

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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A Wonderful Fountain I Have Found

A wonderful fountain of life I have found,
As clear as the crystal sea;
Its healing and cleansing waters abound;
It flows so freely for me.

I have washed in that stream, my sins are all gone,
My Saviour now smiles on me:
I'll follow his steps till the crown I have won,
And his dear blessed face I see.

O wonderful thought, God's wonderful love,
And care for a world in sin!
He gave his own Son who came from above
To gather the lost one in.

His compassion today, the same as of yore
When the great multitudes he blessed;
The same as of old on Galilee's shore,
When he caused the weary to rest.

The water of life he offers to all,
Come now and be made whole;
If sick or in sin, upon his name call,
He'll cleanse you both body and soul.

I've found that great fountain, 'tis open for thee,
Whosoever will may come;
Yes, come without price, or money, it is free,
It flows from the crucified One.

—Ulysses Phillips

Jesus Loves You

That Jesus has a fervent love for the souls of all men and women, he certainly proved by his words and deeds on record in our God-given Bible.

I lived in sin and apart from God until I was thirty-two years of age, and I am well acquainted with a sinner's life, and do know that the way of the transgressor is hard. On the other hand, I have lived a saved life now for thirty-eight years and I am well acquainted with what it means to live in touch with God and have His approval upon my soul and his

divine love and Spirit abiding in my heart; and I do know that true happiness and heavenly joy begins when a soul turns from his sins unto God through Christ.

I wish to impart some truth to my sinner friends who read this article that I trust will stir your hearts to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved, so you too can have this joy and comfort in your soul in this life and have the assurance that when this life is over you have a home in heaven with God and all the holy angels.

First, I want to say that you have a soul that was given you of God and you are responsible for the destiny of that soul, for that soul will live on somewhere after your body is cold in death, either with God in a heavenly and blissful state or with Satan in the regions of darkness where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. You can now turn from your sins and from Satan and choose God and have life eternal with God if you will. God is giving you your own choice. The word is written in the Bible. "Now is the day of salvation, now is the accepted time." Your time is now while life is in your body, there will be no opportunity to get saved after death. Physical death will bring to a close all opportunities of getting right with God. God's Holy Spirit is calling for you now. God is a Spirit and also Satan is a spirit. Satan is striving to hold you in sin and damn your soul in the end; and God's Holy Spirit is calling for you to come unto Him where you can have joy and comfort in this life and a welcome into heaven when this life is over. Satan has nothing but vain, perishable things to offer you in this life, and then after death he will claim your soul and take it into hell where there is darkness, remorse of conscience, with burning in fire and brimstone forever.

When in sin, your soul is living apart from God and is called in the Bible a dead soul; not that it has ceased to exist, but your sins have cut it off from God and Satan has control; hence it is called a dead soul and doomed for the flames where it will exist on and on forever. If you will, you can now look to God in confession and repentance and turn unto Him with all your heart and he will forgive, restore, and your soul will live, or be made alive with God, for God is

stronger than Satan and Jesus has given his life on the cross to save your soul from his control. Satan is an enemy of your soul and is working for your destruction, but God loves your soul and he gave his only begotten Son to die on the cross as a sacrifice for your sins, that you should believe on him and have eternal life; that your soul might be awakened from its dead state by the power of God and be made alive to the things of God by your belief in the blood of Christ as a sacrifice for your sins. He will make you free from the power of sin and Satan and true happiness and joy will begin in your soul. Oh, sinner friend, flee unto God and live, turn your back on sin and folly and get interested in things of eternal profit.

In the first two verses of the 59th chapter of Isaiah, we read that the Lord is abundantly able to hear you and to save your soul, but your sins and iniquities have separated you from God. When you come to God with a contrite and broken heart because of your sinning against a righteous and just God, he will forgive you and blot out all your sins, and you can have peace with God through the acceptance of the blood of Christ as an atonement for all your sins and transgressions. To have nothing between you and God will surely bring peace and comfort to any soul. Jesus has made peace with God for us through and by his blood sacrifice of himself on Calvary's cross. Oh, sinner, believe and live.

In the tenth chapter of Romans and the 9th and 10th verses we will read how you can get saved and be ready for heaven. Here it is, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Oh, sinner friend, confess, believe from the heart and your soul shall live. Today is the day of salvation, now is the accepted time. —Fred Pruitt.

