proverbs, the 28th chapter and the 13th verse, we read, "He that covereth his sins (will not confess and repent) shall not prosper. But whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

God will have mercy on that soul that humbles his heart in confession and repentance and will send peace from heaven in his soul which is sweeter than honey in the honey comb. It surpasses all earthly pleasure a million points, in fact, true happiness never begins until your sins are blotted out by the blood and you have peace with God through Christ.

When we behold the many poor wretched souls in the world who are bowed down in sin and bodily affliction, it makes our hearts sad and we long to tell them about salvation through Christ that will set them free from sin and its blighting influences and make them happy and full of joy here in this world and prepare for them a mansion, a glorified body, to

live with God in eternity. What a blessed thought and what a reality to the righteous, for it is Christ in them the hope of glory.

When the above editorials were being written, the Lord was talking to me about visiting congregations and isolated saints in the north. The Linotype had just arrived, and I felt like I should be here when the company sent a man to set it up, but the Lord worked it out for me to go on. I was very thankful to find the Linotype erected and giving satisfactory service when I returned from the twelve-day trip, March 15th.

On the trip I visited the congregation at Kalamazoo, Mich., where Bro. Earl Brown is pastor. The Lord was adding souls to the number there, which was an encouragement to my soul. The Lord blessed in two services while I was there. The attendance was good, and my soul rejoiced to be with the saints at that place. They are looking forward to a good campmeeting this summer, which will begin on the first day of July.

At Elkhart, Ind., I visited Bro. and Sister Priem for several days. Sister Priem is practically helpless in body, being near 80 years old. Because of her illness, Bro. Priem is confined there in the house to care for her. We request the saints everywhere to remember her in prayer that God will work and show himself strong in their behalf. They are precious saints and desire to attend meetings and in different ways work for the Lord.

After visiting a number of isolated saints in Ind. and Ohio, I went to Dayton, Ohio, to be there with the saints over Sunday, Mar. 13th. The saints there are encouraged and the Lord is building up the congregation at that place in a very precious way, and the future looks bright for an armour clad body of saints standing firmly against all sin and evil, together with false doctrines, scisms and isms that the devil may promote. Bro. Key was there, and they had announced an all day meeting with dinner on the grounds. A goodly number was present and the Lord blessed in the three services that day. They are having meeting every night as a revival, and also for the salvation of sinners. We enjoyed the fellowship and association of the saints at that place very much.

In 1 Timothy 5:23, we read, "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine oft infirmities."

Some take this Scripture to mean that we as saints are to use remedies of various kinds for bodily ailments, but I feel sure that the apostle Paul did not mean to convey that idea to us. The water there, no doubt, was not agreeing with Timothy, and the juice of the grape is a food, so Paul advised him to use it. God expects us to use heavenly wisdom to know how to take care of our bodies, and if certain foods do not agree with us we should eat foods that do agree and give strength to the body. We should also avoid eating foods that do not digest properly. Saints and all others should be temperate in their eating and only eat to the glory of God.

Some saints even think that this wine that Paul advised Timothy to use was fermented, but such is not the case. In those days they called grape juice wine as well as the fermented juice. I shall prove this to you by the Scriptures before I finish this editorial.

I have even heard some saints say that the wine that Jesus made at the wedding was fermented wine; but to accuse Jesus of this is decidedly wrong, for if he did that he would be encouraging men to do a thing that the Bible condemns. We read in Proverbs 23:31, "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." Jesus often quoted Scriptures from the Old Testament, and he would not create anything to be used that would cause men to break the commandments, for that would be inconsistent with all of his teachings.

In Luke 5:37, we read, "And no man putteth new wine [grape juice] into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled and the bottles perish. But new wine [grape juice] must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved." In this Scripture Jesus makes it plain that new wine was grape juice and that old wine was fermented juice. In those days their bottles were made out of goat skin. When fermented wine, or old wine, was in a bottle it would soak into the skin, then when new wine, or grape juice, was put into it, it would cause the juice to ferment and burst the bottle; but if it were put into a new skin that had not been used, the grape juice would be preserved and not ferment. It would be called wine (new wine). Today we would call it grape juice.

AT LAST WE HAVE THEM

You who have long desired to secure the Scriptural metal auto tags, may now order them from us. This is a good way to witness for the Lord.

Metal Tag No. 700 with words, "Victory Thru Christ," price 40 cents post paid.

Metal Tag No. 71 with words, "Jesus Saves," price 35 cents each post paid.

Faith Pub. House., 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

EASTER MEETING AT GUTHRIE

As our custom has been, the saints at Guthrie will have an all day meeting at the chapel and dinner on the grounds on Easter Sunday, April 17th. In the afternoon the Ordinances will be observed, consisting of the Lord's Supper, which is a memorial of his sacrifice for the saving of our souls, and the washing of the saints feet which Jesus said we ought to do and also said "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." John 13:17.

CAMPMEETING NOTICE

The fourth annual campmeeting of the Kalamazoo Church of God will begin July 1st, and last through July 10th, 1949 at the saints' chapel at 516 Potter St., Kalamazoo, Mich. Further details later. Earl M. Brown, 3606 S. Westnedge, Kalamazoo, 56, Mich.

THE NATIONAL CAMPMEETING AND MINISTERS' MEETING

The National campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, July 22nd to 31st, inclusive, 1949 on the campground at Monark Springs, Mo., which is five miles east of Neosho, the county seat of Newton county. The National ministers' meeting will be held on July 20th and 21st, two days preceding the campmeeting, and all the ministers should remember these dates and be present.

A cordial invitation is extended to every honest soul to attend this campmeeting where you may receive help for soul or body and enjoy the rich fellowship with the true saints of God.

In these days many factions are claiming to be the Church of God, and a number publish papers professing to teach and practice the truth as it was in the early days of the reformation. All these claims are false and can be proved with very little investigation. Dear reader, to our knowledge the only national gathering that teaches and practices the truth as it was taught and practiced by the pioneer ministers of the reformation is at the campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo., and at the campmeetings advertised in this publication from time to time. We invite you to attend these meetings and see for yourself if, in fact, you know what was practiced in those early days. A few of those faithful pioneer ministers are still living, and they have not compromised, semi-compromised, or gone into fanaticism. In the meetings of the saints there are no human pulpit committees, no pre-arranged "cut and dried" program of worship, but the Holy Spirit is the all-sufficient Presiding Elder. The use of instrumental music in worship is not found in the New Testament, and therefore, not in our worship, and neither do we practice unscriptural financial methods, nor the use of unnecessary adornments of dress and immodesty. We foster no theological seminaries, neither do we recognize nor use the pre-eminent titles such as Rev., D. D., and such like, but we are all one and equal in Christ by virtue of the common salvation.

We take this means of informing the saints that there is much to be done on the campgrounds in preparation for the coming national campmeeting. Some of the driveways need to be graveled, rest rooms to be built, plumbing and a lot of painting. Stairway to basement of dining hall should be built, and also doors and windows installed for the basement. All those who love the truth and are burdened for the advancement of the work of God will be glad for this opportunity to help in these matters. More information about the campmeeting will be published later.

Please send your free-will offering with which to purchase campground improvement material to the undersigned, or to Bro. Sam Barton, R. 13, Box 119, Tulsa, Okla. If you can come to help with the work, write to Bro. Barton before coming.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secy-Treas.
1116 W. Wash, Guthrie, Okla.

Are You Permitted to Remarry If You Are Divorced?

Mr. Gladstone, a profound scholar and statesman of Great Britain, was four times Prime Minister and the most famous of the political leaders during the long reign of Queen Victoria. He persistently opposed the alteration of the English law in 1857, which set up the divorce court with its disastrous results to the community. Testimony is borne to Mr. Gladstone's unaltered convictions on the subject in an interesting communication to "The Guardian" (July 31, 1895) by the Dean of Lichfield. Mr. Gladstone wrote to Dr. Lucock after the Dean's publication of his "History of Marriage" begging him not to yield an inch of ground, saying that 50 years ago he had read everything that he could find on the subject, and nothing had shaken the conclusion at which he then arrived, on the absolute perpetuity of the marriage tie, save when broken by death . . . —Church Discipline, pages 22, 23, by A. C. Hall.

St. Augustine says, "Fornication is the cause for which a man may put away his wife; but during her lifetime he is not permitted to marry another. Women are not allowed to marry men separated from their wives. Such unions should not be marriage, but adultery."

