

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Trust and Pray

When cares of life upon you roll,
When darkness comes your way,
And everything seems hard to bear,
Just trust the Lord and pray.

When you have tried to do your best
Each moment of the day,
And no one seems to see or care,
Just trust the Lord and pray.

No matter what your problem be,
Nor what the world may say;
You have to answer for your life—
Just trust the Lord and pray.

O, take your burdens to the Lord,
He'll take them all away;
No matter what your problems be,
Just trust the Lord and pray.

—Harvey Johnson

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The Two Works of Grace

By reading the sacred inspired Word of God, we are taught that no man's salvation is complete until he is sanctified wholly, or has received the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost (John 14:26).

Surrendering and consecrating your life and all unto God forever with asking, seeking, knocking, and believing, will cause the heavenly Father to give his Holy Spirit to you (Luke 11:13). When you have received the gift of the Holy Ghost, which is the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, He will teach you and guide you into all truth (John 16:13). You will then be his "Purchased Possession," purchased and cleansed by faith in his blood, and a possessor of the Holy Spirit, or Holy Ghost, which is as a seal setting you apart as his sacred property until the redemption of your body, which has become his purchased possession. Read about this in the first chapter of Ephesians 13th and 14th verses.

There is a difference between a justified soul and a sanctified soul. A justified soul is one that

has been convicted by the Spirit of God that he is a sinner, that he has sinned against the Lord, transgressed God's law, and is guilty of punishment and death. Godly sorrow comes into his soul and he becomes exceedingly sorry that he has done wrong in the sight of God. A heavy load of sin and guilt is upon his soul, hence he confesses his sins to God and repents of them, asks God to have mercy upon him, to forgive, which God is faithful to do. The sins he has committed are forgiven and blotted out of God's book through faith in his blood, which was a sacrifice for the sins of all men. The heavy load of sin and guilt is taken away, and the soul has peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Spirit of God is with him to help him live free from sin and to do that which is right in the sight of God.

In a justified state, Christ is with you; when baptized with the Holy Ghost or sanctified wholly, he is in you (John 14:17. Read also the 20th verse).

The justified person will soon find that he has a sin nature or the roots of carnality remaining in the heart (Rom. 5:12-19) which needs to be cleansed away by the blood and an infilling of the Holy Spirit, or Holy Ghost is needed.

The disciples of Christ were only in a justified state before they received the Baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost. They manifested carnality at different times before they received the baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost.

On one occasion the Lord with James and John wanted to stay all night in a city, and they were refused. James and John asked about calling fire down from heaven and consuming them, but Jesus rebuked them, saying, "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." Luke 9:54, 55. At another time the sons of Zebedee were desiring to sit one on the Lord's right hand and the other on his left hand in his kingdom. When the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the brethren (Matt. 20:20-25). In this they all manifested the fruits of carnality, two of them wanting to have selfish desires granted and the other ten were envious of them.

Under pressure, Peter denied the Lord and even cursed and swore that he did not know him.

In the first part of 1 Cor. Paul tells us of some that were only justified and showed carnality by making division. Beginning at the third verse of the third chapter, we read, "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal and walk as men?" In the first verse of this chapter he says, "I could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ."

One who is only justified by having his sins blotted out is still in need of having his sin nature destroyed or roots of carnality destroyed or cleansed away by the purging blood of Jesus and the infilling of the Holy Ghost or Spirit of truth, or Comforter. Jude, in writing to the brethren who were cleansed and filled with the Holy Ghost, being preserved, addressed them in this manner, "Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ and called." He continued in the next few verses, "It was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints. The faith that was once delivered to the saints was no doubt the faith that God had given on the day of Pentecost to the 120 who waited for the "Promise of the Father" in the upper room when the purging cleansing fire of the Spirit sat upon each one of them and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth. This faith had never been theirs before then, for the Holy Spirit was to be given as a Comforter after Jesus was crucified, buried, resurrected, and ascended up to heaven. Read John 7:37, 38, and 39.

We read in 1 Thess 4:3, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification: that every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor. In the eighth verse he speaks of God giving unto us his Holy Spirit.

In 1 Thess. 5:23, we read, "And the very God of peace [the same God that brought peace into your soul in justification] sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit, and soul, and body, be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you who also will DO IT."

Consider the experience possessed by those to whom Jude wrote and how Paul wrote that God would preserve the whole spirit, soul, and body blameless unto the coming of the Lord when one is sanctified wholly. One could not expect any greater experience in this world.

In the King James' translation of the Bible, the baptism or the reception of the Comforter in most places is called "Holy Ghost," but not in all places. In the first chapter of Ephesians he speaks of the baptism of the Holy Ghost and calls Him the Holy Spirit of Promise. This harmonizes with the Scripture in Acts 1:4 where the believers were told to wait for the promise of the Father, "which, saith he, ye have heard of me." Read John 14:16, 17, also the 26th verse of the same chapter. Following in the 5th verse of the first chapter of Acts, we read, "For

truly John baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." This took place some ten days later as they all waited for the promise of the Father recorded in the second chapter of Acts.

In Eph. 4:30, we read, "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

In other translations "Holy Spirit" is used instead of "Holy Ghost." Men who are acquainted with languages tell me that the words "Holy Ghost" and "Holy Spirit" are translated into our language from the same word and mean exactly the same thing.

We find that the baptism of the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit is referred to in different manners and by different words of expression. He is called the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, Holy Spirit of Promise. Those who have received Him are referred to as wholly sanctified as in 1 Thess. 5:23 and in the first verse of Jude, "Sanctified by God the Father." And in other places: a pure heart, perfect love, "Christ in you the Hope of Glory." (Col. 1:27).

We now turn to the second chapter of Acts and read the first few verses where it tells of the believers receiving the "Promise of the Father," which is recorded there as the "Baptism of the Holy Ghost."

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 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."

You will notice that the tongues of fire sat upon each of them as they were filled with the Holy Ghost. Fire, literally speaking, purifies and cleanses. The doctors of earth put their instruments in boiling hot water to purify and cleanse them before they perform an operation; so this fire that sat upon each of them symbolizes the Holy Spirit fire cleansing and purifying the soul. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. We see then that the cleansing and purifying took place when the Holy Ghost was coming in and setting the disciples apart for God's sacred use, giving them power to witness for him. He was sealing them, or marking them as God's purchased possession. You will notice in the 4th verse that they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance. Here the same person of the God-head called "Holy Ghost" in the first part of the verse is called the "Spirit," which harmonizes with the promise of giving us the "Spirit of truth" as recorded in John 14:17, also as in John 16:13.

Now let us turn to the tenth chapter of Acts and read about the Gentiles receiving the Holy Ghost. It is recorded in this chapter how God let a sheet down from heaven before Peter in a vision, and in the sheet were all manner of beasts and creeping things, and a voice said to Peter, "Rise, kill and eat." But Peter

refused, telling the Lord that he had never eaten anything common or unclean. But God spoke and said, "What God has cleansed, that call not thou common." Peter understood that the Gentiles were to hear the Word of God by his mouth.

Peter then went to Cornelius, a Gentile, with the three men which were sent after him, and preached to them. It is recorded in the 44th verse: "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them that heard the word." The circumcised who were with Peter were astonished because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. You will notice that in this record no mention was made of any fire or cleansing and purifying.

Now turn to Acts 15:7, and see what Peter said when he related the incident of the Gentiles receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, "And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the gospel, and believe. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bear them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us: [Now, notice carefully] and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith." Even though nothing was said in the first record concerning the purifying of the Gentiles' hearts, yet Peter makes it plain that their hearts were purified when they received the gift of the Holy Ghost. So when the Scriptures speak of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, we also understand that their hearts were purified, or sanctified, and that is why it is often mentioned in the Bible as sanctification, for they both go together. When the Scriptures speak of a soul being sanctified, we understand that he has received the gift of the Holy Ghost, and when they speak of one being baptized by the Holy Ghost, we understand that he has been sanctified, cleansed, and purified.