Divine Healing

A Part Of The Eternal Plan

"And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecies; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues; But all these worketh that one and the self same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." 1 Cor. 12:6-11. According to the foregoing scripture, we find that healing is a part of God's divine plan set in operation, in harmony with, and included in the working and operation of all the other spiritual gifts bestowed upon his servants in accordance to his own will; or as it reads, "dividing to every man severally as he will." But it is the same Spirit that performs in each one to the glory of God and to

the profit and benefit of the church and the awakening and convincing of the lost, that they might be brought to God. The power of the Spirit working in each member of the body of Christ as he sees fit.

Eph. 3:20 reads, "Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." And Phil. 2:13 says, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." And we find according to the Word of God that it is his will to heal those who come to him by faith. We read in 3 John 2, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." And to this end the Lord has given gifts unto his people to be used to the profit and edification of all. "But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, when he ascended upon high, he led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men." Eph. 4:7, 8. And one of the gifts was the gift of healing, as we read in 1 Cor. 12:28, "And God hath set some in the church: first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues," etc.

This proves beyond a doubt that God intended for people to be healed by divine power, and has made adequate provisions for the carrying out of his plan; and has not become obsolete only to those who will not believe.

The question arises in the minds of some: "Is it possible for any one to be healed by divine power if there is no one present who has the special gift of healing?" While it is true that God has given the gift of healing to some in a very definite way; yet every child of God has access to the throne of grace through faith and prayer. We are instructed in James 5:16, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." We find in Matt. 21:22 a precious promise which has been a source of encouragement and consolation to thousands. It reads, "And all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." This would include also the healing of our bodies. Prayer is the medium through which we receive the blessings of the Lord. Jesus said, "Ask and it shall be given you." Luke 11:9.

Dear reader, that means you. It is your privilege to ask the Lord to heal you, even though you be alone or surrounded by those who do not believe. If you believe He was wounded for your transgressions, and was bruised for your iniquities, if you believe the chastisement of your peace was upon him, why not believe that with his stripes you are healed? When Jesus was stripped of his raiment and scourged, and when the crown of thorns was placed upon his tender brow, there was healing in those wounds for you and me. The prophet Isaiah, looking down the annals of time about seven hundred years before the Saviour was born, spoke by the Holy Spirit and said, "With His stripes we are healed." These words were not spoken only for the people that lived in the days while Jesus was upon the earth; but he is a Saviour and

healer for all who will believe and accept him as such until his second coming, or to the end of the world.

The divine plan has not been changed. Just as the Lord spoke unto the Children of Israel in the days gone by, he is still saying today, "I am the Lord that healeth thee." Exod. 15:26c.

Again, to show that the Lord is interested in the health of his people, he said, "And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." Exod. 23:25.

The prophet Malachi prophesied nearly four hundred years before the birth of Christ, "But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings." Malachi 4:2. Jesus, the Son of God did come forth healing all manner of sickness. It is for us today. Amen. —Ulysses Phillips.

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The Lord Is My Shepherd

(Taken from a message delivered by Bro. I. Chandler)

The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

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

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.

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

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. —Psalm 23.

We realize that these verses cover so much ground that we can continue to get good things from them so long as we live. Mother taught me to say the 23rd Psalm when I was just a small child. When we would eat, she would have me to say a little before our meal. But as time rolls on, God still gives me more and more out of that verse, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want."

I do not have much knowledge about sheep and shepherds, but I do have a little knowledge. The shepherd is one that leads the flock and protects it. And the Lord is MY Shepherd, praise the Lord! Let us keep in mind that the shepherd is the one that leads the flock and both feeds and protects it.

The word Lord means ruler. It was a common thing to call a king of the olden days "lord," or one that was a great leader or of great honor. These words, "The Lord is my Shepherd," were expressed by David, who was a shepherd boy when a child. David was a shepherd in two ways: He was a shepherd of the sheep, but he was also a shepherd of Israel and he understood something about a shepherd, and he said, "THE Lord is my Shepherd." He singled out the Creator of the universe.

The duties of a shepherd is to feed the sheep, both lead them and protect them, and the Lord is that to me. "The Lord is MY shepherd." Do not say he used to be or in the future I plan to make him my Shepherd,

but "The Lord IS my Shepherd." The Creator of the universe is now my Shepherd.

In 1 Peter 5:4, the Lord Jesus is referred to as the Chief Shepherd. The word "The" is referring to the Shepherd of ALL sheep.