E. E. Shelhamer, in his pamphlet "The Divorce and Remarriage Problem," said, "Whosoever putteth away his wife and marrieth another committeth adultery, and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery." (Luke 16:18). There is absolutely nothing in this statement of Christ pertaining to 'innocent party,' but He declares that if anyone puts away his wife and marries again, he is an adulterer, and anybody who marries one who has been put away from her husband, commits adultery.

"And he saith unto them, whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman be married to another she committeth adultery." (Mark 10:11-12).

"In the present text Christ makes no allusion whatever to any special grounds for putting away, but unqualifiedly states that to put away and marry again would be adultery.

"It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement. But I say unto you that whosoever shall put away his wife saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced, committeth adultery." (Mat. 5:31, 32).

"Here we have light on the grounds of putting away. To put away one's wife for any other reason than fornication would be contrary to the teaching of Christ, and to marry any divorced woman would be adultery, which harmonizes with Luke 16:18, already cited.

"The isolated text, Matt. 19:9, is the hope of the divorce pleader.

"And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery, and whoso marrieth her which is put away, doth commit adultery." (Mat. 19:9)

"The harmony of this text with all the foregoing, and the proper understanding of the same are found in the rules of syntax. A parenthetical clause modifies the leading clause of the sentence, which would be incomplete without it. The leading clause of this sentence is 'whosoever shall put away his wife,' proof of which is found in the question put to Christ, asking on what grounds one may put away his wife. (See Mat. 19:3). The parenthetical clause is, 'Except it be for fornication.' This then modifies the leading clause explaining on what grounds one may put away his wife, and has no reference to the other clause bearing upon remarriage. According to Webster, the sentence would be complete without the parenthetical clause, which would then make the statement identical with Luke 16:18. Then the meaning of Christ in the text in question is to show on what grounds one may put away his wife, and not to show on what grounds he may be re-married. Hence, the sum and substance of the teaching is that there is one ground for putting away, but no ground for remarriage."

In regard to Matt. 19:9, the consensus of opinion with Bible students is against establishing doctrine upon an isolated text of scripture, when the preponderance of scripture points otherwise. We should never try to bring the general tenor of scriptures to the terms of an isolated text, but rather bring the isolated text to the terms of the general teaching.

In the event of the marriage of the innocent party, opportunity for reconciliation and reunion is prevented, in case of repentance and reformation of the defender. Hence practical forgiveness forbids divorce and remarriage.

There is about one divorce to every three marriages. The greatest percent of boys and girls who go astray are those from broken homes. Think a long time before you break up your home and throw your children into a cruel world that knows no mercy. And what does a home mean to a child?

Malachi 2:14-16 says the Lord hateth putting away; so the Lord hates the deeds of anyone who stirs up trouble in a family, whether they be the libertine, the strange woman, or a relative, who causes the husband or wife to put away their companion.

Will not you preachers who marry divorced people (with a living companion) have to give account in the day of judgment? Will not the Lord require their blood at thine hand? (Ezekiel 33:8).

If you are divorced and have children, you had better think twice before you put a step parent over them. I have heard of many step children who have left home because of a step parent. Too many times one house is not big enough for two families. Sometimes a house can change from a heaven to a hell on earth when a child acquires a step parent.

Read Rom. 7:1-3 and 1 Cor. 7:39, 40.

—Sel.

Beware of Little Things

God has been impressing me for some time with a message, especially to the saints. I am not writing this to accuse any one, but I am doing it with my heart full of love to everyone, and I want every word to be written through the dictation of the Holy Spirit.

Everyone that is born into this world is born with a natural love. Natural love loves the things that please the eyes, that please the taste, or that please the lust of the flesh. In John 3:3 Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." In John 1:12, 13 we read, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 3:6 says, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." So we must be born again, born of God and of His Spirit, to be in His kingdom. And God is love. When we are born again, we have that great love of God in our hearts that surpasses or goes beyond all natural or human love. But if we are not very careful and prayerful and obedient to God's Word, we will permit the natural love to start working just a little and it will soon crowd out the love of God.

Let us now go back to the time of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. In Gen. 2:16, 17 we read, "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying. Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." In the third chapter the serpent began to tell Eve how wise the forbidden fruit would make her and how pleasant it was to the eyes, and how good it was. God even forbade her touching it. The sixth verse reads: "When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her; and he did eat." We do not doubt that Adam and Eve both loved God with all their hearts, but Eve began to listen and to look. Dear reader, beware of what you listen to and what your eyes behold. No doubt, Eve first had in mind to just look at the tree; but it looked so pleasant to her eyes the natural love began to work in her heart little by little. She then thought there would be no harm in tasting a little of it. The natural or human love, working, crowded more and more of the love of God out of her heart. The last part of the 6th verse says, "She took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her: and he did eat." The love of God was completely crowded out of their hearts by the natural love working little by little, and perhaps they did not even realize what was taking place until they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. Not until then did they realize that they were spiritually dead.

Adam charged it to the woman and the woman charged it to the serpent. How often we see wrong being charged to some one else today. And how often we see many little "no harm" things start among people professing to be saved and sanctified. The natural love and the lust of the eyes and pride of life work in little by little until they crowd out the love of God, and they are left void of the Spirit and love and grace of God, going right on with an empty profession. May God help us to watch and pray.

In 1 Peter 3:3-5 we read, "Whose adorning, let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted God, adorned themselves."

Peter, in this Scripture, is warning against all kinds of outward adorning, even the putting on of apparel, and he is pointing us to the manner in which holy women of old adorned themselves. How often we see women who were saved and sanctified, and while the love of God ruled their hearts they would wear nothing but a real plain dress or hat that was neat and clean, but now we see them with ornaments on their dresses, and especially on their hats—the large bows, bright buckles and feathers, and worst of all, the veils which originated from the red-light district and are displeasing to God. These are some of the little "no harm" things letting the natural love crowd out the love of God little by little until they are void of the love and grace of God and have only a dry dead profession. There are many other little "no harm" things not mentioned here that are dangerous and harmful to the soul. Quite often those who yield lay the blame on someone else just as Adam and Eve did when they plunged the whole world into sin by their disobedience to God. I am praying much that we will all keep measured to the Word of God as taught by the old time New Testament saints.

May God bless and encourage our hearts, that we may each keep humble and draw nearer to God and to each other day by day. Luke 12:1 says, "Beware, ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy." 1 Cor. 5:6, reads, "Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us."

It is said that the little foxes spoil the vine. Let us keep the leaven out of our hearts and minds, and keep filled with the Spirit and love that comes from God, then we shall see more of the great love and power of God made manifest. S. L. Fingerle

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The shortest thing
With the longest regret,
Is a life lived in sin—
We can never forget.

—Erle E. Farbes.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello, children:—

We are very glad for the letters from you, telling us that you love Jesus and like to go to Sunday school and learn more about Him. And we are glad that Leonard has received the second work of grace, sanctification. I just pray that he will always be working for Jesus and help other children to understand how to give their hearts to Jesus. There are many children who do not go to Sunday school, and are not taught about Jesus.

We have some good news for you. We have started a little children's paper. It will be for our older boys and girls also. Aren't you glad to have a paper your very own? You will be able to write poems and stories for it. Write your testimonies and letters to put in it. Other boys and girls like to hear about how Jesus blesses you and answers prayer. Maybe if it is too long for you to write, Mother will help you. We do want to hear from you.

This paper will have Sunday school lessons in it, so it can be used and given out at Sunday school. But you can get it for fifteen cents for three months. But if your teacher wants to get five or more copies she can, or you can, get it for ten cents for three months.

It will be a weekly paper. So tell your Sunday school teacher about it. The first paper will be sent to you before April the third so you can have it for the first lesson. Be sure and order today as you may forget it and you will miss some of them. It would be well for you to get some extra ones to give to boys and girls who do not go to Sunday school. Here in my neighborhood there are very few who go to Sunday school. One family had a birthday party on Sunday for their son and most of the children went. It is sad to see boys and girls grow up not knowing about Jesus. He is so good and died on the cross for us, yet so many do not love him nor care to learn about him. Some boys and girls would go, yet their parents do not tell them to and they do not know what to do, so you must tell them. Jesus wants us to work for him, and that would be working for him, getting them to take the little paper so they can hear about Jesus.

The paper will be called, "The Beautiful Way." The way to heaven is a beautiful way. The boy and girl on their way to heaven are beautiful. God said, He would beautify the meek with salvation.

We shall discontinue the Children's Corner as you will have your paper now. I have enjoyed writing to all of you and enjoyed your letters very much. Others have enjoyed reading your letters also.