When people put the stress on the Holy Ghost and omit the cleansing and purifying which accompanies every true Holy Ghost baptism, they will throw themselves open to being deceived, and they will often get some kind of a ghost but not the true Holy Ghost which God gives. That is why there is so much false holiness in the world, which brings disgrace upon the cause of God, and so many unseemly demonstrations and actions and false visions and deceiving dreams with miracle working and signs and wonders; for the unclean spirit like a frog is now come out of the false prophet, which represents sectism, and is deceiving the people by the thousands. Read Rev. 16:12, 13, 14.

Brethren, let us keep loving the crucified way, lest we be like many in the world today who have been given strong delusions because they loved not the truth, the self-denying way with Jesus. Read about this in the second chapter of 2 Thess., beginning with the 12th verse. Let us be wise and keep loving the self-denying route, setting our affections on things above and letting our life be hid with Christ in God that when he appears we will also appear with Him in glory (Col. 3:1, 2, 3.) —Fred Pruitt.

Following God as Dear Children

"Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savor." Eph. 5:1, 2.

To follow God as dear children is to walk in love. God's children are peaceable, for God dwells in a peaceable habitation. There is no envy, strife, malice, hate, nor wrangling and jangling in the dear children of God. Jangle is a sound like untuned bells ringing together, or to make discordant sounds. God's dear children love harmony, unity, quietness, and peace, which is music in the ears of God.

1 Thes. 4:9, "But as touching brotherly love, ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another."

These are Jesus' own words, "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Now, how did the Lord love us? Insomuch that he gave his life for us. Then to love one another as he loved us would cause us to give our life for our brethren. There are many ways by which we can lay down our lives for them besides in physical death. Because we love one another, many times we dear children give or sacrifice our opinions and some fanatical idea in order to have peace and harmony (This does not mean to compromise a truth.) The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace (James 3:18). Oh! how much we need to realize what Jesus meant when he said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Yes, behold (look and see) how beautiful and pleasant. We know in heaven there is perfect unity and harmony. Thus we follow God as dear children. Let us remember the world is looking on the saints for an example. So let us bear the fruits of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. Against such there is no law (Gal. 5:22, 23). By this we'll be making attractive the way. Let us also remember that where envying and strife is there is confusion and every evil work (James 3:16). I want to say we need each other, for we are in this great battle of Armageddon, together fighting against sins and evil of every kind, hand in hand with Jesus. We have no time to lose picking and nagging each other, for if we bite and devour one another, "take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." God help us to follow Thee as DEAR CHILDREN. —W. C. McMakin

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

Mr. and Mrs. B. M. McReynolds, owners and operators of Monark Springs Grocery, wish to express their thanks and appreciation to all who attended the camp-meeting at Monark for their kindness and cooperation while here, hoping to see you all next year.

"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

The meeting at Hoffman, Okla. was a success. Six souls were saved and thirty-two took part in the ordinance services. Visiting ministers were: Bro M. J. Phillips and wife of Boley; Bro. U. Phillips of Dover; Bro Manly Spears and Sister Hunter of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Sister Salassa Griffin of Boley; Bro. R. Walter of Kenta, Okla.; Bro. Sam Barton, Bro Charles Smith, and another brother of Tulsa.

We are requesting your prayers that the Lord have His way with us. Your saved bro. W. W. Crawley.

Editorials

We are greatly interested in the readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper, and we do pray God to make us a servant of much value to all of them in giving out the truth of the Scriptures in a plain simple manner to feed the soul and bring edification and strength from God into their hearts and lives.

The paper was not printed for the month of August because the editor and most of the office workers were in campmeetings during part of the month of June, all of July, and part of the month of August.

The first campmeeting which we attended was at Hammond, La. where we were refreshed and built up in soul. We were delighted to have the privilege of again associating with the saints in the south, and partake of their hospitality and heavenly fellowship. The campmeeting there was favored by the Lord and the gospel was preached in power and demonstration of the Spirit. As usual, the Holy Spirit did his office work of convicting and bringing godly sorrow upon sinners. Quite a number were saved, some believers were sanctified wholly, and bodies were healed. The saints were refreshed in soul, edified, and built up in God.

From the Hammond meeting we went on to Charleston, W. Va. The campmeeting at that place was also greatly blessed of God. In this meeting we met some brethren and sisters whom we had not seen before and the fellowship was sweet and heavenly. The Lord worked in this meeting in a very precious way. Some who had been misled got cleared up and some who were anxiously looking for the true church were completely satisfied when they found the true saints of God, and they took their stand for the whole truth. God is surely bringing together his true children, for the evidence is plain to be seen. The ransomed of the Lord are coming to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads. They have joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing is fleeing away. This was quite noticeable in the W. Va. campmeeting. Among others who came out of sectism and took their stand for the full truth of the Scriptures were Bro. and Sister Reynolds of Point Pleasant, W. Va., and Bro. and Sister Carter of Huntington, W. Va. The Lord made a mighty stir in the camp as the word of God was expounded with power and authority from heaven. The anointing in the pulpit was generally rich and heavenly, as freedom in speech was granted by the ruler of the universe.

Bro. and sister Spaur were weighted quite heavily with the burden of the meeting, and God gave them supernatural strength. They held up in an amazing manner. The other saints there shared the burden, and it was a glorious and heavenly place to be. You will find a report of this meeting inserted on another page of this paper.

From this meeting our company, which consisted of six, Bro. Hyrum and Geneva Ray of Guthrie, and his mother of Knoxville, Tenn., Bro. Harvey Johnson

and Bro. Kenneth Flynn, workers in the "Lord's Print Shop," and your editor, came to the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo., and greatly enjoyed the meeting and association of the saints. The Lord also worked in this meeting and lasting good was done as souls sought the Lord for their needs. Sins were forgiven. Some souls were sanctified wholly, or baptized by the Holy Ghost and rejoiced in the indwelling Comforter.

At the present writing (Aug. 10th) we are back at Guthrie and in the midst of the State Campmeeting at this place, which is well attended. God is manifesting himself in a very precious way. Souls are getting saved and believers sanctified wholly, bodies healed, and our souls fed on angels' food. The Devil is on the run and God is being glorified.

Soon the office force will be settling down to the Lord's business in the printing shop, and tracts, books, and papers will be printed continually and sent forth to hungry souls throughout the land. The Lord is encouraging us greatly in printing and sending forth the pure unadulterated gospel of Christ, and souls are getting saved by reading the literature. Many write us of how greatly their souls have been fed by reading the "Faith and Victory" paper, and also of how their vision has been cleared on the Scriptures and their souls are rejoicing and thriving on the Word of God.

Every soul whom God saves he also calls to follow in his steps, and he says in his Word that he will quicken our mortal bodies by his Spirit which dwells in us. God expects some service from every soul that he saves. There is no such thing as a lazy sanctified soul, for His life in the soul will quicken your body to be led of his Spirit and be active in one way or another in fulfilling your place in the body of Christ, which is functioning in the world but not of the world.

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It seems that some do not know how to get started working for the Lord. Dear soul, just surrender to God and free yourself from entanglements in this world, then say as Isaiah said, "Here am I, send me." You will surely hear from heaven if you are really in this surrendered condition.

One time I wanted to be more active in the service of the Lord, and in telling Him about this, I said, "Lord, I want to be a minute man for you." The Lord definitely led me to hold meetings at the county poor farm where poor down cast men and women were kept. The Lord did a good work there for several years and some poor old souls were saved before he took them away from this world.

