

FAITH^{AND} VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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A Mother's Love

A light that shines above the clouds
Of gloom and dark despair
Through mists of tangled, shattered hopes,
And sheds a ray of cheer,
Set by the hand of God divine,
And nought of earth can smother
The burning flame of sacred love
In the heart of a faithful mother.

With joy she constant vigil keeps
Over her precious charges,
And seeks to guide the patting feet
Of sons as they grow larger.
A mother's love first to forgive
An erring son or daughter;
And soon forgets the grief and pain
The wandering one had brought her.

There is no light that shines above
In cloudless star-lit sky
That's like the light of joy and love
That beams in a mother's eye.
She's there to calm the troubled hearts,
And sooth the fevered brows;
And to the throne her prayer ascends
When on her knees she bows.

Through the dark thralls of toil and pain,
When life was but a span,
God looked and saw 'twas not in vain
She gave to earth a Man.
And when her work on earth is done,
'And she has left this shore,
Her light of love will still shine on
And on, forever more. —U. Phillips

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To The Newly Saved

Dear young converts, you who have recently been saved by the sweet grace of God, and have been made partakers of the joys of salvation. May God ever bless you and keep you moving on in his sweet will and order. I am glad to know that you believe

the gospel of Jesus Christ; that you have repented of your sins, and have accepted Him as your personal Saviour. You have taken a wise step indeed; and the Lord has written your name in heaven in the Lamb's Book of Life. This knowledge should be to you a source of happiness and unspeakable joy. There are no happier people upon the earth than those who know their sins are forgiven. Remember, this happiness is not yours alone to enjoy, but according to words of our Saviour, there is joy in heaven among the angels because you have ceased from your wanderings in the wilderness of sin, and have taken the way of the cross. Yes, all heaven smiles on you; and in your heart you can say, "There's nothing between my soul and the Saviour."

One young saint made an expression something like this, "I am so glad to be saved. I have such joy and peace, I would not go back in sin for the whole world." Another said, "I am going to keep saved all the time." And these statements and others of like nature, no doubt, express the sentiment of the hearts of all who have recently found the Lord. Truly the way of the Lord is a joyful way. In the 12th chapter of Isaiah, we read, "And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortest me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day ye shall say, Praise the Lord. Call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted, sing unto the Lord: for he has done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee." Praise the Lord. Salvation is the most precious treasure anyone has ever found. It is the pearl of great price. It should be zealously guarded.

Jesus said, "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation." And we read in 1 Thess. 5:6, "Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober." James 1:12 says, "Blessed is the man

that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him." Temptations lie before you; you are going to meet with some battles on the way of life. You are not going to go through on flowery beds of ease. You will have some crosses to bear for Jesus' sake, and some persecutions, too; for "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecutions" 2 Tim. 3:12.

It is a sad fact that many have given up and yielded to temptation and sin and have forfeited their sweet fellowship with the Lord, because they were not prepared to stand against the foe. They thought no doubt, as many do think, that when their sins were forgiven, that was all they were required to seek for, and they could just glide along to the heavenly gates. But there is a deeper work of grace that God has designed that each of his children should experience. It is expressed in different ways, but I would prefer to call it at this time, the sanctifying grace, to be received after one has been justified, or saved. In Romans 5:1-5, we read, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience experience; and experience hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." This second grace is also called "standing grace." We are saved from our sins, our actual transgressions, by repentance and faith, and we are sanctified, or filled with the Holy Ghost, through consecration and faith, or a complete yielding of ourselves to God, and this is God's will. "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication." 1 Thess. 4:3.

Now let us notice another passage of Scripture found in Acts 8:12, 14-17, "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. . . . Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost. (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them, only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

The Holy Ghost is the sanctifier. Rom. 15:16c, "being sanctified by the Holy Ghost." It has been made possible for us to obtain this experience through the offering of Jesus Christ on the cross and his shed blood, as recorded in Hebrews 13:12, "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." And Jesus said, "If ye love me keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive,

because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." John 14:15-17.

It is impossible for one to live a victorious Christian life without this experience; and it is impossible to obtain this experience without first having an experience of justification. Some have been known to put off seeking the experience of entire sanctification until they have been overcome by some temptation, and then they would seek to be sanctified or filled with the Holy Ghost; but that will never work. It is not according to God's plan. Such ones must repent of the act of disobedience, or transgression, and get clear in their soul before God before they will be in a condition to receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Dear ones, do not wait until such is your lot, but come now to Father while all is clear, for this is his will concerning you.

The reason why it is necessary to have this experience is because there is in every man or woman a depraved, or "bent to sin" nature, that is not destroyed or eradicated at the time one is justified, or converted. When one gets saved he is forgiven of his actual transgressions (sins) which he has committed and for which he has repented with a godly sorrow; but because one is not accountable for the nature that was inherited by the human family through the fall of Adam, God does not require men to repent for that (This nature is often referred to as "the old man," "the carnal mind," "the root of bitterness," "the self life," "the besetting sin," etc.), but he has provided a way through the great sacrifice of his Son, that this nature can be eradicated from the hearts of his children through the operation of the Holy Spirit, when the conditions have been met. But if when one comes to the knowledge of the fact that this is God's will concerning him, and then draws back or refuses to consecrate and submit himself to God, he will go back in sin and lose the sweet peace of God out of his heart; and will have to repent again before it will ever be restored. It is always safe to say "Yes," to God.

To inspire faith, Jesus asked his disciples the question: "If a son ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" Luke 11:11-13. He has said, "Ask, and it shall be given you." In 1 Thess. 5:16-24, we read, "Rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good: abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you who also will do it." This experience is for you; it is God's will for you; may God bless you to receive it. Amen—U. Phillips

ORDINANCE SERVICE

An ordinance service is to be conducted at the community chapel Sunday, May 8, 1949. The chapel is located 12 miles north of Mansfield, Mo., 11 miles west of Hartville, Mo. on the E. C. Tombleson place. This will be an all day service, and we cordially invite all saints everywhere to attend these services. Basket dinner at the noon hour.

—oOo—

Noah's Ark Said Found

A United Press dispatch of recent date (Dec. 2, 1948) from Istanbul states that the petrified remains of an object, which peasants insist resembles a ship has been found high up on Mt. Ararat, Biblical landing place of Noah's Ark.

Apparently hidden for centuries, it came to light last summer when unusually warm weather melted away an ancient mantle of snow and ice.

While various persons from time to time have reported seeing an object resembling a "house" or a "ship" on the mountain, Turks who have seen this new find profess it to be the only known object which actually could be taken as the remains of a ship.

Farmer Tells of It

Shukru Asena, 69-year-old farmer who owns large acreage in that far off eastern frontier district, told about the discovery in an unheralded visit to the Associated Press Bureau here. This is his story:

Early in September a Kurdish farmer was about two-thirds of the way up the 16,000-foot peak when he came upon an object he never had seen before, although he had been up the mountain many times. He moved around it and then climbed higher around it and then climbed higher to examine it from above.

There, the farmer said, was the prow of a ship protruding into a canyon down which tons of melting ice and snow had been gushing for more than two months. The prow was almost entirely revealed, but the rest of the object still was covered.

The contour of the earth, he said, indicated the invisible part of the object was shaped like a ship. The prow, he added, was about the size of a house.

Not Rock Formation

The farmer climbed down to it and with his dagger tried to break off a piece of the prow. It was so hard it would not break. It was blackened with age. The farmer insisted it was not a simple rock formation.

"I know a ship when I see one," he said. "This is a ship."

He spread the word among little villages at the base of the mountain and peasants began climbing up its northern slope to see the weird thing he had found. Each who came back said it was a ship.

There is no folklore there about the Ark, Shukru Bey said, and persons who saw the find came away in great surprise. There are no cameras out in that wild, isolated country where Turkey, Russia, and Iran meet, hence no one came away with a picture.

Science for many years has confirmed the Biblical story of the flood. Traces of a flood, with marine life remains, have been found on the sides and

tops of some of the highest mountains in the world. The nations of antiquity have recorded for us through hieroglyphic inscriptions on pottery and tablets of stone records of the Noahic flood, which covered the earth.

It would delight the heart of every child of God to have this reported "ship" found on Mt. Ararat confirmed and proven beyond doubt to be Noah's Ark. However, we who know Him, whom to know aright is "life everlasting" know that the flood occurred just as His Word tells us and that Noah's Ark was a reality and not the figment of some man's imagination. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God."

—The Evangel

The above article tells of a recent discovery of Noah's Ark on Mt. Ararat, which was allegedly discovered by a Russian aviator before the Russian Revolution. We have a tract entitled "The Alleged Discovery of Noah's Ark," a six-page tract, which may be obtained for the asking. The discovery of this Ark will be a strong witness against the teachings of atheists and infidels.—Editor.

—oOo—

I Can Trust

I often wonder as with trembling hand
I cast the seed along the furrowed ground,
If ripened fruit will in my life be found—
But I can trust.

I cannot know why suddenly the storm
Should rage so fiercely round me in its wrath,
But this I know, God watches all my path,
And I can trust.

I may not draw aside the mystic veil
That hides the unknown future from my sight,
Nor know if for me waits the dark or light—
But I can trust.

I have no power to look across the tide
To see while here the land beyond the river,
But this I know, I shall be God's forever,
So I can trust.

Copied by G. W. Stephenson

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

I have moved to Gerty, Oklahoma. Anyone wishing to write me, my address is George W. Stephenson, Gerty, Okla.

Steadfast Eye

None sends his arrow to the mark in view,
Whose hand is feeble, or his aim untrue.
For though, ere yet the shaft is on the wing,
Or when it first forsakes the elastic string,
It err but little from the intended line,
It falls at last far wide of his design;
So he who seeks a mansion in the sky,
Must watch his purpose with a steadfast eye.
That prize belongs to none but the sincere,
The least obliquity is fatal here.

—William Cowper.

"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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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.

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced; including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century: the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the world and entire devotion to the service and the will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ; and separation from all human organizations—such are not authorized in the Word.