May God bless each one of you and keep you loving Him.

—Aunt Marie.

— oOo —

Young People's Section

Guthrie, Oklahoma

To all the young saints everywhere: Greetings,—

We thank the Lord this morning for His wonderful blessings to each of us. Our hearts are full of joy as we try to count some of the Lord's blessings

to us, but they are so numerous and vast that we could never begin to tell all of them. How we wish that all the young people knew the sweetness of trusting in the Lord and working for Him. There is a place and a duty that each young saint has in the body of Christ. "Let us give our lives to Jesus

In the spring-time of our years;
While our hearts are young and tender;
Ere that evil day appears."

Dear young saints, we love each one of you and want to see you all growing and prospering in the Lord. We like to hear from the isolated saints, and your experiences are encouraging to all of us. Therefore we are again starting the Young People's Section in the paper, by the help of the Lord. We would like to hear from all the young saints by testimonies, poems, articles, or in whatever way the Lord may place upon your heart.

I believe there is much talent among the younger saints that is not being exercised. Our prayers are that each of us will be just what the Lord would have us to be, and prepare ourselves for the responsibilities of life and the work in life that the Lord would have us do.

We are looking forward to hearing from young people in Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Kansas, California, Oregon, Alabama, Michigan, Texas, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, and other places, wherever any of God's children are.

We would like to hear what the different groups of young people are doing—a report of your meetings, any missionary trips, or trips for the Lord that you may be making. Let us all be agreed in prayer that this section of the paper will be an encouragement to all who read it, and let each of us feel an individual responsibility for the success of it, and do what the Lord would have us do. If everyone does his or her part, the Lord will surely bless us, and make the section a blessing.

— oOo —

Our Strength Through Prayer

When trials too great for me to bear
Oppress my soul unto despair,
I bow low my head in silent prayer,
And, praise the Lord, I find Him there.

When surrounded by old Satan's snares,
And sin oppressing everywhere,
I look upward to the one who cares,
Who quickly comes and meets me there.

When sorrow may try my heart to tear,
And sadness seems to fill the air,
I cry unto God in great despair,
And, praise His name, He meets me there.

So, friend, I have learned that Jesus cares,
And our burdens he'll gladly share,
So just look upward in fervent prayer,
And He'll not fail to meet you there.

—Stanley Clifton

How to Get Along with Men

In Romans 12:9, Paul says, "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."

Dissimulate means to hide under a false appearance. If we do not have the Spirit of God in our hearts and souls, we are covering up our love for one another. The Spirit of the Holy Ghost makes us let love be without dissimulation, or without a false appearance; instead there will be love in our hearts for everyone, both good and evil.

"Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good." Detest evil. Do not go to places where there may be evil going on, such as, movies, dances, etc., but cleave to good things that are clean for mind and soul.

"Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." Psa. 34:13, 14. Is there any room in these two verses for saying things about someone that is not true? I do not like for things to be told about me that are not true; neither does any one else. The "New Golden Rule" says, "I will speak of you as I wish you to speak of me." "Bless them that persecute you: bless, and curse not." Romans 12:14.

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, Bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt. 5:44.

Can you return good for evil? If someone hit you on one side of the face, can you let him hit the other side and then bless and be kind to him? It is hard to do, isn't it? The Lord makes this much easier if only we will have faith in him. "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink, for in so doing, thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Rom. 12:20, 21.

If you are speaking harsh words, cursing, or doing evil, you need to have the thing taken out of your heart which causes you to do it; these things will cause you to miss heaven, and I am sure that there is no one who wants to miss heaven.

What you are sowing, so shall you also reap.

—Troy D. Meek

—oOo— CORRESPONDENCE

Calif.—Dear saints and lovers of the truth, greetings, We are praising God for his saving power and his gracious dealings with us.

I first knew the church of God and was saved about fifty-five years ago, when we lived in Tenn.; but being isolated for several years, I allowed myself to become careless and drift back into sin. About fourteen years later I found the Lord again with out-stretched arms. He has been the source of my life since that time. I wish to recommend the Lord to all who need a friend. Peace of soul comes only in whole-hearted service. The strait and narrow way is the only way. All man-made churches will go down with man, but the gates of hell cannot prevail against God's church. We get in it when we die out to

the world. We must quit the life of sin. That is what happens when we are born again. We walk in newness of life without committing iniquity. Our bodies move only as our souls dictate. Let us "rightly divide" the word of truth and live by "every word."

For about nineteen years we have lived next door to the saints' chapel, which has been a pleasure to us. Now we are located next door to the new campground, which is at 12312 Osborne Pl., Pacoima, Calif., about eighteen miles northwest from the center of Los Angeles.

For a long time the saints of California have looked for a suitable location for our annual campmeetings; and we feel that this is the right place. We are thankful for the support given us, and feel that the work will be much blessed in the future. Over five acres have been bought and improved by consecrated lovers of lost souls. This is a new and needy field with some 4,000 children, with their parents, in and around the Basiline Homes, a government housing project near the Hansen Dam, with only one community hall for religious services, where dances and all kinds of entertainment is held. Each week my wife gets together some 300 children and teaches them of Jesus and His love; but that is so small, comparatively speaking. The camp ground is level, has several large trees, is on a paved street, and well fenced. The auditorium, seating about 375, with separate rest rooms, showers, etc., is nearing completion. We hope to soon be able to start Sunday school and regular weekly services, and by Aug., to have the dining hall and kitchen finished for campmeeting. By faith we can see the two dormitories to complete the work. A goodly number of saints come and work on the grounds, while others send means. All isolated saints in California should be interested in this work and make plans to attend these camp meetings.

Bro. O. B. Wilson, jr., of 4254½ Perlita Ave., Los Angeles 26, Calif. is Secy.-treas. of the Board of Trustees.

We solicit much prayer for this worthy cause in a needy field.

In sincerity, your brother in the Lord,

Erle E. Forbes.

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Oklahoma.—To the saints of God. May the Lord bless you is my prayer. This morning finds me saved and trusting in the dear Lord for soul and body. I am sick and have been for about six years. I can only get up and down by the help of others. When they lay me down, that is the way they will find me. Oh, how I long for more of the saints to come to see me. As I have been sick so long, it seems like they have had a chance. Prov. 18:24: "A man that has friends must shew himself friendly, and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." That friend is Jesus. I can sit up awhile at a time by having help to get up. My trust is in the dear Lord. I have asked the Lord if there is something wrong on my part, but he has not showed it to me.

I desire your prayers that I keep true and not yield a step in the holiness fight. I enjoy the song No. 274 in "Select Hymns."

"O, thou in whose presence my soul takes delight,

On whom in affliction I call,

My comfort by day and my song in the night,

My hope, my salvation, my all.

"Dear Shepherd, I hear and will follow thy call,

I know the sweet sound of thy voice;

Protect and defend me, for thou art my all.

And in thee I will ever rejoice."

Your saved brother, under the Blood, Dan Richardson,
Hoffman, Okla.

Calif.—Dear saints—I want to thank you all and my dear Lord for his healing power. He healed my old body last Wednesday night. I felt so bad, and all at once all my trouble was gone and I felt his healing power, praise his dear name! I am well and feel so good in body and I give my dear Lord all the praise and glory. I believe the dear saints were sending up prayers in my behalf, so I thank all the saints too.

Oh, I am so happy with Jesus alone. Praise his dear name. I ask prayer for my husband, he isn't saved.

With Christian love. Your sister, Mrs. J. H. Bonner

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Okla.—Dear Brother Pruitt, Greetings in Jesus name: I feel like I should send my testimony to "Faith and Victory." Perhaps it will help someone else.

Three of our children have been extremely ill the past three weeks. The first became ill while it was raining and sleeting so. The roads were almost past getting over, and as some of you know how it is here at Gerty—not even a telephone, and just our family the only church of God people here now, we couldn't call for the saints to come. We just prayed and kept praying for the Lord to heal her and He answered our prayers. For three days she didn't eat anything, and her fever would run very high; we would pray and ask the Lord to give her rest. The fever would leave and she would get to sleep and rest awhile. Then the Lord completely healed her. We give him all the praise for it. Then it was the same way with the second one that was sick.