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A few months ago the Lord stirred some saints in California concerning the need of issuing a paper for children. Sister Vera Forbes had been getting children together in different localities around her and teaching them about Jesus. The interest had become so great that she had children's meeting three days a week and needed about 300 children's papers to give to the children. She talked to my daughter Anna Marie Miles about the burden of her heart, and

Anna Marie, being also interested and burdened for the children, was an eager listener. Sister Forbes suggested that Anna Marie edit a children's paper. She wrote to us about it. God was also working here. He had just supplied the print shop with another Linotype machine and made us feel the burden with them for the children's paper, and thus it was given birth. It has amazed us to learn how many of our readers were eager for this paper for the children. Some have ordered it for Sunday school classes, and others are having rolls sent to them to hand out to children living around them. Bro. Charles Weir of Powers, Oregon secured the addresses of all the children in his saw-mill town and sent them in to have the paper sent to each one, paying the subscription price himself. This is a sample of what many others can do in their home town for the Lord and growing children. Planting the truths of the gospel on the tender plastic mind of the child is a great work for God. A child thus taught will never be able to get away from the truths, and it will be easy for God in their future life to convict them of sins and bring godly sorrow upon them, even though they may go into sin. Often, by getting the little paper in the home through the children, the parents will be reached by the simple gospel truths. Those children that run the streets and have very little parental care are the most needy kind, and their souls are precious in the sight of God. To those who are willing to deny themselves and bear the reproach of the cross God will show them work to do all about them, for nearly all people are in sin, even though they may be professors of some kind of religion. A single copy of the children's paper, "The Beautiful Way," will be sent to any address in the U. S. for 60 cents per year or in rolls of five copies or more to one address for fifty cents each subscription per year. They are printed and sent out every three months and your child can have a different paper each week in the year in these quarterly rolls. Send your orders in today. Do something for perishing souls.

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"Russia Delays Permission For Noah's Ark Journey"

"American searchers for Noah's ark Friday were branded by Moscow press reports as an intelligence operation directed against the soviets.

"Dr. A. J. Smith, heading the expedition, arrived in Turkey four weeks ago to obtain permission to climb Mount Ararat in search of possible remains of the ark.

"But the area leading to Ararat near the Russian-Turkish frontier is a strictly guarded military zone and any permission to go through is granted only by the minister's council decision following clearance from the general staff and ministries of education and interior.

"The stumbling block now seems to be permission from the interior ministry, but the party feels confident permission will be granted.

"The Moscow radio and press often have charged that persons wanting to climb Mount Ararat were

not looking for the ark, but were intelligence agents."

The above news was taken from the "Daily Oklahoma Times," and will give our readers some knowledge of how the enemy is trying to hinder the establishment of facts that God has preserved Noah's Ark as an outstanding witness for the statements of the inspired Word of God being true. In these last days the world is being filled with atheism and infidelity by the return of the old dragon power and the mighty working power and deceiving ways of the "three unclean spirits like frogs," which are deceiving multitudes of those who profess religion, playing "god" to them, but are nothing more or less than spirits of devils working miracles, deceiving the religious kings of the earth and practically the whole world to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty (Rev. 16:13, 14).

The Battle of Armageddon is raging and will continue to rage and grow more fierce until, spiritually speaking, blood will come out of the winepress of God's wrath, even unto the horses' bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." Rev. 14:20. (A furlong is one-eighth of a mile).

God's wrath is increasing upon this deluded Christ-professing world.

We still have in stock a few of the books entitled, "The Reported Discovery of Noah's Ark." They will be sent post paid to any address in the U. S. for \$1.00 each.

The following news was received after the above was written: "Reliable sources said late Monday that the Turkish ministers' council has granted permission for four Americans to search for remains of Noah's ark on Mount Ararat."

o o o Obituaries

Mrs. David H. Robertson, born May 31, 1889, passed from this life June 28, 1949, age 60 years and 28 days. Her husband preceded her in death just a year and a day. Her presence is greatly missed by her daughter, Norma (Mrs. Earl Langenstine), and 2 sons, Willard and Wilbur; 2 grandchildren, her mother, (Mrs. F. M. Williamson), 6 brothers, 4 sisters, and many other relatives, besides numerous friends and saints.

She lived a devoted saintly life all the years we knew her, always trusting the Lord for the healing of her body along with the keeping of her soul, and in her last illness she trusted Him to the end, depending on the prayers of the saints for relief from pain—she died like she lived: trusting her Savior. Her life was an inspiration to the saints which now helps give us courage to go all the way with the Lord. When she departed this life, she was in her daughter's home with saints and loved ones at her bedside, and one sister said, it seemed God's presence lingered long after her passing.

Her body was laid to rest beside that of her husband in the Robertson cemetery where also the service was held. Funeral texts Psalms 116:15; 2 Sam. 12: 21-23.

Mrs. Katherine Key.

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Jackson Palmer was born August 12th, 1847 in the State of Alabama and departed this life June 15th, 1949 at the home of his daughter in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at the age of 102 years, 10 months and 3 days.

He was united in marriage to Susan Irvin in 1870. To this union ten children were born. His wife and six children preceded him in death. He leaves the following to mourn his passing. Three daughters, Eliza B. Winn of Guthrie, Okla., Josie Winn and Katie Burrough of Oklahoma City, Okla., one son, Julius Palmer of Waco, Texas, 17 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, and many relatives and friends.

Seven years ago he affiliated himself with the Church of God, and continued in this faith until death came.

Funeral services were conducted in the saints chapel at Guthrie by Fred Pruitt and the remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Seward, Oklahoma. Text used was Job 14:14: "If a man die shall he live again?"

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Annie Victoria Cope was born in Noble County, Ohio August 7, 1875. She spent her early years in Ohio, moving to Barton County with her parents in 1882. On December 31, 1894 she was married to Samuel W. Middleton. To this union were born four children, Mrs. Bertha M. Cox of St. Louis, Missouri, John W. Middleton of Los Angeles, California, Floyd Middleton of Nevada, Missouri, and Edith Jameson who preceded her in death.

She departed this life on August 3, 1949 at the age of 73 years, 11 months and 26 days. Funeral service was conducted by Fred Pruitt. Text Heb. 9:27: "And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." The remains were laid to rest at Arkard, southwest of Lamar, Missouri.

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Sister Rosina Stell was born in Vernon, Louisiana, in 1865 and was married to Frank Stell in her early days.

She was united to the New Hope Baptist Church in her early age and she left Vernon, Louisiana, and moved to Wharton, Texas, in 1897. She lived there ten years. From Wharton, Texas, she moved to Boley, Oklahoma, in 1907.

To this marriage were born eight girls and four boys.

She was united to the Church of God in Boley in 1914, and she remained a member until her death. She loved her church and attended regularly as long as she was able. When she became too feeble to attend, she would ask for the saints to come to see her and sing and pray with her. She departed this life May 14, 1949, at 9:28 o'clock.

She leaves three daughters: Mrs. Mattie of Eufaula; Mrs. Lizzie Delce of Calvert, Texas; and Mrs. Iena Pete of Galesburg, Illinois; and four sons: Mr. Cleo Stell of Little Rock, Arkansas; Mr. Willie Stell of Boley; and Mr. Charlie Stell of Stockton, California; and Mr. Andrew Stell of Kansas City, Kansas; Twenty grandchildren and twenty-six great-grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends mourn her passing.

Funeral service by W. W. Crawley. Text 2 Cor. 5:1.

o o o Meeting Reports

So. Charleston, W. Va.—To the dear saints scattered abroad,—It is with joy that we greet you again in the dear name of Jesus. Truly our hearts are rejoicing in the love of God, and we are praising Him for His blessings, and above all, for the good campmeeting He gave us here in So. Charleston.

Outsiders said it could never be that such a few people could ever think of a campmeeting, and some of the saints wondered if it could be possible, for as we looked at the natural standpoint it looked discouraging, espec-

ially after we made the announcement in the "Faith and Victory." My husband had no work, and only one brother who had recently taken his stand for the truth was working. He had never seen a people that trusted in God to supply every need. He also wondered if it could be possible. But we moved on in the faith of our God. We were all consecrated to work as well as pray.

Our meeting was to start the 17th of July. The saints began to arrive a few days before, and then our God began to bless. He wonderfully supplied and took care of every need. He also blessed with anointing for the messages of truth from time to time without a pulpit committee or man rule of any description. Ten states were represented by saints and ministers present. All seemed to rejoice in hearing the old time truth preached by ministers filled with the Holy Ghost. Eleven were baptized, among whom were some who took their stand for the old time truth as preached in this reformation. Thirty-six saints took part in the ordinance meeting of Feet Washing and the Lord's Supper.

Every need was fully met through free will offerings, when at the beginning it looked very discouraging from a financial standpoint, for which we give God all the glory who has never been known to fail one of His trusting children.