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 WORD OF THANKS

Dear saints, and readers of Faith and Victory,

We take this means of sending a word of thanks and appreciation to all the saints and friends who by their prayers, means, and contributions, have made it possible for us to obtain the car we now have in our possession, a 1941 model Chevrolet, a nice clean car in fine shape and condition, delivered to us in your behalf by Bro. Willie Murphey, March 20, 1949.

It is our purpose and desire to use it to the glory of God. Pray for us that we be faithful.

In the Master's service, Ulysses and Ella V. Phillips

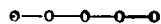
Editorials

The new Linotype machine which the Lord has seen fit to install in his print shop here at Guthrie has been in use for a month or more, and with the exception of sluggishness in the circulation of mats through the magazines and a few other necessary adjustments, all of which are common with new machines, it has been giving satisfactory service. The Linotype Company's service man was here recently and checked it over very carefully and pronounced it in excellent condition. This machine will be an advancement to the printing work done at Faith Publishing House and will increase the facilities of putting forth the gospel by the printed page.

We have already added four pages to the "Faith and Victory" paper, making it a 20-page monthly magazine. Also, the Lord through his silent progressive ways has ripened conditions and burdened some of the saints for a children's paper, which has matured in cooperation with the new machine at the "Lord's Print Shop." Perhaps some of the saints and readers of the paper may be interested in knowing that this new machine complete has cost at the least figures \$7,500.00 (Seventy-five hundred) and we are indeed thankful to God that it is all paid for and that there are no debts of any kind hanging over the "Lord's Print Shop." All the means that has been sent in to buy this machine and keep the work going has been sent freely without any soliciting or urging on our part. God has moved upon his faithful children who have willingly responded to the leading of the Spirit, and they have given of their substance by their own free-will, which is the only kind of giving that God accepts. God says in Rom. 8:14, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." If people just give because someone is always keeping their needs and wants on display or cunningly and continually reminding their hearers or readers of those things, then the giver could easily be giving because of man and miss the sweetness and blessings of God and of being led by His Spirit, and their gifts would not gain God's approval. A soul that is led by the Spirit in giving will prosper, and God will become more dear to him and more real as time moves on. We know that souls prosper when they give willingly and gladly to the work of the Lord and that the soul of one who does not give will shrivel up and die. We should always give because God is impressing us to do so, and then give willingly and gladly as unto the Lord and God will accept the gift and bless and reward the giver. The less faith that men have in God, the more they will rely upon persuasion, law, or force, and that is the reason so many movements have fallen in with the law of tithe giving and wrest the Scriptures from their proper meaning and make this doctrine out to be a New Testament doctrine. The money in the possession of others looks greater to them than the God whom they profess to serve and honor. They do not have faith enough to trust God to lead folks to give as He knows the need is, but seem to think that they must in some way pull it out of the people.

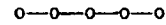
I have said it before from the pulpit and printed it in the paper that I would not want any one to give of their means to the work of the Lord at Faith Pub. House unless they did it of their own free-will and for the glory of God. I am still of that opinion, for if one gives unwillingly or because someone is exhibiting their wants before them, there will be no reward and no treasures in heaven that way. I would rather suffer and suffer and do without than to lead souls in the wrong way concerning their giving, and then have them to be fooled at the judgment. There may be times when God would allow statements to be made of his work and the need of funds for certain purposes, but urging and using law methods and cunningly keeping your needs and wants before hearers or readers would be out of the Spirit of Christ, and souls would be led to sacrifice and give without God's acceptance. The soul that loves the Lord will be listening for him to impress them where, when, and how much to give. Godly giving is to the soul as air is to the natural body. It keeps heavenly life active in the soul and makes God real to the giver. Giving is the natural result of the Spirit of Christ in the soul, and no soul will prosper without doing it whether he has little or much to give.

It is said of Jesus, "He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him." And He will be with you if you go about doing good and giving as he shows you and leads you. God loveth a cheerful giver. "But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart [not according to what others want you to do] so let him give; not grudgingly, [Do not begrudge what you give.] or of necessity: [not because others say it is necessary] for God loveth a cheerful giver [one who gives freely as unto the Lord]." Now here is the precious promise to those who give freely and gladly as unto the Lord. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." 2 Cor. 9:8.



The children's paper, called "The Beautiful Way," is edited by our oldest daughter, Mrs. C. B. Miles of Chino, Calif. We have had many orders for this paper and letters of gratitude and thanksgiving unto God for the starting of the paper. Many have had a godly longing and burden for just such a paper for their children. It is a blessed work of God to get the truth established in the hearts of growing children, for if they are trained up the way they should go, when they are older they will not depart from it. By getting the truth settled in their tender hearts it will act as an anchor to hold them to Christ as faith and confidence in God will be lodged there. Conditions were ripe for just such a paper and the saints are rejoicing, especially those who are personally burdened for the growing children. God is making these things possible, for He is deeply interested in the little tender olive plants that need nourishment and understanding of our merciful and loving heavenly Father and of his

Son Jesus Christ, who made a blood sacrifice of himself for our sins.



Elsewhere in this paper you will find an article about the finding, or rather of further investigation, of the frozen remains of Noah's Ark, which the Scriptures tell us rested on the Mountains of Ararat. (Gen. 8:4). For a long time after the announcement of the finding of the Ark it seemed to many just a sensational story, but as time went on it has been verified by others who have visited it. It does not seem unreasonable for this Ark to be preserved, since it is covered with snow and frozen ice most of the time; and it is just like the Lord to have something preserved like this to establish more fully the truth of the Bible in these last days when there is so much skepticism, atheism, and infidelity multiplied by Satan.

Apr. 12th, the "Oklahoma City Times" published a statement that Great Britain and the United States were sending out delegations to further investigate the big ship which has been found on the mountains of Ararat, and to give us a more detailed account of the Ark. The paper did not state that the government was doing this, but I presume it is interested Christian men who have taken this upon themselves. If any of our readers have any more material upon this subject, we shall be thankful to them if they will send us their information. This paper stated that Russia was aroused about the matter and declared that it is a spy expedition working under cover. They were not at all pleased with the matter.

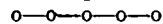
The article in the "Oklahoma City Times" reads as follows:

"MOSCOW, April 12—Pravda charged Tuesday that western intelligence agents are being sent to the Turkish-Soviet frontier, posing as archeologists hunting for relics of Noah's ark.

"The official Communist party newspaper asserted British, American and Dutch expeditions are heading for Mount Ararat, where the ark is believed to have come to rest and where the Turkish boundary meets that of the Armenian republic of the USSR.

"What does all this Biblical masquerade mean?" Pravda demanded. "It is quite enough to look at a map to understand the meaning of the Biblical amusements of the Anglo-American imperialists. . . The true purposes of such expeditions are as far from archeology as is Egerton Sykes from his great-grandfather, Noah."

"The newspaper said Sykes will head the British expedition. It identified him as former British press attache in Warsaw and communications officer for the British embassy in Tehran. It did not name heads of the other two reported expeditions."



I returned Monday from a trip to Missouri where I was called to pray for the son of Bro. Henry Hiebert of Sheldon, Mo. The Lord had already touched his body before we arrived and he was much better. He had taken a back-set from the flu and was in a low condition. We had a good visit with the family and Bro. Hiebert accompanied me to Sheldon where we

visited Bro. Lon Beisley and wife. He is very poorly in health, being confined to his bed most of the time. He is hard of hearing and his breath is short, causing choking, and it is hard for him to talk. He seemed to enjoy our visit very much and sat up in his chair for awhile and talked to us about the good things of God. Eternal things seemed to be on his mind more than any other thing. His wife was very nice and kind to him and ready to assist him in any way she can.

I spent Sunday with the saints at Webb City and enjoyed the association of the saints at that place. Bro. John Wilson and his wife were there for the Sunday morning service, and their presence was an inspiration to the saints, and I was glad to see them again. The morning message was on the subject of the "Love of God," and the evening, on the need of patience. The Lord is blessing the congregation there. I have confidence that if all concerned will with patience wait upon God and manifest the long-suffering and forbearance toward one another as His Word teaches, the Lord will in due time have a solid congregation against Satan and all evil works. Surmising and evil thinking must be put away and the Lord must be lifted up in humbleness of mind and soul. God has some precious saints at Webb City, and Satan would love to hinder the work; but remember that God is mightier than Satan and will give the victory again and again as we live in Him. Our hearts overflow in love for these dear saints who have escaped from fear and bondage; and I know that God will be their refuge as they cling unto Him.

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Obituaries

Samuel L. Fingerle was born Sept. 22, 1878 in Douglas Co., Kans. and departed this life Feb. 23, 1949 at his home in Whittier, California. He was united in marriage to Eoethel Herring Oct. 16, 1905 at Encampment, Wyo. To this union five children were born, three girls and two boys, all living in California.

In 1923 he moved his family to Whittier, where he spent the remaining years of his life. Shortly after his arrival in California he was converted in the church of God and preached and taught the old time truth until God called him from labor to reward. He was very prompt and faithful in the service of God which he loved so well. He had great faith in God, and God honored his faith and healed his body many times. He will be sadly missed by his faithful companion, children, neighbors, and friends, also by the saints in several congregations where he so faithfully attended. He trusted God completely through his short illness, and when God made known to him and to the saints around him that the time of his departure was at hand, he said he was ready to go. He leaves to mourn their loss a devoted companion, five children, eight grandchildren, one brother, and a host of friends. But our loss is heaven's gain.

Funeral service was conducted by E. M. Zinn. Text: St. John 14:1-3; Rev. 14:13. Interment at Rose Hill Cemetery near Whittier.

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Priscilla Leona Green was born Nov. 13, 1933 near Jena, La. and departed from this life March 14, 1949 at the age of 15 years, 4 months, and 1 day. Her death resulted from injuries received in an automobile accident.

She leaves to mourn her departure her parents, Bro. and Sis. J. S. Green of Lake Charles, La., one brother, John M., U.S. Navy, one sister, Aquila, at home, one half sister, Mrs. Myrtie Hoffman, of Dallas, Tex., several aunts and uncles, and other relatives and friends.

She won many friends by her lovable disposition and will be greatly missed by those who knew her.