The third one, just two years old, took pneumonia. He grew worse around midnight, Monday, February 7th. We had prayer twice and around 3 o'clock in the morning the Lord touched his body and the pneumonia broke. He was weak and ran a temperature for a few days. He is well now, Feb. 13th. We truly give the dear Lord all the praise for it. We just can't begin to thank him enough for what he means to us. The little boy was healed of pneumonia before we could have gotten a doctor here, if we had wanted to use one. We are not afraid to trust Jesus for our healing. We ask all the saints to pray for us that we will hold out faithful to the end.

Your bro. and sis. in Christ, The Keelings

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Calif.—Dear saints,—I thank the Lord for His goodness, and I thank the Lord for this testimony which He gave to me when I was not able to do anything but stay around the house and read, pray, and meditate.

On my birthday the 18th of this month, I was sitting close to my gas stove warming and decided to read one of my Christian books. While I was reading I went to sleep on the divan. When I awoke my arms were close to the stove and both were burned quite badly and were hurting. Though they were burned I was encouraged by the thought that if it had not been for the Lord I might have been burned up. The Lord was with me while I suffered with those burns. At times I would suffer so much I couldn't do anything but call on Him to help me and he would give me relief. Finally one night my arms were paining so severely I could not stand for the cover to touch them, and I began to search my life to see if there was anything between me and the Lord. I asked the Lord if there was anything to show me. Finally the Lord pictured out the great blessing he had for his saints who trust him for everything. He let me see myself and I could see that beautiful light shining down from heaven. Then He began to talk to my heart and picture the different Bible verses. He gave me the thought of the verses so that got my mind on the wonderful works of God, and I forgot all

about my affliction. I was pleading for the loved ones who were lost in sin. The Lord pictured to me the beginning and end of this wonderful holy way.

So it pays to serve Jesus every minute so we can get his help when we call upon him. Then when He comes after us, we can say, "Here am I." We'll be glad to see the Lord if we live for him and keep his commandments. And we will not have to doubt when we want his presence, and he will heal us when we are sick; and if the Lord sees fit to take us to heaven we can be in peace and joy forever.

Bro. Wesley Smith

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Okla.—Greetings to all the saints in Jesus' dear name:

I feel that the dear Lord wants me to tell what he has done for me. I am still saved and encouraged to live for Jesus, bless his holy name.

In the year of 1946 I became seriously ill. My legs turned cold to above my knees. I thought I was dying; I had never felt like that before. Mother called in some of the saints. They prayed for me and the Lord wonderfully did touch my body.

At first I did not ask the Lord to save me. I just ask him for another chance; then when I felt that he was giving me another chance, I ask him to save my soul. Praise his name, he did, and I mean by his grace to live for him until he calls me home.

Not long ago, I became very ill. Mother would pray, and so would I. I didn't get relief, so my sister called some of the saints and asked them to agree in prayer for me. I do believe they did, for in a few minutes, the pain was gone, praise God.

I don't get to go to meeting often, but I am living to all that I know and understand. I realize this is a pressing way. I do mean by the help of God to press my way through. I ask the prayers of all the true saints of God that I may do all that the Lord will have me to do.

Your sister in Christ,

Carrie Murdock

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Mo.—We are praising God for victory over doubts in trials of temptations when the enemy tries to discourage our faith, we ask our dear Savior for his saving, keeping, and healing grace that we may walk in the light of his word. Jesus tells us that he is the true vine, and we are clean through the word which he has spoken. We tell the enemy of all good that we are abiding in Jesus, the true vine, and he is abiding in us, and that we as his branch cannot bear fruit of ourselves except we abide in the vine; "if ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." We are grafted into this vine contrary to nature. "Herein is our Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be my disciples."

Time and space are too short to tell of the many victories that we have won through this common faith in his blessed word. Last December I was awakened two nights choking, thinking that my time had come, but by simple, child-like faith in his word, Jesus came to my rescue and delivered me, for which I give him all the praise and glory.

Another time I had a severe hurting in my hips and in the muscles of my limbs. It went into my feet. My ankles swelled to my knees. I couldn't be still, they jerked and twitched so badly. My dear wife and I stood upon the promise in James 5:14-15. We got out of bed, my wife anointed my limbs, and now the pain and swelling is nearly all gone, for which we give God all the glory.

When you think of us, pray for us, for we do want to live for Jesus who died to pay the debt of love we owe to him.

Bro. and Sis. James E. Morris

Mich.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and all the saints—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus! With the help of the Lord, I will try to write a little testimony for the "Faith and Victory" paper and for the glory of God. Today still finds me saved, sanctified and kept day by day by the grace of God. This week I had an attack of the flu. I did not let it run until I was too sick to pray but took it immediately to the Lord. There are no saints living close by and it would take quite awhile to get a letter to any of the saints for prayers, so I just took the anointing oil and anointed myself and had a talk with the Lord about it, and our dear heavenly Father heard and answered the prayer and he healed me. As far as I can see I have completely recovered from it. To God be all the glory. I believe when we feel affliction seize our bodies, we should go to the Lord with it at once and not let it take such a hold on us that we cannot pray. The longer we let afflictions go, it takes us much longer to get victory over them, at least that is the way that I see it. The Lord truly is very precious to my soul. He so wonderfully cares for me each day and bountifully supplies all my needs and keeps me from falling into the pitfalls and traps that the devil sets for all of God's people.

I was 78 years old the eighth day of February. At my age, I am enjoying better health now than I did fifty years ago. Jesus has been my physician for about fifty years now, and I do not care to go back to earthly doctors. They may do some wonderful things but Jesus can do all things. He can heal diseases that the doctors have never found remedies that can help.

The only brother I had left passed away in November, 1948. At my age I have not many more years to live on this earth. I am waiting from day to day to hear the call for me to come up higher. I remember you all in my prayers and please remember me in your prayers, too, that I remain faithful to the end. Your sister in Jesus,

Mrs. Lemuel Wright.

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Okla.—Dear Sister Pruitt, and all the saints;—

I am still saved, living for the Lord, and mean to go all the way with him. Let us pray that this year will be a year of joy in the Lord. Pray that more young people will get saved, and that they will be stirred to read the Bible more, and not the funny papers.

Pray for the saints to stir themselves to be more like Christ. Let us pray that we have greater and better meetings this year than ever before. Let us see to it that we talk less and pray more. Then there won't be any room for the devil to gain more power than ever before. Let us be found dying more to our ways. When we meet at different homes, let us talk about Jesus and pray before we leave. Then we will be growing more like Jesus.

Let us read our Bibles more every day. Let us be at peace and stay at peace with everyone. Let us lie down a ready life, and arise a ready life. If the Lord should call us in our sleep, then we will pass sweeping through the pearly gates of Paradise. Your sister in Christ,

Lizzie Jordan

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

Tex.—Dear saints of God everywhere,—I am so glad I can report victory in my soul and am living for God, walking in all the light that shines on my pathway. I expect to continue to go on with Him in this humble way. It just suits me. Our dear Lord lived for us and we should live for him and follow in his steps, who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth. He says for us to do all things without murmuring, and be content with such things as we have. I am so glad that I can say "Amen"

to his will. When I look across his fields and see so many souls rushing into eternity;—oh, dear souls, how can we stand so idle seeing so many souls being lost and steeped in such awful sin of this world?

May the dear Lord help us to work while we can.

Can we look around and see where the Lord has placed us in his body? Where are you, dear one, and what is your duty to God and man in this present world? What will be our plea when we reach the pearly gate? What have we done and what are we doing now for our Lord who even died for us and gives us his work and tells us just what it takes to get to glory?

Some of us often wonder why someone else gets his prayer through to the throne of God and we are not so successful. Does not the Lord say, "if ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." He also says, "faith without works is dead, being alone." We must have faith, and also works.

That is what it takes. We may sometimes wonder why there are not so many miracles performed now. It is because so many are not living close enough to God to receive such. It surely pays us to live close enough to God to believe and practice all of his word. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

A. G. Duncan

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

Ind.—I took very ill insomuch it seemed I could not go another step. I went to bed a very sick woman. I cried. It seemed my heart would break. I was not able to go any place to work for my Lord. Many letters came in but I was not able to answer them. When I would stand on my feet my stomach and bowels would swell until I could hardly stand to wear my clothes. I went to a doctor to see what was wrong. He gave me a thorough examination and told me I had a poison tumor and should be operated on at once. He knows how I believe. I decided to wait and pray. I was so sick I could hardly get home. I went to bed but suffered much. I wrote requests for prayer to some who can reach God. I waited a few days and prayed. My decision was to not return to the doctor. I was praying, and said, "Lord, I am yours and you are mine. You can take me, I am ready to go, or you can heal me and make me a living testimony for you." I am not afraid to depart and go to be with Jesus in the beautiful city of God. Sometimes I grow homesick for heaven, but there are a few more of you whom I want to see saved, and some of you I want to help to learn how to get your prayers through. So I prayed on, and I am sure others were praying for me. Oh! I thank God for every one of you.