This being the first campmeeting the old time saints have had in Charleston, there was much rejoicing to know as the truth went forth the walls of Zion were being rebuilt as of old. There was a heavenly atmosphere all through the meeting because of the sweet spirit of unity in the hearts of His children. All of the saints here feel greatly repaid for every sacrifice they made, and the effects of the campmeeting is still being felt in our hearts in praises to our God. We wish to thank all the dear saints that were so kind to us.

Many stayed in our home and were kind in so many personal ways. While we were busy at the kitchen, I would come back to the house and find little deeds of love, dresses pressed and mended—oh, so many little acts of love from the precious saints. And all were so good to help in the kitchen. We can never find words to thank one and all. How true is the precious Word that God's people sit together in heavenly places and we are all workers together with him. May the dear Lord bless one and all, is our prayer.

I must say also that this meeting stirred the enemy. He tried to get in some crooked doctrine, but he was defeated, for which we thank God.

We are still in the battle for the Lord, and tests and trials will come, but our help cometh from our God, therefore we are not afraid what man shall do. —Sis. Spaur.

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REVIVAL MEETING

Three and one-half miles south of Prairie Grove, Ark. at the Center Point School House, a revival meeting will begin on Wednesday night, August 31st.

Bro. Sam Wilson and Bro. E. Abbott of California will be the ministers. Everybody is invited to come and share in the good truth presented at this meeting.

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Awake

Awake thou that sleepest and arise from the dead and Christ shall give thee light. When a person is dead in trespasses and sins it takes the miraculous power of Christ to resurrect him. As soon as Zion (church) travaileth, she brought forth her children. Isaiah 66:8.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death has no power. Rev. 20:6.

Awake to righteousness and sin not, for some have not the knowledge of God. 1 Cor. 15:34. And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins, wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience, among whom we all had our conversation in times past, in the lust of our flesh. . . and were by nature the children of wrath even as others, but God who is rich in mercy, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ (By grace are ye saved) and hath raised us up together and made us to sit together in heavenly places. Eph. 2:1.

Verily, verily I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life. Verily, verily I say unto you, the hour is coming and now is when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of man, and they that hear shall live. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:53-56.

—Mrs. Charles Reese.

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Women of the Flesh and in the Spirit

At one time I felt God could use me to bring messages of truth, and He did give me messages according to my ability. The Scriptures in 1 Tim. 2:11, 12 and 1 Cor. 14:34 have always bothered me and some disapprove of women's work in the church, so I let the enemy bar me out. I knew God used women in his service and that his Spirit was poured out on all flesh, that he was no respecter of persons, also that there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, male nor female in his kingdom. I could see no way out. The Scriptures mentioned seemed so definite to me. I also knew that if they meant what they seemed to mean to me they contradicted other Scriptures in the Bible. I knew God did not allow that, so recently I began to read and look earnestly unto the Lord for Him to reveal this thing to me. I felt I received a sudden revelation which satisfies me perfectly. No doubt some will not accept what I have to say, but I trust that all who have the true Spirit of God will see that it corresponds with other Scriptures in the Bible. No doubt this issue has confused many throughout the time of this reformation.

First let us consider that there is a fleshly man or woman and a spiritual man or woman. We read in Luke 24:39 that the Spirit has not flesh and bones. In John 6:63 we read that the spirit quickeneth and the flesh profiteth nothing. In Acts 2:4 we read, "And they were ALL filled with the Holy Ghost and began to SPEAK" etc.

1 Cor. 6:17, "But he that is joined unto the Lord is ONE spirit." Now in Acts 2:17 we read, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my spirit upon ALL flesh and your sons and YOUR DAUGHTERS shall prophesy." 18th verse, "And on my servants

and on my hand maidens I will pour out in those days of MY SPIRIT and THEY shall prophesy."

It is recorded that Anna was a prophetess in Luke 2:36. In Paul's writings we have record of women laboring in the gospel, and Philip's daughters prophesied.

Now consider the fleshly part and then come back to the difference between the two.

There are several Scriptures which tell us the duties of husband and wife. There are Scriptures which tell how men and women should act and dress. Eph. 5:22-24, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything." Now if a person were to take this literally, if your husband told you to swear or lie, or cheat, you must do it. Not so. Christ is our head spiritually; husband is our head in the flesh. We must obey as unto the Lord.

We have a spiritual duty and a fleshly duty. God tells us what both are. There are many other Scriptures to consider that you likely know pertaining to a woman's duty and a man's duty in the home, etc.

Hurrying on, we shall now consider the text Scriptures of this article. First, 1 Tim. 2:11, 12, "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." Read verses 13, 14, 15.

Now this Scripture used to stand out boldly to me and mean that a woman could not teach Sunday school, etc. Since God has so wonderfully revealed it to me now, that has been put out of the way. If you will note reading down through the chapter, as in verse 9, it is speaking of temporal things or fleshly things. Now as I see it, these two Scriptures, verses 11, 12, mean a duty of a wife toward a husband or a woman toward man in a worldly sense. The woman is not to be loud nor bossy, but quiet and submissive. She is not to teach a man nor usurp authority. For example, a woman should not lord over a man and tell him what he can do, how to do it, where, etc. She must not teach him what to do, but be quiet and let him rule as in the Lord. It is such a joy and satisfaction to me to have this cleared up and this one chain of bondage broken. This Scripture has nothing to do with teaching a Bible class, for when she teaches, if God qualifies her, it is in the Spirit and not in the flesh; because pertaining to spiritual things we are all one in the spirit, neither male nor female. The Spirit teaches the spirit. The Lord poured out his Spirit on ALL flesh and who can say who can speak? Quench not the Spirit, whether it be in male or female. The female teacher must not impose her own thoughts on the congregation, neither the male, but only as the Spirit leadeth and teacheth. I trust you can now see the difference between the spiritual and the fleshly part.

Now consider 1 Cor. 14:33-35. In this chapter Paul is speaking about confusion in the churches and telling the Corinthians that God is not the author of confusion, but of peace. Now he says, "Let YOUR women keep silence in the churches, for it is not permitted unto them to speak." Now if this meant that all women should not speak, we women would not dare to say anything, yet the fact is established that we may prophesy and that there is no difference as to male or female in the kingdom of God, hence we must recognize that this means to speak in some special way. Read the next verse: "And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home, for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

The Lord impresses that Paul meant contention be-

tween man and wife. Suppose a meeting were going on and my husband voiced his opinion on a certain matter and I would say, "No, that's wrong; it should be this way." And start a disagreement between us and argue, so to speak. In this case, the woman must (in the flesh) be subject (again) unto her own husband and not speak. If they want to smooth out their differences, wait until they get home, because it truly would be a shame for them to speak or argue in the church. This would make confusion and God is not the author of confusion, but of peace. Verse 40, "Let all things be done decently and in order."

As for the qualifications of a pastor, prophet, etc., where the Spirit is concerned, there is neither male nor female, so all Scripture, whether addressed to man or woman is given for the benefit of both.

Oh! I praise the Lord that the truth sets us free. This thing has bound me, but now I feel free. I only hope this writing will make it clear to others. "Quench not the Spirit." We need the Spirit of God to discern the true meaning of the Scriptures; there is no other way.

—Sister Margaret Brant.

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Ind.—Greetings, dear saints everywhere, in Jesus' dear name,—I am glad I can praise God for my salvation and a saved companion, and I feel God would have me write this to glorify his dear name.

I have been saved a year in September. Since I was a small child I had had a very bad case of hemoroid, and had suffered very much as we had four children before I was saved. I was anointed by Sister Minnie Brown and the dear saints of our small congregation prayed for my healing, and, thank God, I am healed. The doctor said if I ever had any more children it would kill me, but we have a little nine-month's old boy and did not even have a doctor, only my husband and God. Maybe this will help someone who needs healing to know where to go. We cannot praise God enough. He has healed many times in our own family. So pray for us that we'll always be seeking a closer walk with God. Leona Walker

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BUTTON UP YOUR LIP

If you heard a bit of gossip,
Whether false or whether true,
Be it of a friend or stranger,
Let me tell you what to do:
Button up your lip securely
Lest the tale you should repeat
Bring sorrow unto someone
Whose life is not so sweet.