When Jesus wept at Lazarus' tomb the people said, "Behold how he loved him." We say, "Behold how we loved her." We have tasted Gethsemane, but in submission to God we say, "Thy will be done."

Funeral services were conducted at Lake Charles, then the body was taken near Jena, with services in the Belah church and burial in the Belah Cemetery. Both services were conducted by Ruth M. Murphey.

CARD OF THANKS

The Green family wish to express appreciation to all the saints for their earnest prayers and every act of kindness shown in this time of great sorrow.

— o o — o o — o o —

Mrs. Minnie Neff of California, died March 15th at the age of eighty-four. The following poem was found among her things; addressed to Faith Pub. House, in her own handwriting and signed by her. It was read at her funeral service as a testimony to God's power to save.

SAVED

I've been born of the Spirit,
Jesus reigns within,
He keeps me free each moment—
Yes, free from sin.

He took my sins to Golgotha,
He stooped beneath the load,
He bore the cross to Calvary,
O'er rugged road.

He hung on the cross in agony,
He shed His precious blood
To purchase my salvation,
My peace with God.

Such love! Such sweet compassion!
Oh! what could one do more
Than give His life to redeem us
Forevermore?

Hosanna in the highest!
He died, but now He lives.
He lives and reigns—triumphant!
True Life He gives

Mrs. Minnie Neff.

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CAMPMEETING NOTICE

Campmeeting at Hammond, La., is to begin the last Friday in June, the 24th, and to continue over the two following Sundays, or July 3rd. We invite all the saints and lovers of the truth to attend, and let us make this one of the best ever held on these grounds. Meals are served on the grounds, and sleeping quarters provided for all who come. This meeting is to be conducted on the free-will offering plan as heretofore. Those who find it convenient, bring bed linens, towels and straw-ticks with you, for if no one brings any we may run short. This will be the 42nd annual campmeeting of the Church of God on these grounds held by the saints who teach the old-time truth as it was taught in the beginning of this reformation.

Hammond is easily reached by Greyhound bus and I.C. railroad. There is plenty of taxi service at both stations, and if you want us to meet you, write to Ray Key, Box 370, Hammond, La., and tell us when to expect you. If you come by auto, come down highway 51, the New Orleans highway, to the "Red Top" filling station, then go west about five blocks to the dead end, and there is the camp ground. Anyone having means or provisions to send for campmeeting, or for information, write to either of the undersigned.

Ray Key, Box 370, and Max Williamson, c/o Post Office, Hammond, Louisiana.

MIDWAY CAMPMEETING NOTICE

The 5th annual campmeeting of the church of God will convene August 18-28, 1949, on the saints' campgrounds, one-half mile off Highway 84, two miles west of Jena, La. All believers and those interested in the truth are invited to attend. Sleeping quarters and meals are free; the meeting is run on free-will offerings.

For further information, write Mrs. Ruth Murphey, Box 673, Jena, La.

MEETING REPORT

The annual revival meeting held at the saints' chapel, 800 North East Third St., March 6th to the 20th, was wonderfully enjoyed by both saints and sinners. We felt the mighty power of God during the meeting, even though Satan did try to defeat us.

God sent Holy Ghost ministers as Bro. Ulysses Phillips of Dover, Okla., Bro. Lewis Williams and Sister Ada Davis of Hennessey, Bro. Crawley and Sister Griffin of Boley, and Sister Bell of Guthrie, to help us in his work.

A number of saints bowed at the altar and sought a closer walk with God, and He satisfied.

God's Spirit strove with lost souls so powerfully until it was felt by some of the saints. They pled with God earnestly for souls, but no one got saved during the meeting. We kept holding on to God for souls who were attendants of that meeting and the influence is still working. Bro. Raymond Johnson's brother Leo got saved, also Rhonell Nichols, who attend services at Okeene, Okla., where Bro. Lewis Williams is pastor. And Sister Anna Bell Allen's mother, Mrs. Fannie Taylor, got saved since the meeting. We desire the prayers of all the saints, that God will continue to save lost souls. —Manley Spears

CORRESPONDENCE

Hennessey, Okla.—Dear saints,—At this writing we do feel very thankful for the wonderful blessings of the dear Lord. We praise His wonderful name for His goodness unto the children of men. We are thankful for God's call unto us; and not only his call unto us, but also we are thankful that we humbled our hearts and accepted His call. He has made us chosen vessels to be used to his glory, and we are striving to be faithful to perform all of the duties according to all the knowledge and understanding he has given us. The Lord has wonderfully protected us many times while going about in his service, and we have witnessed divine healing and the saving of many lost souls. This makes us rejoice because our names are enrolled in heaven. Therefore let us work while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work.

For the past year I have felt burdened to work around my home and community, and He has blessed us abundantly in bearing and forbearing with one another in love, and we are overcomers through divine power. We are

encouraged to press on in the name of the Lord.

Recently our hearts have been made to rejoice with all of heaven's host. God wonderfully saved Bro. Lewis Droke and daughter, Bro. Rhonell Nichols of Okeene, and Bro. Leo Johnson of Oklahoma City.

The young people of Oklahoma City were out to Okeene April 3, and they were all on fire for the Lord God gave us a high day in Zion.

We need your prayers that we be a bright and shining light to those that God has given that they might be established and settled in the evening light gospel and truth.

Bro. and Sister Lewis Williams

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Mo.—Greetings to the saints in Jesus name. I feel led by the dear Lord to write my testimony. I am glad to report victory in my soul. I had lived for the Lord for a long time, but I was not sanctified as I should have been. Since I have met some of the saints, and have read the Faith and Victory paper, and these good testimonies, I have learned to trust the Lord more and to have more faith.

My greatest desire is to be a help to some lost soul. I need the saints' prayers that I will always stand true to God and I need your prayers for my home. My husband is not saved, and is away from home. My home is broken up. I ask you to pray that he may be saved and I will have a home of prayer. We have a little girl.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Onell Grissom

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Ind.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the saints, greetings in Jesus' name. I am so glad to say I have victory in my soul. I have so much to thank God for. He has done so much for me—never has he failed me. It means so much to have a friend who never fails. Truly I do not know what I would do without Jesus. I thank God for his Word which is our guide and comfort in time of trials. I am more encouraged to press on to the goal, for, after all, we only have a short time to stay here, and just a little while to work to rescue precious souls. Surely we are living in perilous times—times when men are seeking leadership, but we know that God is gathering His people unto HIMSELF, not to man.

I would appreciate hearing from any of the dear saints who care to write. I am standing for the Truth, and love the old-time Truth.

Martha Hitchcock, 1830 Irvin St., New Castle, Ind.

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Maine—Dear Fellow-laborers—For three years I wrote to one woman, sending her tracts, my testimony, etc. and did not hear a word from her for those three years until about two weeks ago she wrote me and said that both she and her husband had accepted the Lord! Only those who have "labored in the Lord's vineyard" can know the joy in my heart when I received that letter; and I realized afresh that God is faithful who has made the beautiful promise in Isaiah 55:6, and chapter 56.

The grace of our Lord be with you, and he IS richly blessing your ministry.

Sincerely His humble servant,

Marguerite Knowles

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Texas—Greetings to all the saints. I am thankful I am numbered among the few of God's chosen people.

I love to read the good testimonies of others. The Lord has done so much for me. I have been healed many times. I recently went through a very nervous strain causing a serious condition of the heart. I suffered severe pain around the heart, in my shoulder, and veins of my arms and left foot. My hands would turn very blue, cold,

and stiff, and my heart would skip beats. Sometimes I would think it just wouldn't beat again. I wrote the saints at Guthrie for an anointed handkerchief. That evening I felt I was healed and began to thank the Lord for healing me. The next afternoon I received the handkerchief, applied it, and prayed, thanking the Lord for healing me and for the provision he has made for his isolated saints. That was about two months ago. I am still well, free from pain, and have been sleeping on my left side, which I could not do before. I surely thank the Lord for his goodness to me, and the saints for taking time to pray for me.

There is a small group of us here in Dallas who meet on Sunday for Sunday School. We enjoy meeting in the Lord's name and are always blessed when we sing and pray and study his word together. We have been called out of sectism, never again to return. We have chosen to suffer persecution with the children of God rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, and we do receive much persecution. By the help of the Lord we mean to stay true until the Lord says, "Enough, come home."

Yours in Christ,

Edith Wall

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La.—Dear saints scattered far and near—Greetings: For several days I have been intending to tell some of the things the dear Lord has been doing for us. Wife and I are now in Louisiana at present, but before we left Kansas, we had many trials and tests. We also had many wonderful blessings.

We have a little girl 17 months old and she became severely ill one night. We tried to quiet her but she seemed to be in such agony that our presence didn't matter. We began to pray earnestly to the Lord. She would get better each time, but we had to do much praying before we got victory. Then Wife sent to some of the saints for an anointed handkerchief, and the dear Lord healed her. I could tell of other ways we have seen his mighty hand work this winter.

For a long time Wife and I have prayed for some suitable place to live because renting rooms is very discouraging in large cities at times. We prayed and fasted and looked to our blessed Savior who is able to give us all things as it pleases him. We now have been blessed with our own home, and we give him all the glory and praise. It is wonderful to trust in God. The more we trust him the easier it is to trust and believe his promises. Pray for us. Your bro. in Christ, Lester L. Gordon

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Nebr.—To all the dear saints scattered abroad,—May God bless all who read this testimony. I thank God that I have been born from above and the love of God still abides in my heart. We are overcomers by love. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Rom. 12:21. One of the good things is LOVE, and love is the most powerful overcomer of evil in the world. When we receive the Lord Jesus as our Saviour and yield ourselves completely to him, the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Here are four ways by which we can exercise this love. First, let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works. Heb. 10:24. Just think of that glorious possibility. We can stir up love and good works in people by encouragement, and thus help them to do their best. Appreciation helps very much, so let us appreciate one another and give voice to it.

Second: If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Rom. 12:18. This verse tells me it is my responsibility to live peaceably with people, that is do our part to live peaceably. Let each

of us exercise overcoming love and consider ourselves responsible for friendly relation with our families and our neighbors. Every one is a precious soul for whom Christ died.