Dear ones, I can report complete victory. I am well, no more swelling, no more pains. The trouble in the flesh is all gone. Praise God, forever! I thank Him over and over today as I write letters and do my house work between letters.

Mae Etta Becraft.

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, and all the saints everywhere;—I want to write my testimony for my Lord. I can truly say with the poet who wrote "Amazing Grace"

"Through many dangers, toils, and snares

I have already come,

'Tis grace has brought me safe this far,

'Tis grace will lead me home."

Praise the Lord for his grace that pardons all my sins and bestows gifts and blessings upon us all.

Dear ones, just four months ago, I was found unconscious in my bed, like I was once last spring when my dear companion was yet with me. He prayed and called

on God in such earnestness that God heard and answered. I came to and never had any more spells like it until this one in October. No one was here except my daughter. She was very frightened and got the neighbor to go after the children. They phoned to the saints for prayer and they, too, prayed. God again heard and answered, so today I am rejoicing in God's love and thank him for his mercy. I know he permits these things to happen for our good and his glory.

I want to tell the world about his great love and his glorious salvation that he has for us all. I know he has permitted our family to have sound warnings. Do pray that each one of us will obey his call. I know he is trying to awaken every soul. Those who know the way and know our Lord as their personal Savior have a great responsibility. I dare not look back, but I have at times, and with sad regrets and remorse to know,

"I can see far down the mountain,
Where I wandered weary years,
Often hindered in my journey,
By the ghosts of doubts and fears.
Broken vows and disappointments,
Thickly sprinkled all the way,
But the spirit led unerring,
To the land I hold today."

I praise the Lord, this is the land of Beulah. Oh, do be agreed with me that I hold my possessions and use every bit for God's glory. I have no earthly riches, but I know my Father is rich and we, his saints, are his children. We have the inheritance to his kingdom. My prayer is: "Dear Lord, help me to be the mission worker that I want others to do and be." I see the need of deeper consecration and more dear ones to get the vision and launch out. The world is the field, where are the workers? Dear Lord, help us. Your sister in the one way.

Jessie Holloman

Ark.—Dear saints and readers, greetings in Jesus' name,—I feel it would be to God's glory for me to send in a short testimony. I am praising the Lord for saving my soul from sin. I praise Him for healing my baby brother. Last year he was very sick. The doctor had no hope for him. I prayed for him and Mother asked all the saints to pray for him. Praise God, by morning he looked like a little angel to me.

I stayed with him the night he was so sick. I prayed to God, the Sunday that they took him to the hospital, to heal him. I asked the Lord to give me the assurance that he would heal him. I was happy, and praise God, he healed my brother. I received the Holy Spirit on Sat. night of April 24, 1948. I am glad I have found Him. Pray for my unsaved parents. And pray that the Lord will put love in their hearts for me which seems to have been lost through a little misunderstanding. I am still trusting God that he will bless them and cause them to come and see me. Please remember me. Your sister in Christ,

Ophelia Boozer

Mo.—Dear readers,—I wish to state that Mrs. Becky Barnes is a firm and true believer in the truth. She is weak in body but not in faith. Her husband is afflicted with something that breaks out on his hands. He is not able to work. He tries when he can get work, but an hour or two is about all he can do, then he is not able to do anything for four or five days. So I am requesting the prayers of the saints—real earnest prayers—for this needy family. They have no income whatever and really are in dire need of help. They are now living in an old open school house which is just about good enough for a cow shelter and is about as cold in winter. They may

get to stay in it and then they may not. They may have to move out any time. You can imagine what that means.

Her address is Mrs. Dave Barnes, R. 1, Stoutland, Mo.

Truly Yours,

Arthur Williams.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—To all the saints, greeting in Jesus' name,—I went to campmeeting last summer with my sister, Mrs. Harper, at Monark Springs, Mo. This was my first campmeeting and I liked it very much. I learned quite a lot.

I am the lady who has the daughter in the asylum. I would like for you to have special prayer for her healing. I believe she can be healed. I pray for her, but it doesn't seem to have effect. Maybe I do not understand just how to pray, but you and others pray for her. I would like for her to be healed. I know there is nothing impossible with God.

Mrs. R. L. Kemper.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Colo.—Dear Bros. and Sisters everywhere—I feel impressed to write and thank you each one for your prayers for me and mine. I also want to thank the dear Lord for the way he has answered those prayers. Just before Christmas, I was badly burned by scalding water and steam. It shot all over the lower part of my leg to above my knee and the burn was about four inches wide. It hurt so badly, I was wild with pain for a few minutes, but I went to the Lord in prayer and in a few minutes the pain went out of it. It was the busiest time of the year for me as I work in a Post Office and I wondered what I would do if it got so that I couldn't work. But thank the Lord, it healed up better than many other smaller burns I have had, and the skin didn't even break or blister. All that is left now is a slight redness. I didn't lose an hour of time because of it and I didn't put a thing on it. I have complete confidence in my dear Physician and he never fails me.

For several months I have been going through a severe trial and at times it seems I just can't stand any more, but I am just standing on the precious promises of God and he said he would never leave us nor forsake us. At times the devil lets up a little, but then he comes again trying to tear my heart out. Please continue to pray for me. When God sees that I have learned the lessons he is trying to teach me, he will give me blessed relief. I am so thankful I have the Lord to go to for he alone can help. I am much encouraged this morning as the Lord seems very near and dear to me. I am still holding on to him for help and I know he will not fail me. A couple of verses of a song seems to be encouraging to me,

"Jesus holds me by the hand,
And I'm walking by his side,
Since my soul is satisfied,
And my will I have denied,
I'm walking by my Savior's side.

I'm walking by my Savior's side,
And I can in him confide,
Yes, I tell him all my cares,
And my burdens he then bears,
I'm walking by my Savior's side."

Please continue to pray for us and I have loved ones still unsaved that I desire to see brought to the fold. I love this way and mean, by God's grace, to go all the way. It is no temptation to turn back to the worldly pleasures for I got so sick and tired of sin before I got saved, that it holds no pleasure for me. I love this peace and joy we can have, even when the heat is on. The hotter the fire, the more dross it will burn away; so I am thankful for even the trials. Christian love to all the dear saints.

Your sister, Lucy Phebus.

OBITUARIES

Augusta Emelia Rhodes, beloved wife of Martin L. Rhodes, of Tionesta, Pa., departed this life February 6, at the age of eighty years. Her death resulted from hardening of the arteries after an illness of six years. At an early stage, her affliction terminated in the loss of mental faculties, and of articulate or understandable speech. Besides her husband, she leaves a son and two daughters, Maurice of Tionesta, and Gertrude and Bertha, of St. Petersburg, Florida.

The deceased was born in Oscarshamn, Sweden, the only child of Sven Erick and Gustafva Svensson, and first came to this country when fifteen years of age at the instance of a near relative.

She was converted when about twenty-two years old, and for more than half a century maintained a sanctified experience in the Lord. Her life was a marvel to all who knew her intimately, attestation of which fact has since her demise been given wide expression. In all the years we have lived together as man and wife—nearly half a century—I can't recall that she ever scolded, uncharitably criticized, or spoke evil of anyone; or that she ever complained, found fault, or became impatient relative to any thing or to any person. However imperfect she may have been in any other respect, "in her mouth was found no guile." She was deeply devoted to Him whom she served. Forsaking a life of gaily, splendor, and worldly fashion amidst popularity and wealth, she took the narrow way after her conversion, bearing the reproach of the cross; and from that course of life at no time did she ever falter, deviate, or compromise. She was established in the "doctrine of Christ," and to the extent of her ability, devoted her time to His service.

As her only care during the long years of her affliction, most of the time I was never out of her immediate presence more than ten minutes at one time, her departure leaves a void in my life that cannot be filled, a sadness that cannot be mitigated, a loneliness that will linger on and on, and a heartache that only divine grace can heal.

Martin L. Rhodes

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mrs. Julia Ann McComb was born May 5, 1860, and departed this life to be with Jesus Nov. 29, 1948, at the age of 88 years, 8 months, and 14 days. At the age of 21, she was united in marriage to Franklin Glover. To this union seven children were born.

God called her husband, and she was left with four small children, three of them preceded her in death.