If you know of one who yielded
To temptation long ago,
But whose life has since been blameless,
Let me tell you what to do:
Button up your lip securely,
His the secret; God alone
Has the right to sit in judgment,
Treat it as to you unknown.

Sometimes life is filled with troubles,
Oft its burdens are severe,
Do not make it any harder
By a careless word or sneer.
Button up your lip securely
'Gainst the words that bring a tear,
But be swift of words of comfort,
Words of praise and words of cheer.

—Selected by Mrs. H. A. Decocq

Young People's Section

Ambitions

A Royal Prince, yet lived he most humble,
Set upon the Hill of Fame,
In the city of Knowledge and Honor,
I sought a title to claim.

I declared I would dwell in that city
Where all the worldly-wise go.
I would make me a name and a fortune,
No need nor want would I know.

I beheld then my Savior Lord Jesus,
Who died the lowly to save;
At the castles of Hope and Ambition,
His life on the cross he gave.

"How hardly shall they that have riches
Enter into the kingdom of God,"
These words of my Master reproved me,
My hopes were useless as sod.

I have given my all to my Savior:
My time, my talents, myself.
I am storing my treasures in Heaven,
My hope in Jesus is cleft.

—Ruthe Byers.

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Neglect

Heb. 2:1-3, "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"

I believe this exhortation is to the children of God, warning us to give earnest heed to the truths we have heard from time to time, and not let them "run out as leaking vessels," the margin says. And if we neglect to do the things we have heard, how shall we escape eternal punishment? Many of us have been privileged to attend some campmeetings this summer and have heard wonderful truths from God's Word. Perhaps we felt good in our souls as we listened to the Word, knowing that our conscience was clear before God and we were measured to all the truth. And again, it may have found us short on different lines; more light began to shine on our pathway and the Lord revealed greater truths to our hearts and showed us places where we must move up. Perhaps we must confess a fault to someone. We have a willingness in our hearts to do it, and our intentions are good, but as we go back to our daily tasks, we become taken up with the cares of life and forget the promise we made to the Lord. If

we keep neglecting to do a thing when the Lord shines light on our pathway, it will finally be counted as sin to us, but if we have a willingness in our hearts and straighten the matter up at the first opportunity, then our record is clear before God and our conscience is tender where we can feel other impressions from God; but when we neglect to do one thing the Lord shows us to do, it is likely we will neglect something else before long, and we will find ourselves getting lean in our souls and unable to hear the voice of the Lord.

Paul exhorted Timothy to "Neglect not the gift that is in thee—" 1 Cor. 12:5. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." Read Matt. 25:14-29. Notice the eighteenth verse, "But he that had received one talent went and digged in the earth and hid his lord's money." If we are not careful we shall be as this man, and at the judgment, hear the words that were spoken to this man: "And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

However small may seem the place God has called us to fill, let us do our very best and then if we are "faithful over a few things, he will make us ruler over many things." Our hearts are made sad as we know of people who were once used wonderfully in the work of God, but as months and years passed by they began to neglect their souls welfare and give more attention to their temporal welfare. "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier." 2 Tim. 2:4. If we neglect the gift the Lord has given us, it will be taken away from us.

Even though we may not be called to do some great work, let us not neglect the little places to fill around us. There are many opportunities for young people. If the Lord impresses you to visit someone elderly or one who is sick, do not put it off. Our time to do something is not always God's time. What part are we taking in prayer meeting? Have we neglected to watch and pray during the week, and feel almost too tired to go to meeting, much less take a part in it? How about the Sunday School? Have we neglected reading the lesson because there were six days in which we had so much to do we just could not find time to read it and meditate upon it?

Dear ones, let us pray the Lord to open our eyes to the little things we can do in this great harvest field. Souls are hungering and thirsting for the truth right around us and yet we neglect them. If we can do nothing more, I am sure all of us are able to hand out tracts and literature to people. If we could be the means of seeking out one honest soul it would be worth more than our time and labor spent, and we will have treasure in heaven.

There is work for each one of us to do. The Lord has a special work for you and however small it may

be, do not neglect it. Perhaps you feel impressed to write a letter today, but you have so much to do you put it off until tomorrow. Tomorrow comes and you do not feel burdened for the soul like you were the day before, and your letter, if written at all, fails to be the encouragement to some soul who needed help. May the Lord bless these few thoughts and let it not be as the song says, "Through neglect I'm lost at last."

—Ruby Williamson.

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Helps for Young Christians

Remember that so long as you live in this sinful world, you will be tempted, tested, and tried; for all are tempted. It is not a sin to be tempted, but it is a sin to yield to the tempter's suggestions to do evil. The devil is a liar, and no doubt will try to make you think you were never saved, or else that some time since the day you were saved, you lost the joy. But if you know in your heart that you have not sinned, and the Lord does not put his finger on any sin, then do not listen to the suggestion to doubt your experience.

Everyone makes mistakes, but a mistake is not a sin. You may have to ask forgiveness of someone for a mistake if the Lord leads you to do so, and also ask the Lord to forgive you when you make mistakes. Read the First Epistle of John. The Bible is our Guide Book. If we carefully study it each day, we shall grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus. Stand upon the promises—they never fail nor change. Be much in prayer, for "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

One great temptation to the newly converted is to live by feelings instead of by faith. The Bible mentions feelings only once: Jacob blessed the wrong boy because he felt like Esau! First is facts, then faith, and then feelings follow; but the enemy wants you to reverse the order of these. If you are not sure that you have the witness of the Spirit, ask the Lord for Him, and keep on expecting Him to assure you of your relationship with Him. There are also other ways of knowing that we are the Lord's children: Do we love the Christians and have fellowship with them? Is the burden of sin gone? Do we love the things God loves and hate the things He hates? Do we love the Bible and secret prayer? Do we have complete victory over sin? The last question does not receive an affirmative answer from one who is not yet sanctified.

The carnal mind tries to gain the mastery over the spiritual mind continually and causes one to live an "up and down" life. "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed?" If not, do not delay to seek the Lord for this wonderful blessing of holiness, "without which no man shall see the Lord." In order to obtain a pure heart, all known traits of the old man or the sin of the heart that the human race has

inherited from Adam must be confessed to God. Then consecrate all to the Lord and turn everything over to Him and let Him own you for all time and for all eternity, and all that may come into your life from now on. When your consecration is complete, then your faith can and will take hold on the promises of God and He does His part in the transaction. His part is to cleanse the carnal nature and fill you with the Holy Spirit.

—Thelma Davidson

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Kansas—Dear young people,—Greetings in the name of our precious Lord and Savior! Surely it is a privilege to serve the Lord and to do His will. The whole desire of my heart is to serve Him with my whole heart and to not let anything come between Him and me. The Lord is my all in all, and in Him I put my trust.

We have just returned from the campmeeting at Guthrie where I received much food for my soul. At the first of the meeting it seemed as if the enemy was bringing a spirit of unconcern over everyone present. Then we all prayed earnestly for the Lord to rebuke that spirit and to help us to be more prayerful. Then it seemed as if the Lord truly blessed in the meetings. One night several souls were saved, for which we are very thankful to the Lord.

The young people that are living for the Lord are really an encouragement to me. It does my soul good to see other young people coming through the tests victorious, that the enemy is putting in their way. The devil has tried me and tempted me, but, thank the Lord, I am coming through on top! It takes prayer and reading the Word to be able to win the battle. Just in the past year I can see the young people settling down in the Lord more and more. It is important that each of us be grounded on the Rock so that when the storms come and the winds blow we can stand steadfast in the Lord. Oh, do we realize what a privilege it is to serve the Lord?

I was talking to one of the workers at the Publishing House and I was told that there was no material for the Young People's Section yet. It made me feel rather sad for I knew there were enough young people that there should be several testimonies and articles in for the paper each month. Let each of us pray more about what the Lord would have us to do for our section of the paper.

I desire the prayers of each of the saints very much that I will serve the Lord all the days of my life, no matter what the cost may be.