John 10:14, "I am the good Shepherd." But the encouraging part about it is that he is MINE. He is Shepherd of all sheep, and is the chief Shepherd, and he is a great one, also a good one—he is MY Shepherd.

James 1:4, 5, "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." My Shepherd will enable me to not lack nor fall short of any good thing. He is the shepherd and bishop of the soul. "If any of you lack wisdom—it shall be given him."

There are a few things that the preacher can never reach in your life, but God reserves that privilege for himself. In spite of the preaching and teaching, you must make direct contact with God himself. We are, therefore, dealing with the thought that the Lord being your Shepherd individually, and being the shepherd of the soul, He is a GOOD one and a GREAT one. Notice what the Lord says he will do for you—and it is beautiful. David brought these beautiful words, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." I shall not lack nor fall short of anything. He is the shepherd of the soul. It is a glorious thing to realize the fact that my shepherd is not only with me, but will be with me to the end: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:20b. He will never leave nor forsake you.

He not only is my Shepherd in life, but also remains my Shepherd in death. It is a glorious thing—when your time comes to die, he will still be your Shepherd.

Mark 16:19. Jesus SITS on the right hand of God. Luke 22:69 speaks of Him sitting on the right hand of God. In Acts 7:55, 56 (read it) is the account of the death of Stephen. We find that this man Stephen, being full of the Holy Ghost, remained true to God, but they killed him by stoning him. But the encouraging part of this is that during the stoning this man Stephen looked up and saw Jesus STANDING on the right hand of God. Referring back to the verses in Mark and Luke, Jesus sits on the right hand of God; but notice that when one of his little ones—one of his little flock—was being stoned to death, it speaks of Him STANDING. He was concerned about his child that was being stoned, and he held back the veil and let Stephen see him standing. It is an encouraging thought to me that Jesus rose to his feet and Stephen saw him standing, and said, "Receive my spirit." Think of it—at a time when being stoned to death—of having the encouragement of looking into the good face of Jesus, his Shepherd.

The Lord is my Shepherd and I shall not want. He is with us not only while living, but also when we die. He is our leader and protector when dying. If the devil could, he would bring an evil thought into your mind, even in your dying hour; but he cannot do

Continued on Page Ten

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

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 24:2; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to

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THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

"The Beautiful Way" a four-page leaflet for children is published quarterly in thirteen leaflets, one for each week. Marie Miles Editor, assisted by others.

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to one address for a yr. (Pay quarterly if you desire).

Ala.—Dear saints and friends,—Greetings to every one in the name of the blessed Son of God, Jesus Christ. We come unto you by letter, feeling surely that it is God's will for us to write unto you, a word of exhortation.

First, we want to say in Jesus' name and by the power of God through him, we are saved from all sin, and surely it is by the precious blood of Jesus and not of ourselves. Blessed are ye today in this land with full freedom to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

May God help each one of us to realize our duty to God and man. As we thank God for health and plenty, we also think of those who are suffering for lack of health and salvation. Surely God has been good to us, all down through our lives. But never in life have I seemed to realize it so much.

H. A. McMillian.

Editorials

We are moving along now in the new year of 1953. Today as we write these editorials, we note that it is the ninth of January. The assembly meeting here at Guthrie closed on Sunday evening, January 4th, with victory in the Lord. It was, as usual, a good meeting. The word was preached in all its fulness with power and authority sent down from heaven; and, as we expected, there were some saved, some sanctified wholly others were healed of bodily afflictions, and the saints were strengthened in the faith. Many of them testified that they received good by being in the meeting. The attendance was not so good at the beginning, but it kept increasing until on the last Sunday of the meeting the new meeting house was filled almost to its seating capacity, both in the morning and afternoon service. The approval of the Lord was upon the meeting from the beginning unto its ending. Many will long remember this first assembly meeting held in the Lord's new house of worship. While all the saints are deeply thankful to the Lord for this new building as a place for the church to meet together to worship God and to enjoy one another's fellowship, yet we realize that to God belongs all the honor, praise, and glory in bringing it to pass. For a number of years the need of more room has been apparent to quite a number of the saints. At first the saints considered building an addition to the old chapel, but that was hard to do in a suitable way because of the way the old one was built. The need of more room was brought to the attention of the saints in the summer campmeeting, also in the previous assembly meeting. There was much discussion with the final decision to sell or tear down the old one and build a new building and make it suitable in every way to the growing need. The new building is made modern, having rest rooms for both men and women and Sunday school rooms in the back. I believe that all the saints are now thankful that the new building was built instead of adding to the old one. This new building is strongly built in every way, walls of cement blocks, and will perhaps be standing when Jesus comes if it is not blown to pieces by the atheists and infidels in the fast spreading communist movement.