Later she was united in marriage to William Harvey Brown; to this union two children were born. In 1936 God called him, so she was again left a widow. She leaves four children; Fred, of the home, Mrs. Lula Brown, Mrs. Mary Whipple, and Mrs. Becky Barnes. One daughter, Ella, passed away nine years ago. She also leaves six stepchildren, who loved her like a mother, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, one sister, other relatives, and many friends.

She was saved and ready, and said when God called, she was ready to go. She trusted the Lord for soul and body for several years through all her sickness and suffering, and He healed and blest her many times. She was patient and kind, never speaking a cross word to anyone. She loved the things of God and would tell us how she would lie awake sometimes and pray for those unsaved. She loved to sing and hear singing. We miss her sweet voice here, but will meet her to part no more some day.

Happy or Miserable

There is a way to get along happily through the years, and there is a way that one can make himself most miserable. Which way do you choose? You can have either way. Some think riches make for happiness. Money will help in a way, to give creature comforts, but when it comes to true happiness, money cannot give it, for true happiness comes by conducting one's self according to the divine plan. You say, "Oh, yes, that is for one to get saved." True, but that is not all of it. Saved people can allow the enemy to so keep their minds dwelling on past troubles and trials and other people's mistreatments of them, even on those troubles which they once gained victory over, until they become miserable. Then ill feelings begin to arise toward others. While on the other hand, one can just say, "By the grace of God, I can be happy," and begin to cultivate good thoughts, not allowing any troublesome thots to be in his mind about other's faults or his own.

If you will take this course, just watch and see how soon you will be happy again. Is this not according to the divine plan? Let us read Phil. 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

It is up to each individual to conduct himself according to God's plan so God can grant him happiness if he desires to be happy. And Rom. 14:22 says, "Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." You see it is not what others do that condemns us, but "he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." This shows that, by God's help, we can keep from permitting things in our lives that would condemn us, and thus make us miserable.

Every other thing we want we put forth an effort to get. Religion is no exception. We must put forth the proper effort if we get right and keep right with God.

—Julia Tilton.

In reading Job we see how a deep and unfailing trust in God brings results.

Our Father

My heavenly Father has brought to my attention many times in the years gone by, but not until recently has He laid it heavily on my heart to speak through the paper of an error often made in praying. I have heard young people often, and some supposed pastors, evangelists, and gospel teachers make this error: that is of of praying to Jesus instead of the heavenly Father in Jesus' name. Mark this: it is of vast importance to teach children right how to pray to God and do exactly after His teachings and pattern.

Bear in mind, Jesus has his place: glory, honor, and praise as a Savior, Advocate and King. By turn-

ing to Genesis 1:1, it speaks of God, and often in the Old Testament, it speaks of the Lord God. The old prophets spoke in prophecy of God as Father. Then when the prophecy was being fulfilled in the New Testament, "Heavenly Father" is spoken of often. Jesus our great example and teacher in St. John 17:1, "These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father . . ."

Then in Matt. 6:9, Jesus said to the disciples, "After this manner pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven." How wonderfully God has planned redemption for man who has fallen. "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh, for if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear: but ye have received the spirit of adoption whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together." Rom. 8:12-18.

When the time drew near that Jesus must leave his beloved disciples, they were filled with intense sorrow; but He said, I will see you again and your heart shall rejoice and your joy no man taketh from you. And when I am gone ye shall ask me nothing; verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it you. Hitherto ye have asked nothing in my name; ask and ye shall receive that your joy may be full. John 16:22-25.

In conclusion, I might say, I have enjoyed immensely the studying of God's word on this subject of prayer. There is so much that could be said on this subject. Obey God, live clean and pure.

Your brother in Christ Jesus, S. A. Ayers.

— o0o — Unselfish Living

One day an elderly man was seen planting some fruit trees. A man said to him, "You will not live to enjoy the fruit of those trees."

"I very well know that, my friend, but others will after I am gone."

His thought was very sensible, unselfish, and beautiful, liken to the faithful servant of the Lord whose daily life of consideration and concern for the welfare of others is manifested. Revelation 14:13 signifies that those who sincerely labor in the vineyard and harvest field of the Lord will not perform their Christian deeds in vain, but their acts, deeds, and works will be as precious golden fruits that many shall enjoy long after they are gone, and glorify God for them.

Seeds of righteousness shall germinate, grow, and produce fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22, 23). The servant of the Lord is not living for self alone, but for others. We were all created to glorify God and

be concerned about the salvation and welfare of others, and if we do not fill the purpose for which we were created, our lives will be lived in vain. "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Rom. 14:7. Carefully read and study the motive or purpose of the Creator in creating mortal man to inhabit the earth. The loyal faithful servant of the Lord cannot be contented to remain sterile (unfruitful), for he must and will grow daily as a fruit tree or vine whose precious fruits shall be appetizing food to other souls about them. The full gospel Christian daily lives to hunger and thirst after righteousness; not for popularity nor creature worship among men, nor for the loaves and fishes. They do not feel that it is a duty bound upon them, but esteem it a privilege and golden opportunity to be a faithful witness for Jesus.

When one obtains heart-felt full salvation, he is purged from the sinful nature and given a lasting joy, peace, and love for a service that makes his life worthwhile, and influences others, and Christ is glorified. The more deeply zealous and concerned a saved person is to help both saved and unsaved in their daily needs and to be more fruitful, the happier shall be his life. This unselfish service is pleasing to God, or a sweet smelling savor to our Lord and Master. Amen.

—John H. Griffin.

— o0o — Power to Deliver

The Lord has burdened me for the precious souls who believe in a sin-you-will and sin-you-must doctrine. After much earnest prayer for divine guidance and wisdom, I feel led of the Lord to try through Christian love and fellowship of the Spirit, to get light and help to these precious souls. I trust and pray that this article will be taken in the same spirit in which it is written, for the only object in view is to get spiritual help to those souls.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth, then He created man in His own image, pure and holy. Adam, when created, was as pure and clean spiritually as his Creator and absolutely void of sin.

So it is with us at the new birth. We are newborn babes, born into God's spiritual kingdom, freed from all sin, with access to the abundance of God's grace to keep us freed from all sin. Thank God forever more! Being born of the Spirit, we must especially dwell on the spiritual phase, as God's pure Word must be read in the Spirit, and by the help and guidance of the Holy Ghost or we will only get the meaning in a literal sense and lose entirely its true meaning and message, which is spiritual. The Word says, "If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost." (2 Cor. 4:3). This makes us to know that sinners cannot understand it in its true meaning. Then it tells us to learn to rightly divide the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15), and this we cannot do except we be endowed with the Holy Ghost, who does all the office work for the blessed Holy Trinity. The only way we can obtain Him is to have a cleansed temple for Him to dwell in. After He comes into our heart to abide,

the temple must be KEPT clean and pure or He cannot remain there. He is purity itself, and purity cannot be mixed with sin (or impurity). Paul wrote these words to brethren at Corinth: "Know ye not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy: for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Cor. 3:16, 17.

Defiling God's temple can mean both physical and spiritual, but especially spiritual, and that by sinning, which these precious souls say they must do each day. It grieves my heart sorely to hear one of them pray to our Almighty God, who is able to do EVERYTHING, and end their prayer by asking His forgiveness for sins they committed that day. Why would our all-wise, all-seeing, all-powerful God of all wisdom and knowledge send His beloved and only begotten Son down to earth to bleed, suffer, and die for the COMPLETE remission of ALL our sins and then expect us to go right on sinning again as if He were powerless to give us enough grace to keep us pure as the precious shed blood of His dear Son hath made us? Truly He would be a weak and puny God if He had not enough strength and grace to keep us in that blessed and perfect cleanness and purity which He bestowed upon us at our new birth, making us new creatures in Christ Jesus. The Word says, "Old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new." (2 Cor. 5:17). This simply means that our old SINFUL life is passed away, and we are become NEW creatures in Christ Jesus. Why should nice, clean, and righteous new-born babes HAVE to start sinning again? When did you start sinning, and WHY, since our great living and Almighty God has given us ALL POWER over the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19)? Did you do it wilfully, or did someone tell you you just had to sin each day to get to heaven and you believed them rather than God's Holy Word? We shall ALL have to give an account to a great and living God for all of these precious Scriptures which we cast aside through unbelief and sinful stubbornness; for by rejecting them, we make our great and Almighty God a liar and a weakling, thereby bringing Him down to sinful man's own puny level.