Your sister in Christ,

Marilyn Beisley

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Michigan—Dear Ones in Christ: I wish to report Victory in my soul. I am encouraged to press on and live for God. I have been tried and tempted thus far but I still am marching on for Jesus. I desire to be a mighty soldier of the cross and do all He wants me to do. Quite a while ago I was suffering with a toothache. I told the Lord if He would heal me I would give Him the praise. Something seem to say—Be prayed for and you shall be healed. It was ulcerated and swelled up. I was prayed for on Sunday. The swelling went down and the pain left and it never ached again until the other day the devil tried to bring it back but I resisted it, asked God to rebuke it and it's gone. If God don't take the tooth out I will keep it. It is as much a part of my body as my fingers or foot.

I love the Lord and I am going through with Him. Pray for me and all the saints here at Kalamazoo.

Love in the one way,

Bro. Marvin Rice.

CORRESPONDENCE

Colo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, Greetings in our dear Saviour's name: I have so much to thank the Lord for, and especially for salvation. I have victory today as I write and am in good health and thank the Lord for it all. Some time ago I wrote in to request prayer for the healing of my daughter who lives in Illinois, near Chicago. She has just written that the lumps are almost gone and we know the Lord healed her as she did not submit to the operation three doctors wanted to perform. They evidently thought it was cancer but how glad I am that nothing is too hard for Him to heal. If there are any Saints in Chicago or near Blue Island, Illinois, will you please communicate with me? I wish it were so she could attend services and surely in a city that size there must be some Saints.

I have another request I wish to put in. On the 24th of this month I wish all the Saints would be agreed for the healing of Mrs. Sarah Miller who has a tumor. It is growing and bothers her at night so she doesn't rest well. She is sweetly saved and lives to all the light she has. She is up in years and has a large family, and this would mean so much to all as they desire the healing of their mother so much. We sent to California for an anointed handkerchief for her and some will be fasting on that day so anyone who feels like doing the same, God will surely bless you for helping us get hold of the Lord for this dear sister. There are other things this sister needs that I will not mention but the Lord knows all about it. May the Lord richly bless you each one. Thank you each one for your prayers for us.

Your sister in Christ,

Lucy D. Phebus.

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Ohio—Dear Sirs: Recently I received a tract from a friend entitled "An Angel Visit" published at your place which I read with great interest. I would like to get a number more like it.

I do not doubt in the least, the truth of this happening because of a similar experience I had myself in September, 1943.

I've been bedfast for eleven years this past April 21st. Though well on the road to complete recovery now, I was in a very serious condition a number of years, feeling as though I may be dying many times.

At the time I had the most wonderful experience in all my life. I had not set foot on the floor for about two and one-half years. A short time before the visit I was feeling very badly and discouraged one day when I prayed, "Help me to feel Thy Holy Spirit near me to comfort and to guide."

About two weeks later we had retired early; the doors were shut and window shades drawn and all lights out. After sleeping about an hour, I awoke to find a creature bending over as though watching me near the head of my bed. It appeared to be a half-grown girl. It was dressed in the most beautiful garment I ever beheld in my life. It was snow-white and shining, brighter than anything I ever saw. From where I lay I gazed straight at the plump little flesh-colored hands that clasped the knees, catching in the garment with many gathers. I gazed spell-bound; it seemed I could not move my eyes; I gazed straight at the hands clasping the knees; but my line of vision took in from the waist-line to the floor. The arms were bare as far as I could see, about to the elbows. From the waist-line to the knees the garment, like chiffon in texture, but very full, clung close to its shapely figure; from the knees where it was caught in by the hands, it fell in ample fullness

to the floor, like an evening gown. I could not see its feet. It seemed I gazed for a long time; then I sat up in bed, and as I turned again to look, the shoulders looked shadowy as it vanished before I could see the head. Strangely enough, weak as I was, I didn't feel the least excited, but on the contrary, very calm as I lay back down and soon fell into peaceful sleep.

A few nights later I dreamed I was telling a minister about the experience and he said, "That was a visitation," and so it seemed.

There are two places in the New Testament that I recall just now where angels in shining garments are mentioned besides the transfiguration of Christ—the angel at the tomb of the risen Christ and the angel who appeared to Cornelius. So I know because of what I have seen with my own eyes that these records are true.

Jesus told Paul that He appeared to him in order that he might be a witness for Him. Likewise, I feel duty bound to tell what I have seen that good Christian people might have renewed courage to be faithful unto the end when their reward will be great. I know there is a better world to come. Also, I do pray that all who read these lines that have not placed their trust in Jesus, will do so immediately, for there is no other way to Heaven but through Him. He died for us, but if we do not accept His atonement it will be of no avail.

A sister in Christ,

Mrs. Gladys Park.

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Mo.—Dear Saints everywhere: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still on the winning side for Jesus, and have victory in my soul over all the power of sin and darkness. Jesus is the only one we can depend on in every trial and test. He is ever near to help us if we only do His will. I was just thinking of the many precious promises He has given us and every one of them is for us if we will live low at His feet and be humble and heed that sweet voice that says, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." What a precious promise, when we get so tired of sin and cannot find rest anywhere in this world. Then if we will come to Jesus and confess our sins, repent of all the wrong we have done and give our hearts to Him, He will forgive us and give us sweet rest to our souls. Then He says He will never leave us or forsake us. Oh how wonderful to have a friend like Jesus who will never leave us no matter how dark the clouds may seem. Remember Jesus is near and will take you through. I have found this true.

I often wonder how anyone that has once known Jesus can turn such a loving Friend away. When He knocks at the door of your heart why don't you unlock and let Him in—He can never come in until you open the door, for it is locked inside and you are the only one that can let Him in. Oh sinner friend, won't you let Him in. He suffered and died for every precious soul. It is not His will that any should be lost. If we go to the lost world it is our choice. There are so many who are ashamed to take the cross and follow Jesus. I heard a lady say she would be ashamed to dress her little girl like the saints dress their children. Well she is ashamed of the cross and our blessed Lord and if we are ashamed of Him before men He will be ashamed of us before the Father and His angels. If we are ashamed to live like God's Word teaches us to live then we are not His child. I am so glad that I am dead to the world and its pleasures. Old things have passed away and all things are new in Christ. If we still hold to just a few of the old things we once loved, how can everything be new? We must give up all for Jesus. Give Him the best you have and I

am sure He will bless you. Wake up and weigh in the balance of God's Word and see if you balance. I am sure if you balance on the Word of God and are willing to obey it in every way He will keep you in His care. It is sad to see so many losing out with God just because they are ashamed of the cross. May God bless every true child of God is my prayer.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Cordelia Stroud.

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The New Song Book Proposition

The saints are praising God for the encouraging prospects of soon having a new song book, with hymns chosen from the "Select Hymns" song book to make up the new one, also a few choice songs lately composed.

This song book proposition was placed before the saints at the Monark Springs campmeeting and at the Oklahoma State campmeeting at Guthrie, and all were delighted with the thought of having a song book with these "Select Hymn" songs to use. The general desire of the saints was that the new book should be entitled, "Evening Light Songs."

The cost of making this song book will be quite large, as the music plates will have to be made, which is very costly. The Standard Engraving Co. of Oklahoma City offered to make the plates for \$3.50 each. If the book contains 450 songs, that alone would cost \$1575.00. There will be much more cost of getting the first edition printed than for later editions. Each saint should feel his or her responsibility in getting this new song book in print, and send money for a plate and a song book, and those whom God blesses with means should donate money for the plate-making. Once we get the plates made, we can reprint the book any time we need a new supply.

The proposition which we have before the saints now, is that every one who can may send five dollars, which will entitle you to one plate and one song book when they are finished. The book will be post paid to you and the plate will be held here at the print shop to be used again when needed. With your payment of \$5.00 you may state the title of your favorite song you desire placed in the book.

Up to date sufficient money has been received with which to pay for 90 song plates. Since we have had the offer of \$3.50 for the making of each plate, we have found a company that will make the plates for some less money, so if your five dollars pays for more than the plate and book costs, the balance over will be used in the cost of printing and making the books. We expect to make 2,000 books for the first edition. The cloth binding of the books alone will cost perhaps a thousand dollars, and the paper and printing will be near double that amount.