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Some one, or rather, a number of persons have asked me to express myself as to what I think of the "Revised Standard Version" of the Bible. I have withheld from saying much until I had time to look into it quite carefully. Now, having done this to some extent, we shall say that we can not advise its use because in many places its wording is such as to dull the edge of the "sword" and take the power out of the gospel. One reading it, who is filled with the Spirit of God, often becomes ashamed of it, which ought not to be, for Paul says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16. In so many places I notice that in their wording they have changed the positive into passive sense, which leaves the reader in doubt as to whether much is meant in what is said. For instance, in the first verse

of 2nd John, we read in the King James Version thus: "My little children, I write unto you that ye sin not." In the Revised Standard Version it reads: "My little children, I am writing this to you that you may not sin." The positive "not" is changed to "may not," which knocks the edge off the sword and takes the sharpness and power and weight out of the gospel. In many places they have the wording of the scriptures so arranged that it practically brings about a denial of the twelfth verse in the 4th chapter of Hebrews. It also lessens the fact of the Virgin birth of Christ. Some of their interpretations and wordings lead the mind of the reader away from vital truths and cause them to believe many lies that Satan has in stock among his preachers and religious people.

In Ephesians 3:14 we read, "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." The Revised Standard Version has this passage of Scripture so worded as to include all the sects and man made and humanly-organized churches as a family of God, which doctrine is contrary to all the Scriptures, and nothing could be farther from the truth, for it reads thus: "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named." Sectarians have long claimed that all these churches are branches in the true Vine, but such teaching is an untruth, for individuals who are saved and retain the life of Christ in their souls are the branches in the true Vine, which is Christ, and not any humanly organized man-made church. Individuals who are truly saved and are now retaining his life in their souls are the only ones attached to the true Vine, and they draw their strength, grace, wisdom, power, and knowledge down into their minds and souls from Christ in heaven and thereby bear the fruits of the Spirit in this world among men. The literal branches on a literal vine draw their strength and life through the vine coming out of the earth; so also do these spiritually false vines (churches) draw their strength, wisdom, and knowledge from beneath, from an earthly source, and their wisdom is spoken of in James as being "earthly, sensual, and devilish." James 3:15. Such wisdom as they have leads souls into error and attaches them up with the world to be burned in the end with all the wicked. In the 15th chapter of John where Jesus speaks of himself as the "True Vine," he says, "If a man [not churches] abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them [not God] and cast them into the fire, and they are burned." This is going on now. Men are gathering such souls into their churches, or false vines, and attaching them to the world to be burned. Oh, how foolish and vain is the help of man. Awake, O man, and keep joined to the Lord and Him only, lest you burn in the end with the big crowd of professors.

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In this world we often hear of, and know of, mothers who rear children, they nurse them when young and kiss away the hurts, protect them from danger, toil and provide for them; then when they get older and stronger, they forget her toil and care and do

and say things that grieve and break her heart. We also see such things taking place in the spiritual world. Many a pastor's heart has been grieved and broken by the acts of wayward children. It seems that some get graduated in an immature state and become division makers and opposers to the real truth that binds and holds God's children together. It is said that Jesus died on the cross of a broken heart. His own people had practically forsaken him and the powers of hell were so great that it seemed to him that God the Father had also forsaken him. There is no question in my mind but what many true pastors die an untimely death with a broken and grieved heart.

Those ministers that do not get thoroughly established in the real truth of God's Word are blown about with the many winds of doctrines that are started in the world by the enemy of souls. To begin with, they seemed to have great rejoicing like the Israelite people did when they danced around the golden calf that came out of the fire, but sadness and sorrow came later. You cannot separate yourself from God's true children who hold the truth in righteousness without opening your soul to be deceived into some old or newly-made sect. It takes those that are rooted and grounded in the truth to stand firmly against the different winds of doctrines that are blowing today, for they often set their posts (Ezekiel 43: 8) so close to the real, that the inexperienced in some of the deeper truths are easily deceived and lend their influence to upbuild a divisional spirit, sowing discord among the saints in light. Dear old brother George Winn used to testify that his feet were riveted to the Rock, and it proved to be so, for he withstood many a storm that blowed hard and swept many off their feet, but he held steady and firm for the truth as it is in Jesus. May God bless the memory of his steadfastness.