Third: Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath. For it is written, Vengeance is mine: I will repay saith the Lord. Rom. 12:19. We do not have to seek revenge or try to get even. All we have to do is just keep on showing kindness in every way possible. Recompense to no man evil for evil, but rather return love for evil.

Fourth: Argue not one against another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold the judge standeth before the door. James 5:9. I think a grudge would be like a heavy crushing burden weighing one down, and this is the way to get rid of that burden. Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee: leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way. First be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. Matt. 5:23, 24. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. Psal. 133:1. This overcoming love is to us what wings are to a bird.

James A. Dyer.

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La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: In Jesus' name, greetings.—Truly we do have a great Savior, one who hears prayers and answers them. We had four months of trials, but we have the victory now.

My Erysipelas lasted awhile, then my oldest girl became very ill, then my second boy took bronchial pneumonia and intestinal flu. I stood up to God in all these trials. Even the talk of the folks here and the trouble they tried to cause me did not bother me. They sent the sheriff and doctor after me, but we have really been holding our God up. Folks here see now that the Lord heals. The saints at Hammond have helped in every way: fasting and praying, and some staying in the home with us. We had severe tests and trials, but God gave me grace to be bold for him.

Now my leg is healed, children are better and the boy is up, much to the amazement of this town. We have been ridiculed and laughed at, but praise God, today I am glad we stood true—He heals—Jesus heals—nobody can say he doesn't.

Pray for us. I have a heavy burden at present and we also want to move to Hammond if God wills it.

Christian love,

Sis. Ruby Quave

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Ark.—Dear saints, I promised God I would testify if he would heal me, and he did. He raised me up. I am still weak but I know God can give me strength. I desire your prayers that I will get strong so that I can go to meeting. I also want you all to pray for my soul. I want to get close to God and live my life for him. I want to live a real Christian life before my children and husband, who have drifted away from God, so that they might come back to God. I don't want the family circle broken in that home above.

God has done many wonderful things for me. He healed one of my children when she was given up for dead. I have promised God I will tell of his wonderful healing power every time I have a chance, for I know it's real.

I have brothers and sisters and relatives and friends that I would like to see come to God. Remember us all in prayer. My sister-in-law gave me a Faith and Victory paper and I surely did enjoy reading it.

Mrs. Elsie Britt

Young People's Section

Stop, Look, and Listen

Stop, Look, and Listen, brother;
There is danger on ahead:
Many pitfalls lie before you,
In the path that you must tread.
If you think of yourself only,
And of what you here may gain,
You will find when life is over
That it has been spent in vain.

But if first you think of others,
Try to do what good you can,
Some day you will be rewarded,
For the love shown fellowman.
If you think of yourself only,
As the path of life is trod,
You may sometimes fool your neighbor,
But you cannot fool your God.

—Harvey Johnson

"Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks unto God . . . by him."

If a Man Does His Best Will He Go to Heaven?

John 3:5, 6, 36, Jesus answered, "Verily, verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Romans 3:19, 20, "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

Gal. 3:10, "For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: For it is written, Cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them."

A man who does his best to live a good clean life but still does not have the Spirit of God with him shall fall short of the Kingdom of God. But a man who is born of water and the Spirit DOES the best that he can, which God shows him.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

May God bless each and every one. —Troy Meek

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If Christ is dwelling in your heart by faith, it will not be a question with you, "What harm is there in this or that?" but rather, "Am I doing this for Christ?"—Sel.

Oklahoma.—Dear young saints, In Jesus' name, Greetings. I am thanking the Lord for saving and sanctifying my soul. I desire to live as he would have me to live each day. Many times the thought has helped me, "What would Jesus do?"

One night in meeting a sister said that if we would just testify, "I am still determined to serve the Lord" that it would help us. Those words stayed with me and the Lord helped me to use them as a weapon against satan and say to him, "I'm still determined to serve the Lord," when he would try to discourage me.

I am thankful for the precious Word that gives strength and encouragement. Psalms 46:1 has come to my mind many times when needing help; "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble." Another Scripture in Hebrews 4:16 is precious: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Many of you know that I have been looking to the Lord to give me good hearing, as my hearing is poor. The Lord gave me two precious promises in John 14:13-14, and encouraged me to claim it as mine by faith, as the devil would like to cheat me out of it. So far I can tell no difference in my hearing, but my faith is in God.

Pray for me. A sister in Christ, Fern Stubblefield

"Content makes poor men rich;
Discontent makes rich men poor."

Texas.—Dear Christian friends: Greetings. I am thirteen years old. I was saved one year ago last Aug. When I was four years old, I had nephritis. My grandmother wrote to Guthrie for prayer, and I was healed. I often read in the papers now of children who have nephritis. The doctors say that there is no known cure. I am glad that the Lord is my physician. I had the nose bleed for about five years. The Lord recently healed me of that.

I have lots of persecution in school because I do not go to the movies and use slang as the others do, but the Lord helps me. Through prayer the Lord sent me a boy about my age to play with. I have told him about the church of God, and he tries to do all that I tell him, even though his mother and father go to cocktail parties and things of the world. He hasn't gone to a movie in about a year now. Pray for him that he will always follow Christ.

I have something wrong with the skin on my knuckles and wrists. Its drawn just like a burn scar, like the tissues were drying up. I know the Lord can heal that too, so please pray for me.

Jim Wall

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When I was a little boy, my mother would speak to me so solemnly of the importance of trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour, and I would say, "Well, Mamma, I would like to do it, but the boys will laugh at me."

Mother used to say, "Harry, remember, they may laugh you into hell, but they can never laugh you out of it." And oh, how that used to go home to me, and it stayed with me all through the years! Yes, men may sneer and ridicule, but after all, His is the only approval worth having.

—H. A. Ironside

Correspondence

La.—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am encouraged to live for Him. He is all we have to look up to. We surely cannot look up to this sinful world. Jesus loved us with a love that cannot be found elsewhere. He loved us with an endless love, an everlasting love. Although our own loved ones do love us, they do not love us like he did. He went to Calvary for us and suffered death that we might live. I am doing all I can to get closer to him every day. About a month ago I was really sick, partly run down from working at night so regularly. But the Lord touched my body. I was prayed for when Bro. Allen was here holding meeting, and I am feeling well today. He has also done much for my husband, who fully trusts him for his healing.

Since December first I have had all on the altar, soul and body, for Jesus. I can see that I am doing better than I was when I was taking an aspirin now and then. Praise His name.

Here is a piece of poetry which I copied from a paper.

HOW FLEET IS TIME

"How fleet is time—our life how brief;
A song of joy—a wail of grief.
We fade as doth the summer leaf,
And Death is coming soon.

"Our friends are leaving one by one.
Each day somebody's race is run.
Ah! too, ere long we shall be gone;
For Death is coming soon.

"Let us prepare with earnest care,
That bliss may come and not despair;
In peace to meet our God up there—
For Death is coming soon."

—Sister Wiggins

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Tulsa, Okla.—To all the saints scattered abroad,—
Today finds us still doing our little for the Lord. It seems all we can do is small compared to what our God has done for us. I have been thinking a long time that I should tell the saints how wonderfully God has blessed us this past winter. It seems there is no end to His blessings. My husband was out of work from December 15th to March 15th, but God never one time let us have one bill go unpaid in all of that time. Sometimes it would begin to look cloudy, but always in time the Lord would talk to someone who was listening to his still small voice, and just what was needed would come in, sometimes from a distant state from one whom we would think did not know anything about it.

Oh, dear saints, it is blessed for God to be able to talk to us on the giving line. Many are hard of hearing when it comes to that. I have trouble on that line. It seems I can have perfect hearing on every line but giving, and it is a God-given blessing; so pray for me that I may hear and do better. It is more blessed to give than to receive. That makes me rejoice for the dear ones who taught me a lesson this winter on my duty to God. Maybe the ones whom we see every day are not always the ones the Lord would have us to carry on our hearts. We are one big family all over the world.

I want to tell you how the Lord has supplied some campmeeting needs this winter. I attended a campmeeting where they did not have enough tea towels, so I desired the Lord to let me own tea towels I could loan each

year to the different ones having meeting. I told the Lord I would see that they were cared for when they were not in use. Material for fifty towels would cost so much that it seemed like a big thing, but I felt God could and would help me get it before campmeeting time. In about two months I received a letter from the saints in Chicago asking me if I could use some tea towel material for campmeeting. I wrote to them what I had been impressed to do. They sent enough to make 50 tea towels, 21 mattress covers for campmeeting mattresses. I gave some to a young minister's family for pillow cases. She made 6 aprons for the brethren of our congregation to wear in the kitchen at campmeetings, and I still had some to use for other things. I praise the Lord for it. If any one needs tea towels for your meeting, let me know.

There is a need for plates, forks and spoons at some campmeetings. If anyone has some odd pieces which you do not need, you should put them to use for the Lord. I would like to have fifty granite plates to loan for use in small meetings where they need them and have no place to keep them. We should be as much concerned about campmeeting equipment as our own. When we quit having campmeeting at one place the equipment that has been sent there should be sent to another place where it can be used. The Lord's property should be kept in use.

Remember, you have less than 100 years to live this life, but eternity is without end; and we cannot live on good intentions here and expect a blissful eternity.

Remember God's ministers and workers do not draw salaries. When you see one giving his time to the Lord, you should help that one. I have been short on this line, but desire prayer that God will help me to move up.

The mattresses for the Monark Springs cots need to be made over, as they are too wide for the cots and they are not all clean. When they are made over, more mattresses can be made from the extra cotton in these. Help me pray about this matter.

We desire to request the earnest prayers of the saints for our daughter, Dorothy, who is saved. She has been sorely afflicted the past 20 weeks. She has lost fifty pounds and is still losing weight. She has a goiter and some kind of serious stomach trouble. Her stomach seems to be closed. Some think it is cancer. She has nearly lost her job because she trusts God. Many hard things have been said about her on her job, and some have even said they thought we should be sent to jail if she died. But she is still in the hands of God. And our boy needs prayer.

The Sam Bartons, R. 13, Box 119, Tulsa, Okla.