The price of the song books when printed will be \$1.50 plus the postage. Postage can be paid when books are shipped and amount is known. Each individual and all the congregations of saints should find out how many books they will need and send in the order during September so we can rush the plate making and printing, and if possible have the new

book ready not later than December 1st. Any one having from one hundred to five hundred dollars to loan on the plate-making and printing without interest, and receive the principal back as the books are sold can please the saints and the Lord by sending it in soon and thereby enable this work to go right on without further delay.

Let us all pray that God will so work and the plates and book will all be made and the books be ready at least before Christmas so the new books can be used in the winter assembly meetings.

Following is a list of song numbers in the "Select Hymns" song book that are not in the original selection of songs for the new book, and will be left out unless the saints desire some of them put in. Persons desiring any of these songs placed in the new book may send their selection with reasons desiring it, and the song will be considered.

1	111	222	354	474	592
6	113	231	355	476	594
12	114	238	356	477	596
16	116	239	361	484	597
17	117	254	362	486	599
23	118	260	367	488	601
28	123	261	375	489	602
29	124	262	376	505	603
31	127	269	378	508	604
37	131	279	379	510	605
40	132	281	382	512	606
44	135	282	384	516	608
45	138	284	391	518	609
64	139	285	392	522	610
65	143	288	401	526	611
66	144	289	402	534	612
70	147	291	403	537	615
71	149	293	425	540	619
72	152	299	428	546	620
77	153	300	429	549	621
79	156	301	431	552	622
80	161	302	435	553	624
81	167	305	436	557	626
83	168	308	440	558	631
84	175	315	442	563	631
86	182	318	450	566	632
88	184	319	453	573	633
89	190	321	454	574	
90	194	327	456	577	
91	199	331	459	578	
93	200	336	460	580	
97	201	338	463	583	
103	202	339	465	584	
104	204	342	466	585	
106	206	343	467	586	
107	211	347	469	587	
108	219	350	470	588	

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

Do You Pray For Communists?

While much has been written on the subject of "Communism in Russia" and elsewhere and its effect upon the Russian people and those brought under its baleful influence in the "satelite countries" and in other places, there is much additional information, which, if made available to the public, would be equally damning and incriminating of the Soviet regime in the U. S. S. R.

Of course no confidence may be placed in Russia or in any other country or people who are followers of the teachings of Karl Marx, who said, "Religion is the opiate of the people," who denies the very existence of God, and is, of course, positively atheistic.

According to Marx psychology the perfect man, assured by Marxian standards, is one with all the fierceness and cruelty of a tiger, one without either science or kindness, one who, when he sees something he desires, irrespective of right or wrong or any other consideration, takes possession of the thing desired, and if someone, the owner or others, should object or try to stop the one desiring the object in question, the use of physical force or other means to get and keep possession is not only proper but is also recommended as the right line of procedure.

Of course, if man is only an animal, and, such he is according to the pernicious teaching of Marx, he, man, has no soul, no hereafter and when he dies that is the end. This being the case, that man is just an animal, it would naturally follow, we have no right to expect him to act except as an animal would. It is easy to understand in the light of such a wicked and devilish doctrine as the foregoing, that Communists are found totally lacking in kindness, charity, or compassion and positively void of all honesty, justice, integrity, honor, sincerity, or gratitude.

It should be remembered that the success of the present regime in Russia, economically speaking, depends in a large degree on the exploitation of some twelve or fifteen millions of slave-laborers, confined in forced-labor camps, working, living, and dying under conditions almost too terrible to detail.

These poor souls are used in building roads, cutting down forests, in mines, and in undertakings that exact a heavy toll of human lives, several hundred thousand each year. Of the 211,000,000 people in the U. S. S. R., about 3,000,000, composed mostly of those in governmental posts and a few others belonging to certain privileged classes have good living conditions. The remaining 208,000,000 (that is about ninety-eight percent of the total population of U. S. S. R.), live or exist under conditions, that impartial reports from those having firsthand information, state, compare favorably with the conditions found in any of our larger penitentiaries, that is, as far as clothing and food are concerned, and to some extent in certain ways this also includes liberty or the lack of it.

In the U. S. S. R. everything and everyone is the property of the state, which controls, regulates and rules with a hand of iron, assisted by the M. V. D., that dreaded and powerful secret police agency.

All persons under Soviet rule live in varying degrees, in a state of fear and that includes even the dozen or so members of the Politburo in the Kremlin, even Messrs. Stalin, Molotoff, and Vyshinsky, the most powerful individuals in the U. S. S. R. Life is cheap in Russia and Russian dominated countries. Just a few idle words, critical of some Soviet official or policy, spoken in private, is often accompanied by a call at the home of the careless one, sometime about midnight, of several of the Russian secret police. They leave with their victim, who, generally drops completely out of sight. Any friend or relative of the unfortunate one finds it unwise to even make inquiry as to what happened to the missing one, who may have been shot, or sent to a forced-labor camp, or exiled to Siberia, or under torture, been compelled to sign statements incriminating others the M. V. D. wished to liquidate.

Any treaty or covenant that the Russian government enters into with any other country is null and void at any time Russia desires it to become so, for these Soviet officials have no conscience and no respect for any agreement or understanding into which they may enter, no matter how binding or sacred it may be, whenever it becomes convenient to cancel same.

The pernicious effects of the Soviet regime makes itself felt throughout all of the U. S. S. R.

Text books used in the school in Russia, have been arranged to conform to the Soviet pattern, and facts have been distorted and replaced by fantastic fiction, and truth, historically and otherwise, has been discarded in many instances, in an effort to make it appear that Russia is much superior to other countries, for untruths in the U. S. S. R. are handled in an almost scientific manner.

There is no such a thing as religious liberty in Russia, for the church, like everything in the U. S. S. R. is entirely controlled by, and subject to the Soviet officials, who have seen to it, that all religious activities are curtailed or suppressed, almost to the point of extermination, though it is true, that, very recently there has been some improvement in this regard.

Wages under those who rule in the Kremlin, are very low and the government takes possession of what they desire of crops raised by the peasants, who are permitted to retain only what their over-lords do not desire.

Elections are simply a farce, as the government has followed a system, that most severely penalizes any one who fails to vote as their leaders indicate that they should.

For reasons best known to the men in the Kremlin, what goes on behind the so-called "Iron Curtain," is kept secret, but the facts leak out sometimes.

Life in Russia for the average man is not nearly as good as under the rule of the Russian Czars, which as we know, was very poor indeed. Every effort has

been made to exploit and regiment the masses in the U. S. S. R., where democracy, such as we in the U. S. A. enjoy, is entirely unknown, and where it is most dangerous to indicate in any manner that the acts, policies, or decisions of those who rule and reign in the Kremlin, are anything less than ideal.

If these inhuman slave-drivers, who hold in their hands the lives and destinies of over 211,000,000 souls, were content to confine their evil lines of procedure to those who are living within the U. S. S. R., that would be bad enough, but, these Soviet officials are attempting by every means known to them short of actual war, to force upon all people of every nation the diabolical teachings of Karl Marx, of Lenin, and of Stalin in their desire to make the whole world communistic.

Our hearts go out to the Russian people in general, who have no voice what-so-ever in the conduct of affairs in their country, or in those things pertaining to their own well-being, and who are peace-loving individuals, and not a party in any degree to the plan of the Soviet officials to force communism upon the people of every nation.

These Russian leaders in Moscow have sent out all over the world, thousands of especially trained agents who have commissions to put forth Communist propaganda; to foment strikes and clashes between capital and labor; to encourage disloyalty of the people to the established governments; to spy on any activities of those in authority especially along military lines, and to also train men, favorable to communism in the various countries, in the matter of espionage, sabotage, inciting riots, and in the use of bombs and explosives.

As the United States as a nation, offers more concrete opposition and resistance to Russia's plans to make the entire world communistic than any other country, it is but natural that the men in the Kremlin are much more interested in making our country Communist than in any other proposition that confronts them at this time.