I thank God we CAN serve an Almighty living God who is "Able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." (Eph. 3:20). If we continue to sin after the new birth, and offer sacrifice and penance to God thru prayer each day, we become no better off spiritually than those dear ones back under the law who sacrificed, not thru prayer, but by the blood of bulls and goats. Jesus tells us that the "law was until John."

The precious Word says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matt. 4:4. And, as we all know, we shall all be judged by every word of God's Word; so let us keep such Scriptures as the following:

1 Cor. 15:34, "Awake to righteousness and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame."

Rom. 6:12, "Let not sin therefore reign in your

mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof." In 2 Tim. 2:19 we read: "And let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." This includes all saved ones. Eph. 4:27 reads, "Neither give place to the devil." But, you ask, how can we keep from giving place to the devil? Just read this truly encouraging verse in Luke 10:19, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over ALL the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Praise our wonderful God forever and forever more! Why then do we have to sin after being saved and sanctified? All we have to do when the enemy of our souls tempts us is to use this God-given power we have within our new-born natures and resist the devil and he will HAVE to flee, as the Word says in James 4:7, "Submit yourselves to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you." I thank and praise the Lord for this blessed power that has enabled me to live ENTIRELY free from sin for nearly four years, and I feel His power growing stronger day by day.

The reason people take the sin-you-must stand is that they have not gone on into that second definite experience of sanctification to a holy life. Heb. 12:14 reads, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord," and this means right here in this present evil world, too, for if we have not attained to holiness, we have not as yet seen the Lord. Living a holy life means living above sin every day of our lives by using this God-given power He has so kindly bestowed upon us and by keeping meek, lowly, and humble in Spirit before Him. Sanctification is a definite experience, even as justification is definite, and is a *very necessary* second work of grace. It is obtained by consecration, earnest prayer, and faith. Once we really feel the earnest desire to be cut free from this terrible enemy of our souls who keeps us believing that we must go on sinning and disbelieving God's Holy Word, and get down in earnest before our great and compassionate Almighty God, He will hear our cry and sanctify our old carnal nature that keeps pulling us worldward; and we can then know that we have power thru the indwelling of the blessed Holy Ghost.

Precious souls, do not allow Satan to cheat you out of living a victorious life for our Saviour while here on earth. I know it is glorious, for, by God's grace, I am living it every day. Bless His precious name for the help and strength He gives me. Every word of God's Holy Word is truth, and every word meant for you and me. If you will only accept it in part, you may as well tear out and destroy the rejected part so far as their doing you any good is concerned. Matt. 4:4 states we must live by EVERY WORD. How can you expect to be in God's holy will and have His smile of approval upon you, if you disbelieve and cast aside nearly whole chapters, such as Rom. 6 or 1 John 2 and 3, and many others?

Dear ones, take earnest heed and ask yourself, Why do I have to continue sinning when God, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ has promised to give power over sin and the devil?—Wesley Trimble.

Did You Ever Walk With Jesus?

One of Mother Basicker's last poems.

Did you ever walk with Jesus on the shore of Galilee,
And watch the people gather, His miracles to see?
Were you in the boat with Peter, fishing in Lake Galilee
When they toiled all night for nothing, and for their
labor naught could see?
Were you with them in the morning coming home with
empty hand?
And did you see the Master as they neared again the land?
Did you hear Him when He told them, "Cast your net on
the right side?
Did you see that draught of fishes that more than satis-
fied?
Were you with them when He called them to come and
break their fast?
Where He got the loaves and fishes, no one even dared to
ask.
But they knew it was the Master, and partook at his com-
mand—
Satisfied just to obey Him tho they did not understand.
Were you with Him in the desert with the hungry multi-
tude,
When He took the loaves and blessed them with two little
fish for food?
As He brake the loaves with blessing, more and more
grew the supply.
His creative power was able each loaf and fish to multiply.
Were you with Him when the devil tried to drown Him
while asleep,
And thot to rob God of His purpose and drown the Master
in the deep?
See how soon He calmed the water; they obeyed His holy
will—
And to you, poor storm-tossed sinner, hear Him whisper,
"Peace be still."
Were you with Him in the garden suffering such agony,
Sweating blood—oh! hear Him crying, "Father let this cup
pass by me."
Did you hear Him in His suffering, plead, "Is there any
other way?
Let thy will be done, dear Father" thy Son will all thy
will obey.
Were you with Him when the traitor betrayed the Master
with a kiss?
Did you see the traitor paid off for a crime as black as
this?
Will you crucify your Master, nail Him to the cross again?
Or will you take your cross, go with Him, and bring glory
to His name?

— o o —

What Is Spiritual Babylon

Spiritual Babylon of today consists of the numerous organizations which men call churches with their different names, beliefs, creeds, and doctrines. They are the off-spring of the Roman Church.

The different reformers taught the truth so far as they knew it during the time which was neither clear nor dark, spiritually speaking. But brighter days came when God called some faithful servants to declare the whole Word of God, which brought freedom from sectarian bondage. Thank God for a clear day. Yet in spite of the fact that the clear gospel light is

shining, many people are walking in darkness, having a form of godliness but denying the power of God's salvation from sin (salvation which enables people to live free from sin), and His power to heal the body. We are told in 2 Tim. 3:1-6, "From such turn away."

The fruit which comes forth from spiritual Babylon is envy and strife, confusion, and every evil work. (James 3:16). Heavenly wisdom is from above, pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy (James 3:17, 18).

In 1 Cor. 1:11 Paul sent a warning to some, and said there were contentions among them. This same kind of contention is found today when some say, "I am a Baptist," another, "I am a Methodist," "Church of Christ," "Pentecostal," etc. This also could apply to those who go by the name "Church of God" and yet do not live according to the true light of the gospel, and possess the life of Christ in their souls.

Rev. 18:1-5 describes the condition of spiritual Babylon of today, and God sends forth the call, "Come out of her my people." Rev. 18:4.

When people leave Babylon and take their stand for the truth as God's Word gives it, then they can meet together and praise God together, and obey 1 Cor. 1:10, "Now I beseech you, brethren by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

All preachers can come together in one spirit and one mind and all preach the gospel just alike with no contention or discord, but all say "amen" to the truth. Jesus prayed that His disciples all be one. Read St. John 17: 22, 23. Salvation brings us together, not apart. We are brought together into one body by the Spirit, sit together (Eph. 2:5, 6), are framed together (1 Cor. 12:13), builded together (Eph. 2:22) and all love one another out of a pure heart. We live and work together here and then go to heaven together. Together we stand; divided we fall.

May the God of heaven bless our souls together, and may we live as God's Word demands. Jesus says in 1 John 1:7, "If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Praise the Lord for the truth. Dear readers, let us be honest and search the Word to see what God has in store for us. God has sheep who are being led by false shepherds into pastures where their souls will starve and die. The command was to bring them in and there will be one fold and one shepherd. (John 10:10).

Please pray for me to be just what God wants me to be. I want to be more like Him.—J. T. Hinshaw

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Hypocrites preach and teach truth, but practice error.

REVIVAL MEETING REPORT

The annual revival meeting at Bakersfield, Calif. was a success. It began Feb. 2, and closed Feb. 13th. Eleven souls were saved, and a number of others sought help from the dear Lord.

The Lord wonderfully blessed in sending ministers to help in the meeting: Bro. E. J. Trotter from Fresno, Bro. T. T. Holden from San Diego, Bro. Sam Wilson and wife from Jefferson, Ore., Sister Nellie Poulos of San Bernardino, California, Bro. and Sister Clyde Smith from Akron, Ohio, Bro. Salvatore DiDio from Hammond, La., and Sister Juanita Stice from Webb City, Mo. Also a number of other saints and ministers came on different nights. We enjoyed some wonderful singing.

The influence of the meeting is still working in our assembly. As many as four souls have been saved since the meeting in our regular services. The church here at Bakersfield is moving forward. There are about sixty saints and more than three-fourths of that number is young people. The saints send a hearty welcome to any of the saints or ministers who are passing this way to stop by. The chapel is located at 501 So. Brown St., Bakersfield, Calif. Your brother for the whole truth,

—I. C. Chandler.

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TURNING TOWARD THE CROSS

Sunday, April 3, 1949

Printed Portion.....Mark 8:27-34; Luke 9:28-35, 51.

27. And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28. And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29. And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30. And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31. And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32. And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33. But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34. And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Luke 9:28. And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and

went up into a mountain to pray.

29. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering.

30. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:

31. Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

32. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

33. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said.