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Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints scattered abroad: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I have felt for some time it would be pleasing to the Lord to write and let you know what the dear Lord has been doing for us here. He is so good to his trusting children. First, I want to say I am still in the battle engaged in the fight against sin, and encouraged to press the battle on till he says, 'Enough, come home.' We have had many and varied experiences since we last wrote; time and space would fail us to tell all, but we feel like relating a few of the outstanding ones.

The Lord blessed us with getting our little chapel far enough along until they permitted us to begin using it, so we began meeting Sunday, Sept. 19, 1948, and continued each night, and three services on Sunday thru Oct. 3. Bro. Sam Wilson and wife, of Oregon, and Bro. Chandler of Bakersfield were with us with hearty support of the ministers and saints from all surrounding points. The Lord blessed and gave us a good meeting although there were no souls saved in the meeting. We

continue to have Sunday School and morning and evening services each Sunday, prayer meeting each Thursday night, and all-day meeting the second Sunday of each month. The dear Lord surely blesses us each time we meet together. We extend a hearty welcome to any of the saints passing thru San Bernardino to stop and be with us.

At the close of our meeting we had gone to Whittier Monday to be in the meeting there, and Tuesday I received a phone message that our son, Gus, Jr., had got his ankle broken at school. We had special prayer for him. He was suffering greatly when they phoned, and when I arrived home that night the dear Lord had given him ease and he was asleep. We found one bone broken just above the ankle and the end of the bone slipped in, throwing it out of place in the ankle joint with some of the small bones out of place in the ankle, also the ligaments and cartilages were badly strained and torn loose. But the Lord set it and put it back in place and the next evening we took him to a doctor to get his excuse for school. The doctor said it was all in place and no grating bones. To God we give all the praise. We just put a bandage around it and he went to school with the use of crutches. But our test was not over; it was getting along fine and he got it hurt over and that seemed to weaken his faith. He could not put any weight on his foot at all without great pain for about three weeks. One Saturday night after family prayer, he was sitting in the dining room meditating and praying and he said it seemed a voice spoke to him and said, "Get up and walk," and some thing went over him and he got up and walked into the kitchen and back and sat down. Again the same voice said, "Get up and walk" and he got up and walked into another room and came back and said, "Papa, I feel so good, I can walk. The Lord has healed my foot" and he walked and sang and praised God, and he has not used his crutches any more but went right on to high school, walking from class to class and climbing stairs to his classes.

Just after this our youngest daughter, Esther, came home from school very sick, vomiting, a high fever, and suffering in her entire body. We held on to God for her. She got better, but not well; she thought she was able to go back to school, that she just had a cold and sore throat and would be all right. After she was in school awhile she got worse and the school nurse brought her home. She told me Polio was in the school and that was what Esther had and paralysis had set up in her neck and throat and in that case it usually went to the brain and finished its work in a few hours time. By evening her neck was stiff and she could not turn her head and her tongue was getting so it was difficult for her to talk. She wanted me to call Bro. O. B. Wilson, Jr., which we did and he and Bro. Trimble of Pomona, came. The Lord again heard prayer and in about half an hour she could move her head and by morning the stiffness was all gone, but in two or three days the paralysis struck her back and legs and her back became stiff and she could not bend, but we continued to claim the promise he had given us at the first, and in a very few days she was back in school, to the surprise of the teachers and nurses.

Shortly after our revival meeting in the church building, and while son's ankle was hurt we went to prayer meeting one night to find the lower sash of all the windows but one in the auditorium broken out, and one in one of the rest rooms broken. It seemed the enemy was determined to bring a defeat, but the dear saints just seemed more determined to press on and our young brothers gathered papers and card board and put over the

windows to stop as much draft as possible and the sisters swept the glass to one side and we gathered around the fire and had a wonderful meeting. The expense of replacing the glass, etc. made slow our work finishing the building, but we are still working and finishing a little at a time as God provides means and labor, and we are praising him for a place to meet together. Here we wish to thank each one who has helped either with means or labor, and the dear brother who loaned us the \$2,500 to make it possible to buy much of the material so we could have a place of worship.

Then we were asking God to help us have another meeting. One Saturday night someone knocked, and there stood Bro. D. A. Gibson from Mo. He felt impressed to come have a meeting, so we began the next day, Sunday, and continued all the week. The last evening of the meeting, just before night service, we partook of the ordinances of the Lord's supper, as some of the congregation had never been permitted to take part in an ordinance meeting, and wished to do so. It was a precious service with thirteen taking part, and the first of its kind in the new chapel. Someone remarked that it was the same number that took part the first time with Jesus and his twelve; which to me seemed even more sacred as tears of joy fell.

Pray for us and the work here. Your sister in Christ,
Nellie Poulos

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La.—Dear ones in Christ, Again I feel led to write in a testimony and tell how good the Lord has been to me. First of all I'm thankful for salvation and that I still have victory over the enemy mid the many trials and tests of this life. I can truly thank the Lord for his goodness to me.

The dear Lord has truly manifested his love toward us through his mighty healing power. I would like to tell how the Lord so wonderfully healed our little 8 year-old girl around Christmas time. She became ill with fever and her mouth and throat were sore. We prayed as we always do when one of the children is sick, but she didn't seem to get any better. For several days her mouth just kept getting worse. It began to swell (her gums) and became a dark, angry color; also her gums ran bloody corruption quite a bit. She did suffer so much, cried off and on all day and night. We would pray and she would get relief but it seemed she would get no better. We supposed she had "trench mouth" from all symptoms, as it just seemed that her whole mouth would mortify. She suffered like this for two or three days.

On Sunday night, following Christmas, my husband and I asked the saints to come over after meeting and agree in prayer for her healing. They did, and praise God, she began to mend immediately. She rested well that night and was soon eating and drinking as before. I also consider the Lord worked by not letting any of the other children get this awful mouth disease, even though I was very careful with all of her dishes. The Lord surely has been good to us and I can't thank and praise him enough for his many blessings. This is just one time out of many that the Lord has manifested his healing power in our home. Oh, we are serving such a mighty God!

I hear some folks say, "Oh, I can trust the Lord for little things but when I get so sick, I've got to get a doctor." Well, dear ones, it seems that when I'm so sick, that is when I need God more and I'm so glad that I am resigned to do his will in all things. I just want your prayers that I'll always feel that way in my heart.

May the Lord richly bless and encourage each one in this Christian race is my prayer.
Lula Williamson

Kans.—Dear saints everywhere: I feel like sending a testimony for the Lord. First, I praise him for salvation, full and free. I am so glad the Lord looked down in love and redeemed my soul, and gave me love in my heart for everybody. I just long and desire that my life will be filled at all times with that sweet love, that I can be a blessing to souls that are discouraged and cast down. When I think upon the love of God, it makes me want to be more like him, for the world and professors are void of the love of God and we, as his children, must live in such a way that they can see the love of God in us.

The Lord blessed in a wonderful way in our midst Sunday, March 20th. We had not expected nearly so many saints to come in for the all-day meeting, but our hearts were overjoyed to see their interest in the work here at Chetopa. There were saints here from Springfield and Webb City, Mo., Tulsa and Guthrie, Okla., Anthony and Longton, Kans., and Sister Opal Wilson and daughter from California. The Lord richly blest in the preaching of the Word of God Saturday night and Sunday. Our hearts feasted upon the deep things of God. We especially took notice how it seems both the young saints and older ones alike are sinking deeper into God. I believe God is preparing us for harder things to come.

While we had much to rejoice over, our hearts were also saddened when we met our dear sister Dorothy Barton to see how sorely afflicted in body she was, but we can see she is growing stronger in the Lord. She seemed much encouraged, so let us remember her earnestly until she will be completely healed.

We thank all the saints for their prayers for the work here, and just ask you all to continue to pray for us.
Yours in Christ, Margaret Eck

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La.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and all the saints, I have felt led for quite a while to write my testimony. I am praising God that I am saved and I want to do all that he has for me to do. Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 10:31, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

My husband is in bed, has been since July 12, 1948. Please pray for his complete healing. We are doing our best to live for God and trust him for all things. Some of the ministers and saints have come and prayed for my husband. He is very much better than he was but it seems that he doesn't have faith for his complete healing. His hip is broken. Please, all, especially pray for him. We know there is nothing impossible with God.

Your sister in the one body, B. Constable

o—o—o—o—o

Ore.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I've had a real test and I must write and give God the glory.

My little seven year-old son became ill suddenly with a severe illness of vomiting and diarrhea. He grew worse rapidly. I prayed and prayed but couldn't seem to get the victory. My little boy would keep saying over and over "Pray for me." Some said that it looked like an attack of appendicitis, other that it was ruptured appendix, and advised me to call a doctor. My son cried out, "No, no! Jesus can heal me." My husband insisted we call one at once.

I got in touch with a dear Christian friend, and we agreed in prayer in our separate homes. In a few minutes he became easy and went to sleep. About midnight he aroused and said, "Mama, the sickness is all gone. God has made me well." How I praised the Lord!

I had told the Lord before if he would heal him I would give him a doctor's fee, which is five dollars, and I enclose it gladly for I know that God can use it to a

good advantage. Just before God touched the child, it seemed he would surely die. I placed him on the altar and told God he was his to take or to leave, and God heard prayer in a wonderful way. He is out playing this morning as though nothing had been wrong. It is one of God's miracles. How glad I am that I've taught him from babyhood of Jesus' healing power. He has been healed a number of times.

I remember the words, "The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up." Pray for us.
Yours in his service, Mrs. J.H. Jones

o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—Dear saints and gospel workers,—I still enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" that is put forth by God's people. And I especially enjoy reading the testimonies of the different people who are God's children, how they are encouraged to live for God. It makes my soul rejoice. Praise and thank God to know how God through Jesus Christ still works miracles among his people. He is still the same today. Thank God.

I cannot be silent. For some time it has been on my heart to send a little testimony to make known before God and people that I am still saved and sanctified. He has given me health and strength thus far. Thank God! It is truly good to be a child of God and to trust him for all of our needs.