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Obituaries

Lacie Harrison Hendricks, second son of Joseph H. and Dora Stribling Hendricks, was born August 17, 1899 near Volga, in Jefferson County, Indiana. His parents moved to Jennings Co. when he was six months old, residing one mile east of Graham Presbyterian Church. Here he grew to manhood.

On December 31, 1918 he was united in marriage to Leona Alice Wilkerson. To this union six children were born. Three sons preceded him in death in their infancy.

Early in the morning of Dec. 15, 1952 he passed to the great beyond. He was a man of many virtues, one who gave his life for others. He was laid to rest in the Vernon Cemetery.

Bereaved are: his wife, Alice; three daughters, Mrs. Clella Malson of Columbus, Ind., Mrs. Eleanor Baker of Norwalk, Calif., and Mrs. Ethel Dotson of Indianapolis, Ind.; his mother, Mrs. Dora Hendricks of Columbus, Ind.; three brothers, thirteen grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

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Henry Davis, son of Wash and Luvenia Davis, was born at Knoxville, Mississippi July 20, 1875 and passed away at his home in Emanuel, Okla. Dec. 25, 1952, age 77 years, 5 months, and 5 days.

On Dec. 5, 1894 he was united in marriage to Sallie Shaw. To this union seven children were born, four girls

and three boys. Three children preceded him in death.

Bro. Davis was converted at the age of fifteen and joined the Running Water Baptist Church where he remained until 1920, at which time he heard the truth preached by some of the ministers of the Church of God. He believed and accepted the same and remained an adherent of the truth until his passing. He was a devout Christian and loved to talk about the Lord and his goodness. He leaves to mourn his passing a devoted wife, Mrs. Sallie Davis; two daughters, Mrs. Louvesta Bridges of Watonga, Okla., and Mrs. Mary Morris of Topeka, Kans.; two sons, Roosevelt Davis of Compton, Calif., and Richard Davis of Watonga, Okla. 23 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, 2 brothers, many other relatives and friends, and his brothers and sisters in the Lord. The Lord had his way. We sorrow not as those who have no hope, but humbly say, "Thy will be done."

Funeral message by Bro. Ulysses Phillips. Text Psalms 116:15; Psalm 41:3, and others. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Interment in Macedonia Cemetery.

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Brother George Hood, the oldest child of Eliza and Walter Hood was born in Pickens County, Alabama in September 1877 and departed this life November 22, 1952, at the age of 75 years and 3 months.

He was married in 1904 to Miss Lillie Ivory and to this union five children were born. Three preceded him in death. He was saved in 1903 and lived a consecrated and devoted life unto the end. To know him was to love him.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife, two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, a host of other relatives and friends. He will be greatly missed by the saints here but we feel our loss is heaven's gain.

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In the year of 1865 in Paris, Arkansas, to the holy wedlock of Mr. and Mrs. Ivery, was born a second child named Dora. There were two other children born to this family. Sister Dora was saved at an early age in the church of God in Christ, in Paris Arkansas.

Sister Dora was united in holy matrimony to Jim Houston in her early twenties. To this lovely couple one child was born who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Houston later moved to Bristow, Oklahoma in the year 1929 and resided there until the passing of Mr. Houston in 1942. Sister Houston moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her health failed her in 1946, and she moved to Buford Colony where she made a permanent home with her niece, Mrs. Josephine Pierce. In 1947 sister Houston lost her sight and later was confined to bed. She never lost the faith.

December 28, 1952 at 10:00 o'clock a. m. sister Dora Houston moved out of the old building and moved into a new one, not made with hands. Sister Houston was blessed with a long life of 87 years. She leaves to mourn her departure two sisters, one brother, seventy-one nieces and nephews and a host of friends. Text: Matthew 24:44, Psalm 39:4, James 4:13-14, 2 Cor. 5:1. Sam Barton.

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In Memory of Saintly Women

O sweet, calm face that seemed to wear
The look of sins forgiven!
O voice of prayer that seemed to bear
Our own needs up to heaven!
How reverent in our midst she stood,

Or knelt in grateful praise!
What grace of Christian womanhood
Was in her household ways.