34. While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.

35. And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

51. And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem.

Memory Verse: Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Mark 8:34.

Practical Truth: It was an essential part of the Messiah's work to die for the sins of man.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Much is included in our lesson for today which brings us up to the last period of Jesus' life on earth. Jesus understood the purpose and destiny of his life from the beginning of his ministry. He continually denied himself and chose the way of opposition and ultimate death. Jesus spoke positively concerning his end even as he began his ministry. For example, in John 2:19, he says, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." Read also John 3:14.

Jesus wished to prepare his disciples for the coming events. He began instructing them of his forthcoming death, but bold Peter, knowing that Jesus had sufficient power to preserve himself from all the power and malice of the Jews, wished him to exert it in his own behalf, as he had often exerted it in behalf of others.

Although it was through love for his Master that Peter spoke, his human mind did not at this time comprehend the necessity of Jesus' atonement. Anyone who opposes the doctrine of the atonement is an adversary and offense to Christ, though he be as sincere as Peter himself, was. Let us beware of carnal friendship! Council and tenderness from carnal-minded friends and loved ones, although given in sincerity, when listened to, may prove the ruin of one wishing to save his own soul. Truly one's adversaries are often those of his own household. Every Christian has a cross to bear, if he follows Christ. Neither foes nor loving friends should be allowed to sway one from the path that God has chosen for him.

Jesus' experience on the mountain is one connected with prayer—communing with the heavenly Father. Most likely his subject of prayer was his approaching death and resurrection. As he prayed, God's presence encircled him and the three disciples with him in a bright, shining cloud. Have you ever, when committing yourself into God's hands to follow him through the "valley of the shadow of death" felt the glory of the Lord flood your presence?

As his time drew near, "he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem." He willingly died for you and me. Is it not reasonable that we should take up our cross and follow him?

—R. Byers.

JESUS' PEREAN MINISTRY

Sunday, April 10, 1949

Printed Portion Mark 10:13-16, 35-40.

13. And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them; and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.

14. But when Jesus saw it he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God.

15. Verily, I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

16. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands on them, and he blessed them.

35. And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire.

36. And he said unto them, What would ye that I should do for you?

37. They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.

38. But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?

39. And they said unto him, We can. And Jesus said unto them, Ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized:

40. But to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give; but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared.

Memory Verse: Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom as a little child, he shall not enter therein. Mark 10:13.

Practical Truth: Worldly ambition has no part in the life of a Christian.

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COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It is written that Jesus left us an example that we should follow in His steps. Ways in which He used His hands to minister and to bless, He expects His people to use their hands to minister and to bless. He was very busy when the children were brought unto Him, but He took time to bless them and point them heavenward. Much attention is given to children in these days along many lines, but not many are taking time to bless them and point them heavenward. This would include their daily training and the examples that are set before them. It is not enough to send them to Sunday school, for they can receive only a very small part of the needed spiritual instruction there.

The second part of our printed portion only gives the request that James and John made of Jesus, and his reply. You should read the rest of this account in verses 41-45. We read in these verses that the ten other disciples heard James and John make the request: "Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left, in thy glory." And they were MUCH displeased. They had ambitions too.

The disciples were yet carnal and their ambitions were of a worldly nature. They still thought of Christ's kingdom as an earthly kingdom; hence, though they were

good men, their ideas of greatness were such as the world has; that is, to become rich, to do something that others have not been able to do, to become president, climb to high society, become a dictator or pope, be a manager or boss, or high officer—in other words, the worldly standard for greatness is to have earthly-minded SELF exalted—the very thing that Jesus said must be put to death by those who would be his disciples.

Worldly ambition is a universal fault among the human race. Satan even tried to tempt Jesus by offering him the kingdoms of the world. Though others may not be tempted in so great a measure, yet there are no normal adults who have not been tempted along this line. It keeps multitudes form entering Christ's kingdom, and causes multitudes to return to the old life after they have been saved. The ambition may be along the line of dress, education, accomplishment, wit, or politics, but it all springs from the same source, the desire to be superior some way to gain the praise of men. —G. Ray.

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THE FUTURE LIFE
EASTER LESSON

Sunday, April 17, 1949

Printed Portion John 5:25; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26;
2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 5:1.

John 5:25. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live.

1 Cor. 15:20. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

21. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

22. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

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.

25. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

26. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

2 Cor. 4:16. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perisheth, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

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

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

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

Memory Verse: But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. 1 Cor. 15:20.

Practical Truth: Because Christ arose from the dead and lives, we, his true disciples, shall live also.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There are two resurrections. This 25th verse of the 5th chapter of John tells of the first resurrection, which is a spiritual passing from death unto life; and the 28th

and 29th verses of the same chapter deals with the second resurrection. Read these verses. Thoughts of the second resurrection bring hope and rejoicing to our souls only after we have experienced the first, the experience of the new birth. New eternal life begins at conversion. We then rise out of our state of being "dead in trespasses and sins" to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus.

The 15th chapter of 1 Corinthians is called the resurrection chapter of the Bible. Some did not believe in a literal resurrection because they could not understand how bodies could be raised after they had decayed and returned to dust. Paul reasoned with them, telling them that if there would be no resurrection then Christians were false witnesses, for they taught that Christ had risen. And their faith and hope of a future life would be vain because it was based on the fact that Christ had risen and had become the firstfruits of them that slept. If He did not rise, then we shall not be raised. And if we are not to be raised to live again, there is no profit in denying ourselves, taking up our cross and following Christ. We may as well live for fleshly indulgences. But, thank God! Christ did rise and lives in the hearts of all true believers. We know that "If the Spirit of him that raised up Christ from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Because of this hope, the saints today can, like Paul, endure the many trials and hardships connected with a true Christian life, and realize that they are "light afflictions" compared to the eternal weight of glory which shall be theirs if they are faithful.

Read carefully the 24th verse and see how completely it upsets the theory of a Millennial reign of Christ on this earth.

In 2 Cor. 5:1, "Our earthly house" has reference to this clay body in which we now live. "A building of God" has reference to the glorified body, which is the inheritance of the saints at the resurrection. Let us not ignorantly teach that God is erecting buildings of wood, stone, gold, or any other perishable substance up in heaven for our abode when we go there. God has better things in store for us. The meaning of this verse, then, would be: if our bodies die and return to dust, God will give us a glorified body which shall not die. "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power." 1 Cor. 15:42, 43.

Paul KNEW some things because God revealed them to him. All true believers KNOW these things; it is not a matter of "I guess so," or "I think so." —G. Ray.

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THE DISCIPLINES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Sunday, April 24, 1949

Printed Portion Luke 12:16-21; 14:27-33.

Luke 12:16. And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

17. And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy

soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21. So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

14:27. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

28. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

29. Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him.

30. Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

31. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

32. Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.

33. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Memory Verse: Whosoever doth not bear his cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

Practical Truth: Fleshly indulgences have no place in the life of a Christian, and all possessions must be fully consecrated to Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson today deals with one of the essentials of a successful Christian life—temperance and self-control—the opposite to greed and covetousness exposed in the parable Jesus spoke.

The rich man is not to be criticized for having much—he, being a farmer probably acquired it legitimately; but he made his great and fatal mistake in his disposition of his goods. Instead of sharing with the poor, the needy, the widows, and orphans, he selfishly and boastfully spoke of "I" and "My," completely ignoring the God who gave him these. His esteem of happiness was indeed low and foolish, as he thought that he would receive great joy from his material accumulation, not realizing that real joy comes from self-denial, sacrifice, and the satisfaction of knowing that God's approval is upon us, and our souls have been redeemed from eternal damnation. The true riches which bring happiness are those stored up in heaven.

Excessive abundance is the cause of the downfall of many today. It is not superfluities which support a man's life, but necessities. The things which are necessary, God gives liberally; what is unnecessary, he has not promised. Let us take heed that we do not gather to ourselves superfluous accumulations, but that we distribute to our less fortunate brother or neighbor as God has prospered us.

Indulgence in riotous living today exemplifies the low ideals of life, the selfishness, and godlessness depicted in the parable of the rich man twenty centuries ago. Today people who think they have pleasure in "a glass of wine," movies, elaborate parties, and mansions, are living a vain and foolish life which ends in destruction.

The disciple of Christ MUST exercise self-control, and resist all temptations of indulgence, intemperance, and greed. Through Christ, power is given to live victoriously in this "Modern Sodom" which the world is now.

How sad for a man who wastes his life in the wild pleasures of today and loses his soul in the judgment!

—R. Byers