This morning as I read my Bible, in the seventh and eighth chapters of St. Mark, it deeply impressed me how Jesus answered the Pharisees and scribes when they asked him, why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but ate bread with unwashed hands.

Later his disciples asked him concerning the parable, and he said unto them, "Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive that whatsoever thing from without entereth into man it cannot defile him, but that which cometh out of man, that defileth the man." Then he said the things that come out of the heart defile a man.

In the eighth chapter we read how he had compassion on the multitude that came to hear him and had been with him for three days. He would not let them go home hungry for fear they would faint on the way. He performed a great miracle there, feeding about four thousand men with only seven loaves of bread and a few fish. After they all had eaten, they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets. So we see that God's love and care for his people never runeth out. There is always sufficient left. As much as we read God's Word or hear it, it never becomes old. We can always find new strength and power in it. Praise His holy name.

It is my earnest desire to live for him who died for me on the cross, as long as I am here on earth. Many trials and temptations we must endure, but with God's help we can overcome as Jesus did.

Remember me in your prayers, and please pray earnestly for my unsaved husband. Esther Ewald

—oOo—

Love and Fruit Bearing

Gal. 5:14, 15 says, "For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." This is as much as to say, if you do contrary to loving your neighbor as yourself and so bite and devour one another, then take heed. So far as the workings of

Satan goes, the same things are at work now that were working when Paul wrote these words, and it will be well to consider this as directed to us now at this time.

If an evil report about a brother or a sister gets started, let us utterly refuse to talk about it. Prov. 26:20 says, "Where no wood is the fire goeth out; so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth;" and Matt. 5:29, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." Gal. 5:16, "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh." To walk in the Spirit would mean to desire and seek after and follow after the spiritual things of God. Of course that means turning squarely about from the manner worldly-minded people would say or do. Only those who will do this can be Christians, or Christ-like. If we are Christians, we are bearing the fruit of the Spirit, which is, "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."

Now let us see how these fruits of the Spirit work in our lives. The first is LOVE. Romans 13:10 says, "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." When the law is fulfilled there is nothing left to condemn; therefore we should each one see to it that we have this love in our souls.

The second fruit of the Spirit is JOY. Nem. 8:10 says, "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." So if we have joy in the Lord we have spiritual strength.

Third, PEACE. Peace is the result of an agreeable settlement. Such takes place between God and man when man repents of his sins and turns to God. This is probably the greatest settlement that ever took place between human beings and their Creator. And this peace is to be permanent provided we do our best to live and worship God, keeping all of his known commandments. Psalms 21:11 says, "The Lord will bless his people with peace."

Fourth, LONGSUFFERING. God's people are not quick to throw up their hands and say there is no use trying to live right. The Spirit of God does not work that way, but rather preserves, and as the Scripture says, "Beareth all things." When God saves, he will give help to overcome so long as we are true to him. Of course, if we sin, we take ourselves out of God's hands, then He cannot help us.

Fifth, GENTLENESS. David said in Ps. 18:35, "Thy gentleness hath made me great." Gentleness is a wonderful trait for one to possess. We can all have it if we will let God's Holy Spirit have his way in our lives.

Sixth, GOODNESS. Goodness is the state or quality of being good. Psalm 107:9 says, "For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

Seventh, FAITH. In Eph. 3:17 we read, "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith." Without faith we can not keep Christ in our hearts. For "without faith it is impossible to please him."

Another fruit of the Spirit is mentioned in Luke 21:19, "In your patience possess ye your souls." Patience is a much needed grace in our lives, since

through it we possess our souls. Then when the hard things come our way that we just cannot understand why God permitted us to meet with such hard things and when it looks like all is going to pieces, let us thank God for it. God, no doubt, has a wise purpose in it for us, that we might gain this very much needed patience, that we might possess our souls.

Julia Tilton

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Understand More and Love More

We who have been taught many years of the "Sufferings of our Saviour," think we understand, we think we fully know, and tell others about it; but are we sure we fully understand? If we do, we shall be able to convey it to others.

Can we see the cruel, wicked, heartless mob? Can we hear their awful words? Can we see the cruel holding of that precious body—casting it upon the old rugged cross? Can we hear the driving of those terrible nails driving through his hands and feet—bleeding, torn? Oh, the awfulness of the scene!—the cruel thorns pressed on his precious brow; then the hole dug in which to place the cross with that body nailed to it!

Yes, we sing, "He was nailed to the cross for me." Oh, do we understand? Do we? If we do, we love Him more and more. Listen to the thud as the cross drops into the hole, then made secure—there between two thieves, suffering in agony, all three. Hear the groans, the moans—hear the cry, "My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Then hear him reply to the one who cries for mercy, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."

Oh, the forgiving cry—"Father, forgive them; they know not what they do!" Do we understand?

We sing:

"Oh, precious fountain,
Here would I stay,
And in Thee ever
Wash my sins away."

Can we know our sins are gone—can we understand? Can we love Him as did the woman who bathed His precious feet with her tears? Do our tears flow in love and gratitude to Him for all He has done for us?

"Father, forgive them; they know not what they do!" Do we understand to have that love? He tells us as He lived, as He suffered, as He gave his life for us; so must we live, suffer, and give our lives for Him. Are we now dead to all the world and its offers? Are we loving one another AS He loved us?

Now we pass through the Calvary scene. We see, we know, we feel, we hear, we cry out, oh, why did our Lord and Saviour have to die such an awful death? The answer: For a lost soul. Just think of the value of a soul. Do we understand? Do we love that soul as Christ did and does? May God help us to understand the meaning of it all.

Those disciples, those dearly beloved ones, that mother, all those who loved him—oh, how their hearts were crushed—saddest hour the world ever knew!

The sun refused to shine and the earth was in total darkness at noon. Picture those sad torn hearts waiting for the last moments. Then a man of God asked for the body of Jesus. Oh, how he must have felt when taking His body from the cross, then carrying it to the tomb!

Then the great stone was placed at the door, fixed so securely no human hand could roll it away. Can we understand what was going through the minds of those dear saints when on the morning of the first day of the week they hastened with their spices and ointments and wondered who would roll away the stone? Then arriving there, they found the stone rolled away. Naturally they thought these cruel men had stolen his body.

But the angel was there. Hear what he said: "Why seek ye the living among the dead." "He is RISEN!" Oh, the rapture of delight! Do we hear those words? Can we by the Spirit's power hear those words? "HE IS RISEN" How they ran to tell the rest!

Then came the disciples to see for themselves. Peter ran to see—this dear man who had gone through such torture of sorrow because of denying the Lord at such a trying time. Oh, how he repented! Now he was so anxious to see and to know where our Lord was.

Then there was another scene of two disciples on the way to Emmaus, talking as they went. Our Lord appeared and walked with them. They did not know it was he. They talked of what had occurred. He questioned them and they seemed surprised that this stranger did not know of all the recent happenings. When they reached their destination it seemed He would walk on, but they insisted that He abide with them, so He went in to tarry with them. As he sat at meat with them, he took bread and blessed it and brake, and gave it to them. Previous to this they had not recognized him, but now their eyes were opened and they knew him, and he vanished out of their sight. Then they said, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened unto us the Scriptures?" Then they went the same hour to Jerusalem and found the eleven gathered together and them that were with them, saying, "The Lord is risen indeed! and hath appeared to Simon." And they told of the things that were done and of the breaking of bread, and as they thus spake Jesus himself stood in the midst of them and saith unto them, "Peace be unto you." Again they were afraid and supposed they had seen a Spirit, and he said unto them,

"Why are ye troubled? Why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet; that it is I myself. Handle me and see, for a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see me have." Again he ate with them and told them the words He had spoken unto them while he was with them, and he opened their understanding that they might understand the Scriptures. He told them how it was necessary for Christ to suffer and arise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem, and that they were witnesses of those things.

He said he would send the promise of the Father upon them and instructed them to tarry in Jerusalem until they be endued with power from high—the Holy Spirit baptism. Then he led them out as far as Bethany and lifted up his hands and blessed them: While he blessed them, he was parted from them and carried up into heaven. Forty days had passed since his resurrection. They had seen him during all that time at different times and places.

They returned to Jerusalem and continued daily in the temple praising and blessing God. Then when the "Day of Pentecost" was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. There they had been ten days. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind and it filled all the house where they were. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire and it sat upon each of them. And they were ALL filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. They spoke in languages of every nation.

Again God's dear saints were made to rejoice as all were filled with the power of God. We do not read of any of the apostles going back into sin, but they lived it, they preached it, and they died for it. May God help us all to have that new touch of fire on our souls. May our love be re-kindled and renewed. May we be able to live it, to tell it, and to have the understanding and the great love our Lord had for us. We must have or we are none of His. "Love one another as I have loved you." Amen. —Jessie Holloman

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Be Not Conformed to This World

Rom. 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may PROVE what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." So our reason here not to be conformed to this world is that we may PROVE God's will.

The Word speaks (2 Tim. 3:5) of a people having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof, and tells us to turn away from such. There are many ways to have a form of godliness, yet deny the power of God. For instance, one way would be to profess to trust God for the healing of our bodies, yet resort to doctors and medicines. There are many sects doing that very thing. I know of one group of people who profess to trust the Lord for healing, going so far as to practice the Scripture in James 5:14 where the instructions are to anoint with oil and pray; yet I never hear praise to God, but they will give honor to the doctor or credit to the different medicines, etc. Surely this is no more than an empty form.

Another instance is the form of keeping the sabbath very strictly, then reveling and doing almost anything through the week. The Word tells us in Luke 1:73-75 that we are to serve Him without fear, in HOLINESS and RIGHTEOUSNESS before Him ALL the days of our life. ALL the days would surely mean EVERY day. People who try to live

godly on Sunday then live almost any way on week days have no more than an empty form: from such turn away.

In Col. 3:17 we are instructed that whatsoever we do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. In 1 Cor. 10:31 it says whatsoever ye do, do ALL to the glory of God. Therefore, how careful we should be to let the Holy Spirit be our teacher and our leader in all things. Only by giving ourselves over completely to the Holy Spirit can we worship God in our services, in our homes, and in all we do or say without it being just a form of godliness denying God's power. Being conformed to this world is, I believe, one of the most common ways we see where people profess godliness, yet deny Him.