Thousands of the best trained and trusted undercover agents in the service of Russia are entering the United States, each with his secret orders; all of which means, if they are successful in their various missions, the complete destruction of our American way of life; the end of all liberty along religious lines as well as the loss of all our rights and privileges under the constitution of the U. S.

Russia's plan to communize the world, is the greatest menace perhaps since the beginning of time; one affecting not only the church, but also all those living outside of the U. S. S. R., and, unless God does intervene, the Soviets surely will be most successful in their well laid plans.

However, the Lord God, our Father, is still on the throne and we are comforted when we read "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31), and we are encouraged as we remember God's promise in Psa. 84:11, "No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

—Selected

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

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

Roll of 5 "Faith and Victory" papers, one year\$1.00
12 papers each month, one year 2.00
25 papers each month, one year 4.00
50 papers each month, one year 7.50
100 papers each month, one year14.00

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.15; Lesson Cards 5¢ per set. "The Beautiful Way," which contains comments for the International Sunday school lessons, suitable for different ages of children, 15¢ a quarter for single subscriptions, 10¢ per set in quantities of five or more to one address.

PSALMS OF JUSTICE

Sunday, September 4, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 49:1-7; 82.

Psalms 49:1. Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world;

2. Both low and high, rich and poor, together.

3. My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

4. I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

5. Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heart shall compass me about?

6. They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;

7. None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:

82:1. God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.

2. How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked: Selah.

3. Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy.

4. Deliver the poor and needy; rid them out of the hand of the wicked.

5. They know not, neither will they understand: they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

6. I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

7. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

8. Arise, O God, judge the earth; for thou shalt inherit all nations.

Memory Verse: For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment. James 2:13.

Practical Truth: We will surely reap what we sow, therefore let us be just.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We know that our heavenly Father is a God of justice, and the Psalmist is calling the attention of all people to this fact here in the 49th Psalm. God will call the whole world before him in judgment, and justice will be given to everyone accordingly as we have lived in this world. Read 2 Cor. 5:10, and the last two verses of the 12th chapter of Ecclesiastes. We read in Hebrews 2:2, "For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" There is no escape! At the judgment, each one of us will receive what is coming to us; and let us remember this: God doesn't make mistakes. Everyone will receive that for which he has labored, whether it be good or evil. The wages of sin is death! God wants us to be just in all our dealings with our fellow man.

In the 82nd Psalm, we see God standing in the congregation of the mighty, the mighty in this world, judging among them and asking them, "How long will ye judge unjustly?"

God is no respecter of persons. His judgment is just, regardless of who we are. We who would do justice are commanded to deliver the poor and needy from the bond of the wicked. Just as we treat our fellow man, even so will God deal with us. Let us remember that God thru his inspired writer has warned us that whatsoever we sow, that shall we also reap. Let each of us search his life and be sure that there are no tares and thistles—cross words and unkind deeds—in our life.

JESUS AND THE PSALMS

Sunday, September 11, 1949

Printed Portion....Psa. 8:2; Matt. 21:15-16; Psa. 110:1; Matt. 22:41-45; Psa. 118:22-23; Matt. 21:38-39, 42; Luke 24:44.

Psa. 8:2. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

Matt. 21:15. And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased,

16. And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise:

Psa. 110:1. The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Matt. 22:41. While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

42. Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The son of David.

43. He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

44. The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?

45. If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

Psa. 118:22. The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

Matt. 21:38. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir: come, let

us kill him, and let us seize the inheritance.

39. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.

42. Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

Luke 24:44. And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Memory Verse: This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:11, 12.

Practical Truth: Christ left us the example: we should follow in his steps.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

So often while he was here on earth in person, as he was preaching, Jesus quoted from the Psalms to carry out the thought that he was teaching. In today's lesson, Jesus refers to the 8th Psalm to show how perfected praise comes from the little children and babes, and adults who have been converted and are babes in Christ. Jesus, in the 11th chapter of Matthew, thanks the Father because he has hid these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them unto babes. The Lord can and does reveal himself to little children so they can understand his ways. Read the first chapter of 2nd Corinthians beginning at the 26th verse and also the first four verses of the 2nd chapter.

In the 22nd chapter of Matthew, we find Jesus quoting from the 110th Psalm to put to silence the ones who were opposing him. They tried to trap him, but when Jesus answered them, they had nothing to say. Read the 15th verse of the 2nd chapter of 1st Peter and see how we may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.

In the 20th chapter of St. Luke, Jesus quoted from the 118th Psalm as he talked to the chief priests and scribes, prophesying against them. He mentioned the stone which is become the head of the corner. This stone was Christ, himself; and he showed them, as they were building for eternity, that they had rejected the only hope of salvation they had. Read what St. Peter had to say about this stone in the 4th chapter of Acts, verses 11 and 12.

Those who humble themselves and fall upon this stone shall be broken, and the Lord will see and save them; but those who put off salvation until it is too late, this stone will fall upon them and condemn them to eternal damnation.

PSALMS FOR DAILY LIVING

(Temperance Lesson)

September 18, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 15; 24:1-6; 143:8-10.

Psalm 15:1. Lord, Who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

2. He that walketh uprightly and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

3. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor.

4. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

5. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

24:1. The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

2. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

3. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

4. He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

5. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

6. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.

143:8. Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

9. Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide.

10. Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

Memory Verse: Teach me to do thy will: for thou art my God: thy spirit is good: lead me into the land of uprightness. Psalm 143:10

Practical Truth: True Christian living brings rich rewards.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

As we think of the subject of our lesson today, our mind turns to the 14th chapter of Romans, verse 7, "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." The way we live speaks much louder than what we say. If we wish to live right, we may find the standard of Christian living in God's word from Genesis to Revelation.

In the Psalms given in today's lesson, we find some very important instructions for true Christian living. The sincere Christian will walk uprightly and work righteousness; and they will always speak the truth in their hearts. From the contents of the heart, the mouth speaks. A real Christian is never found backbiting; he never does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor. The true Christian has no fellowship with wickedness of any kind, but he is always ready to honor the ones who fear the Lord. He will not put out his money to usury, nor over-charge, nor take a reward against the innocent. Anyone who will take the instructions given here, shall never be moved to do wrong.

In the last verse of the 6th chapter of Revelation, we read, "For the great day of his wrath is come: and who shall be able to stand?" The answer is given in the 24th Psalm, verse 4. Let us put into practice the principles of today's lesson, and receive the promise in the 5th verse, Psalm 24.

THE PSALMS WE SING

Sunday, September 25, 1949

Printed Portion:Psalms 23; 42:1-2; 90:1-2, 16-17.

Psalm 23:1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he

leadeth me beside the still waters.

3. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

42:1. As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

2. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

90:1. Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

2. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

16. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.

17. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Memory Verse: Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord. Eph. 5:19.

Practical Truth: There is no better way to lift your soul up to God than to sing good spiritual songs.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We have woven many beautiful sayings from the Psalms into our songs that we sing in our worship. The 23rd Psalm is beautiful from the beginning to the end. The Bible would be very incomplete without the Psalms.

In the beautiful song, "The Lord Is Our Shepherd," the thoughts found in the 23rd Psalm are portrayed:

"We'll follow the Lord all the way,
And close to our shepherd we'll stay;
How blessed to know as we journey below,
He's with us by night and by day."

The inspiration for many of our songs came from the Psalms; and we are exhorted by those who wrote the Bible to sing Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making melody in our hearts.

The Lord is my shepherd. What more comforting thought could we have than to know that our good shepherd is leading us in paths of righteousness. It is so beautiful beside the still waters, and so restful as we lie down in his green pastures. Every word of the 23rd Psalm is beautiful and profitable to us if we will put it into practice. Eating from the table the Lord has spread for us right in the presence of our enemies—spiritual food that they know nothing about and that they cannot take from us—and then he anoints our heads with the oil of gladness. Surely that would be joyful enough to say, "My cup runneth over" and to declare that we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Let us all sing the 23rd Psalm from our heart, for the same blessings which David received are for us today, also.

In the 42nd Psalm, we have an example of how the heart of a Christian seeks the presence of God. Can you ask the question the Psalmist asked in 42:2, with joy and eagerness, or is it with a fear of condemnation that you would ask it?

G. S.