Some time ago I was talking with a woman that makes a high profession of being a Christian. We were discussing the subject of keeping ourselves unspotted from the world. With her lips she spoke strongly against being conformed to the world, etc., but her very appearance denied her words, as she was dressed in slacks and adorned like the world. I have heard some people say that there are times and places when women should wear slacks. Deut. 22:5 tells us that if women wear that which pertaineth unto a man they are an abomination unto God. I cannot imagine any time or place that it would be necessary for us to wear anything or do anything that would cause us to be an abomination to God. One person said women's slacks were different from men's trousers. 1 Thess. 5:22, "Abstain from ALL APPEARANCE of evil." In 1 Timothy 2:9, 10 and in 1 Pet. 3:3-5 it teaches us as saint women how to adorn ourselves, after the MANNER of the holy women of old, who trusted in God.

"Love NOT the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world the love of the Father is NOT in him. For ALL that is in the world, the lust of the flesh [if thy hand offend thee, CUT IT OFF] the lust of the eyes [and if thine eye offend thee, PLUCK IT OUT] and the pride of life [if thy foot offend thee, CUT IT OFF, for it is better to enter into life maimed than to go to hell.] is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away and the lust thereof: but he that DOETH the will of God abideth forever." (1 John 2:15-17; St. Mark 9:43-47). Let us be watchful and careful how we walk before God in all humility, being on our constant guard against these things.

God hates pride! (Prov. 8:13). Pride will destroy souls. When we see the things of the world creeping in among us, no matter how small they seem, just watch how rapidly they grow. Just one tiny opening is all the enemy wants, for he knows how rapidly it will grow and let other things in, little by little. I believe we can trace all items of superfluity to pride. I was much impressed by the article written by dear Bro. Fingerle, published in the April issue, "Beware of Little Things." He brought out that the veils originated from the red-light district. How then, could we wear such an item on our person!!

He also mentioned the large bows, etc. The enemy works in sly and cunning methods. Perhaps one person will put on just a little. That encourages another to put on just a little more, and soon there seems to be no line between those professing godliness and those who do not. Dear sisters, let us be careful of our apparel and how we adorn ourselves. When we purchase items—especially hats—decked with superfluity, we can remove enough to make them plain as becometh saints. "Wherefore LAY APART ALL filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness and RECEIVE [open your hearts] with meekness the engrafted word, WHICH is able to save your souls. Be YE DOERS of the Word and NOT hearers only, deceiving your own selves." Jas. 1:21-22.

There are other ways of being conformed to the world. We do not go to the places the worldly people go. Jesus prayed the Father not to take us out of the world, but to keep us from the evil. Jude tells us to keep OURSELVES in the love of God. So we have something to do. If we love him, we WILL keep his commandments—the blessed Word of God, from cover to cover. We have no desire for worldly entertainment of any kind. Even our very conversation is not as the world's. "But as he which hath called you is holy, SO be ye holy in ALL manner of conversation—be ye holy, for I am holy." 1 Pet. 1:15, 16. We are to give an account of every idle word in the day of judgment—by our words we shall be justified or condemned. (Matt. 12:36, 37). Foolish talking, or jesting is not to be named ONCE among us (Eph. 5:3, 4). How about idle reading? Just how much is our spirituality increased by what we read? Can we expect to grow and prosper in our souls when we feed on all kinds of magazines, novels, etc.? We are surely robbing God when we spend precious time in idle reading. The souls who try to thrive on such will spiritually starve to death!! I remember a message preached several years ago on Mal. 3:8, "Will a man rob God?" It was brought out how in many many ways we can rob Him and of "time" is one way.

Pure religion and undefiled before God the Father is to keep ourselves UNSPOTTED from the world (Jas. 1:27). I have been much impressed with a thought a brother recently gave to us. Heb. 5:11, "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was NOT FOUND, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." Col. 1:13, 14, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear son, in whom we have redemption through his blood, EVEN the forgiveness of sins." Just as Enoch was translated and NOT FOUND, even so we are not found in the place from whence we were translated. Praise God for his power to raise us from our dead state in sin and make us NEW creatures in Christ Jesus. "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and WITHOUT BLAME before Him in love." Eph. 1:4. Nothing less than a clean, pure, HOLY life will ever make it into heaven. 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. 3:17. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, HOLY, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Rom. 12:1).

It means something to present our bodies a living sacrifice. When we just completely yield ourselves unto God with an earnest desire to be made pure and holy, we must realize that we fully submit everything into his hands. It will take purging to get rid of the dross, but right along with the purging and chastening there will be sweetness and blessings to our souls beyond expressing.

Jesus is coming for His bride, the beautiful church of God (Eph 5:27) that he might present it to himself a glorious church, NOT having spot, or wrinkle, or ANY such thing, but that it should be HOLY and WITHOUT blemish. Dear souls, it will mean much to be ready when Jesus comes, to be accepted as His bride. The way to be ready then is to be clothed now, in the beautiful pure white robes of righteousness. To those who know Him not, He will come as a thief in the night. But his children are expecting Him, looking for His coming. May God help us each one to examine our hearts and lives with an honest and open heart, so that if we are not without spot or wrinkle or blemish of any kind, He is faithful to our souls and will show us. If we are not ready He will help us so we can be. If we humble our hearts before him, He will teach us and prepare us for heaven. ONE thing was enough to cause the rich young ruler to lose out. No matter how shining white our garments may be, ONE spot will be enough to cause us to lose out, too.

It is impossible to serve God without grace in our souls. We obtain grace through humility. Jas. 4:6, "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

—Virginia Elwell.

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Salvation, A Wise Investment

Vs. A Worldly Investment

The Lord said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all of these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. Let us first draw an imaginary picture of how the wise people of the world seek out ways and means to their fullest extent how they may arrive to a substantial formula that will give them confidence that they will risk their stocks, bonds, lands, crops, etc. Their natural lives, their families and offspring are all in this investment. They are continually working at this in order to put it over for a profit, that in time of old age, scarcity, yes, for their children, they will have an abundance to enjoy.

This is the way of the world, those who are laboring only for the perishing things of this time world. Remember the rich fool in Luke 12:17-21. He spent all of his time in accumulating this wealth. Just at the time he was ready to enjoy it, his soul was required—how sad! No eternal investment!

Let me entreat both the saved and the unsaved to be wise. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Matt. 16:24.

This means to seek the Lord with your whole soul, count the cost thoroughly, that you may receive a profit. It means to forsake every known sin and make every restitution possible, call mightily on the Lord for mercy, and he will surely give deliverance.

Since you have found the Lord and vowed you will serve him all the days of your life, there must be a continual seeking to know His will, reading his Word, praying, and walking in the light, that the increase of his riches may be enjoyed. I am sure you will agree that in this spiritual investment, if there is no increase it will be a failure. The Lord has a way of increasing this spiritual wealth: (1 Peter 4:12, 13) trials, afflictions, (Matt. 5:10-12) persecutions, and all manner of things that come against you. To be able to reap the benefit of these, you must seek the Lord for the Holy Spirit that you will have an abundance of grace and power to be more than a conqueror. Come boldly to the throne of grace. The Lord does not take pleasure in them that draw back. This kingdom is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Rom. 14:17). Truly one can by faith look up to the Lord to add all these things when you seek his kingdom and his righteousness first: saving grace, sanctifying grace, healing, the supply of your needs according to his riches in glory, and most of all the eternal home which shall be ours when this fleeting life is over. Thank the Lord.

—E. V. Phillips

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God's Mercy

A servant of God from Kentucky
Did tell of the Book and its way.
And I thank the Lord for His goodness,
That I followed His steps that day.

A servant of God true and faithful,
He prayed for my soul—that I know;
And gave to my heart fond assurance
That Heaven's bright lights were aglow.

How I thank the Lord for His mercy
In answer to sweet words of prayer,
How it gave new life to a sinner,
Its glory with Jesus to share.

If there is a sinner who hears this,
Let God be the One of your choice;
Follow not the ways of destruction,
Humbly heed the words of that Voice.

Fifty years did I pass in evil,
Giving not a thought to the Lord,
But He in His mercy forgave me
When I asked with prayer to be heard.

—E. O. Handy.

When Satan Fills the Heart

When Satan fills the heart of man,
And rules his mind and soul;
He always does whate'er he can
To make him miss the goal.

Of joy, and peace, and happiness,
And all that is good and true;
And makes him think some way is right
That will not take him through.

He filled the heart of Cain with hate,
With envy, grudge, and strife,
Till he reached forth with murderous hand
And took his brother's life.

He filled the heart of old King Saul
With self esteem and pride;
Then disobedience caused his fall;
By God he was denied.

Judas Iscariot's heart was filled
With Satan, greed, and graft;
So he betrayed the Son of Man
For just a little chaff.

Old Satan filled the hearts of both
Ananias and Sapphira;
Whe fell and died at Peter's feet,
Because the two were liars.

When Mother Eve turned down God's Word,
And received the devil's lie;
Then Adam joined in the affair,
And so all men must die.

When Satan fills the heart of man,
His master he will be;
His path will lead to dark despair,
And eternal misery.
—Ulysses Phillips

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I Wonder

I wonder what some saints would do
If God would stir their nest
And make them fly away up north
Or to the south, or east, or west?

Would they move out at God's command?
Or would they lay and slumber,
And disappoint our God of love?
This makes me think and wonder.

You know, dear saints, our God has warned
And this makes me to wonder.
With love grown cold—just luke warm—
How still they sleep and slumber.

Their downy nest so snug and warm
This surely is a blunder.
'Twill jeopardize their chance for heaven.
Why don't they move—I wonder?

How sad 'twill be when they wake up
And see their awful blunder,
And hear the loving Master say,
I know you not—they'll wonder.
—George W. Stephenson, Gerty, Okla.

We may claim to be Christians
With some religious faction;
But when we prove we are Christ's,
We'll put good intentions into action.
—Erle E. F.

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Notice: The Primary Lesson Cards for April, May, June are out of stock.

JESUS DECLARES HIS AUTHORITY

Sunday, May 1, 1949

Printed PortionMark 11:1-11, 15-18
Mark 11:1. And when they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples,

2. And saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him.

3. And if any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither.

4. And as they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him.

5. And certain of them that stood there said unto them, What do ye, loosing the colt?

6. And they said unto them even as Jesus had commanded; and they let them go.

7. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him.

8. And many spread their garments in the way; and others cut down branches off the trees, and strewed them in the way.

9. And they went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, "Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:

10. Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

11. And Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple; and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve.

15. And they come to Jerusalem: and Jesus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers, and the seats of them that sold doves;

16. And would not suffer that any man should carry any vessel through the temple.

17. And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves.

18. And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him, for they feared him, because all the people was astonished at his doctrine.

Memory Verse: And behold, a voice out of the cloud which said, This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased: hear ye him. *Matt. 17:6.*

Practical Truth: We should recognize the authority of Christ and act accordingly.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

In St. John 5:26, 27, we read, "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the son to have life in himself and hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of Man." And we read in *Matt. 28:18*, Jesus said, "All power is given unto me both in heaven and in earth." So we see that Jesus has both power and authority, as it was given him by the Father who owns this vast universe. So Jesus, because of his God-given authority, had a perfect right to send his disciples to the village to get the colt that he would ride into Jerusalem because it belonged to the Father.

When he went into the temple and found the money changers and those who were selling doves for sacrifices at exorbitant prices, he made a scourge and drove them all out of the temple and overthrew the tables of the money changers and the seats of them that sold doves. We hear him telling them, "Is it not written? My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves."

He did this because he had the authority to do it. His father gave him this authority, and God expected his son to use it, and Jesus didn't disappoint his Father, for on one occasion the Father spoke from heaven and said, "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased."

Jesus is the highest authority that we have up to this present time. His everlasting word is with us today as we read from one of his inspired writers, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ that every one may receive the things done in his body according to that he hath done whether it be good or bad." Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men: the Father endowed Jesus with power and authority and he had a perfect right to do all that he did and he still has a perfect right to do with his own what he pleases, "for the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein."

THE CLASH WITH RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY

Sunday, May 8, 1949

Printed Portion *Mark 11:27-33; 12:28-34.*

Mark 11:27. And they come again to Jerusalem: and as he was walking in the temple, there come to him the chief priests, and the scribes and the elders,

28. And say unto him, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority to do these things?

29. And Jesus answered and said unto them, I will also ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.

30. The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? answer me.

31. And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then did ye not believe him?

32. But if we shall say, Of men; they feared the people: for all men counted John, that he was a prophet indeed.

33. And they answered and said unto Jesus, We cannot tell. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Neither do I tell you by what authority I do these things.

12:28. And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29. And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

30. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

32. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:

33. And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

34. And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

Memory Verse: For so is the will of God that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. *1 Peter 2:15.*

Practical Truth: Love for God and man is the essence of all true religion.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

This lesson today is a continuation of last Sunday's lesson. Last Sunday our study was about Christ and his divine authority, and in our lesson today we find the scribes and pharisees contending with Christ for their religious authority. But Jesus soon put them to silence by asking them some questions that they could not answer without condemning themselves. Reading in the 15th ch. of *Matt.* we find where Jesus upbraided the scribes and Pharisees. He said, "Ye hypocrites, Well did *Isaiah* prophecy of you saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Oh, how much we, the saints of God, need holy wisdom so that we will be able to put to silence the ignorance of foolish men, so we are commanded to study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, so we will know how to rightly divide the word of truth.

Many times Jesus answered his opponents by asking them a question and other times he answered them with a parable, and Jesus always put the questions and parables in such a way that they knew what he meant, for a guilty conscience needs no accuser.

When they brought the woman to Jesus taken in adultery, and ask him what he had to say about stoning her to death, Jesus didn't get in a hurry to answer them. When they pressed him for an answer he said, "Let the one of you that is without sin cast the first stone at her." They were all condemned and quickly disappeared.

Let us pray that God will give us more holy wisdom so we will know how to deal with those who oppose the truth, so that we may stand approved unto God.

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JESUS' TEACHINGS ON THE JUDGMENT

Sunday, May 15, 1949

Printed Portion Mark 13:1,2, 28-37

Mark 13:1. And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!

2. And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

28. Now learn a parable of the fig tree: When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:

29. So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.

30. Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.

31. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

32. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

33. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

34. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

35. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

36. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

37. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Memory Verse: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil. Ecc. 12:13, 14.

Practical Truth: Let us remember that God never forgets, unless we repent and turn from our sins we are doomed to destruction.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

In the beginning of this lesson Jesus foretells the destruction of Jerusalem, including the beautiful temple, their place of worship. According to history, this came to pass in A. D. 70. History tells us that more than a mil-

lion Jews were slain with the sword that day and blood flowed from the city in streams and the dead bodies floated in the streams of blood.

The Lord has pronounced judgment upon all who are ungodly, unless they repent. Jesus has authority to execute judgment and his judgment is always just. He never makes a mistake. Jesus foretold the things that would come to pass just preceding his second coming, and he warned all to watch and be ready for we know not the hour of his coming. Read Jude 14-15 to understand what his executing of his final judgment will mean. Also read Luke 21:34-36.

The Lord has hidden the exact time of that day from us but he has warned us to watch for it and be ready for it when it comes. The judgment day will finally come just as all other things he has foretold have or will come to pass. We are told in the Bible that the wages of sin is death, but it takes a lot of people a long time to find it out and so many find it out after it is too late.

In the 9th Psalm we read, "The wicked shall be turned into hell and all nations that forget God." All who read this remember this: when people once get into hell, there is no way out. There is only one way to stay out of hell and that is to repent and be born again and be baptized and get our feet planted in the highway of holiness and stay there until we pass through the gates into the city God has prepared for those who love and obey him. Read the 35th chapter of Isaiah.

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WITH JESUS IN THE UPPER ROOM

Sunday, May 22, 1949

Printed Portion Mark 14:12-25

Mark 14:12. And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?

13. And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: Follow him.

14. And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guest chamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?

15. And he will show you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make ready for us.

16. And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.

17. And in the evening he cometh with the twelve.

18. And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, Verily I say unto you, One of you which eateth with me shall betray me.

19. And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto him one by one, Is it I? and another said, Is it I?

20. And he answered and said unto them, It is one of the twelve, that dippeth with me in the dish.

21. The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had never been born.

22. And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

23. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it.

24. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

25. Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

Memory Verse: If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. St. John 13:17.

Practical Truth: Those who claim to be Christians and neglect or refuse to do all our Lord commanded us to do, rob themselves of heaven and all it would mean to them.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

This meeting in the upper room is a very important event to God's true worshipping people. God's true people worship him in spirit and in truth but many who claim to worship God worship him in form only. In St. John 4, we read, "But the hour cometh and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him." It is very important that we worship God just as we are told to in his word.

As the apostles gathered with Jesus in the upper room we hear Jesus saying to them, "With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer." With Jesus everything worked out to the letter as he planned them. When his disciples asked him about a place where they should prepare the passover supper, he told them just where to find it.

As they were eating the passover supper, Jesus said to the twelve, "Verily, I say unto you, one of you shall betray me," and they asked him, "Is it I?" To get the full account of what the passover supper really means to God's true people, we should read the 13th chapter of St. John. What took place in the upper room that night is of great importance to the Lord's true saints up to this present time, and will be as long as time shall last.

On the same night of the passover supper, the Lord instituted the ordinances of the Lord's supper (the communion) and feet-washing. Of the communion Jesus said, "This do in remembrance of me, for as oft as ye eat this bread and drink this cup ye do shew forth the Lord's death till he comes again." Read 1 Cor. 11:23-29, and honest hearts will surely realize the importance of observing this sacred ordinance at the same time in the upper room. On this memorable night our Lord also instituted the ordinance of feet-washing, and Jesus washed his disciples feet. He said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet." John 13:14. The word 'ought' means: to be under obligation.

Jesus also said, "For I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you." St. John 13:15.

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WATCHING AND PRAYING IN GETHSEMANE

Sunday, May 29, 1949

Printed Portion Mark 14:32-42.

Mark 14:32. And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.

33. And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;

34. And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.

35. And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

36. And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take this cup from me: nevertheless, not what I will, but what thou wilt.

37. And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldst not thou watch one hour?

38. Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

39. And again he went away, and prayed, and spake the same words.

40. And when he returned, he found them asleep again, (for their eyes were heavy,) neither wist they what to answer him.

41. And he cometh the third time, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: it is enough, the hour is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

42. Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand.

Memory Verse: Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Matt. 26:41.

Practical Truth: Gethsemane for Christ meant the ignominious death on the cross. What does it mean to you? We must all go thru Gethsemane before we enter the gates into that City.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Few people, even those claiming to be Christians, in reality, realize the sacredness of Gethsemane. Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane dedicated himself to the terrible ordeal of the judgment hall, and crucifixion, and the silent grave.

It was a terrible ordeal Jesus went thru that night in the garden of Gethsemane where he prayed so earnestly under the heavy burden he was carrying that his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. If people could really understand how much Jesus suffered for all of us poor lost sheep, they surely would be more concerned about the salvation of their souls, for Jesus suffered and died for our sins.

As he prayed to the Father for us, (John:17) we hear him say, "and for their sakes I sanctify myself (that is what he did in Gethsemane) that they also may be sanctified." Jesus suffered without the gate that he might sanctify the people with his own blood.

Yes, he died for us, and it was in Gethsemane that he dedicated himself to this ignominious death on the cross. Yes, he was crucified for us. He tasted death for every man.

He asked his disciples to watch with him while he prayed, but when he returned to them, he found them sleeping. Then he went and prayed again, and again he found them sleeping. He went a little farther and fell on his face and prayed, saying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me, nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt."

"Gethsemane, O sacred place,
Once more I see my Savior's face.

It shines anew with glory now,
And angels smooth his pallid brow.

Oh, let me e'er this scene behold,
Oh, let me hear the story told

Of him who there the victory won,
Who said in prayer, "Thy will be done."

G. Stephenson.