For still her holy living meant
No duty left undone;
The heavenly and the human blent
Their kindred loves in one.
And if her life small leisure found
For feasting ear and eye
And pleasure on her daily round,
She passed, unpausing by:—

Yet with her went a secret sense
Of all things sweet and fair,
And beauty's gracious providence
Refreshed her unaware.
She kept her line of rectitude
With love's unconscious ease;
Her kindly instincts understood
All gentle courtesies.

An inborn charm of graciousness
Made sweet her smile and tone
And glorified her plain sweet dress
With beauty not its own.
The dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls;
The gospel of a life like hers
Is more than books or scrolls.

From scheme and creed the light goes out,
The saintly fact survives;
The blessed Master none can doubt
Revealed in human lives.

—John Greenlief Whittier.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

A sister from Portland, Oregon desires the saints to be agreed for her complete healing. She also desires prayer for an aged man to get victory over the tobacco habit.

Sister Avis Tinsley of East Pittsburgh, Pa., desires the saints everywhere to pray for the healing of her body. She has an inward trouble that causes shortness of breath and sleeplessness at nights, and misery in other ways.

La.—Dear saints,—I have a request before the Lord. Will you please pray that he will have his way?

Ora Futch.

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MY TESTIMONY

The subject of my testimony is FOOLISHNESS. A year ago last summer the Lord whipped me for foolishness, but the lesson did not take hold the first time. He gave me a hard whipping the second time, and my argument was that it was heavy for such as was considered a small thing. The Lord gave me answer immediately: "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2:10. So then it came to me, if one is guilty of all, he did not whip me hard enough.

My foolishness has abated much since then. It has been committed to the Lord, because it was so in my heart that it has followed me through life. There is no desire on my part to receive any more whippings from the Lord for that thing (jesting and joking), so when anyone gently rebukes me, there is a calm "thank you" to that one for their kind interest in me. The Lord will burn out all the dross before he takes me into his holy heaven.

Prov. 24:9 plainly says, "The thought of foolishness is sin." The Lord has helped me to refrain many times, and I avoid it wherever I can, and not participate in what others do, for the world is full of it.

Eph. 5:4, "Nor foolish talking, nor jesting." Then again in Matt. 12:36, 37, Jesus himself says very plainly that "Every idle word that man shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." So the whipping that the Lord gave me and the Bible agree.

There are strong currents in the ocean, and the tides, but foolish words are certainly a strong current to resist in this old world which is full of such sin. The joy that fills my soul far surpasses all the merriment of the whole world and I have no desire to be governed by the foolishness that once possessed me. It is impossible to have both ("Ye cannot serve two masters.") for joy comes from obeying every word of God. Matt. 4:4 and the contrast is 1 Tim. 5:6. "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." And again Paul, in writing to Titus 2:2, 6, says, for the old men and the young men to "be sober." Foolishness is mentioned many times in the Bible, and in Prov. 22:15 it gives one method to get rid of it.

The Lord has helped me much along this line, and as I resist in the name of the Lord (whether in myself or what others try to press on me) I take notice that God sends joy into my soul that surpasses all the pleasures of this old sinful darkened world. I would rather have your gentle rebuke than to indulge in it, so pray for me that it shall never be my governor again. Read 1 Cor. 10:13 and 1 Cor. 10:31.

Your blood-washed brother, Charles H. Weir.

The Holy, The Most Holy

Most all spiritually-minded Bible readers know that the literal temple or house foreshadowed the real spiritual that we saints are enjoying today. In other words, the literal house typified the real house of God, which is the church of God, the pillar and ground of the truth. We find in the Word of God that God commanded Moses to build it according to the pattern showed him in the Mount. He wanted the literal house to be a true pattern of the spiritual house. When Jesus went into the temple and saw the money changers and the selling of doves, he was overcome with zeal. He ran them out and over-turned their tables, and said, "It is written that my house shall be an house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves." In this he fulfilled what was written of him in Psalm 69:9, "The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up." Jesus wanted the literal temple or house to

truly represent what the Spiritual should be (Heb. 3:6), and there are to be no thieves and robbers in the spiritual house, or sinning men of any kind.

We read about the making of the literal house back in the 26th chapter of Exodus. In the 33rd and 34th verses we learn that they hung up the vail that it might divide unto them between the holy place and the most holy place. In the literal house they were not allowed to go into the most holy place, only the priest once a year, and he had to offer sacrifice for his sins and for the sins of the people. Thus we see that the literal temple represented two places—the holy and the most holy. And in this we have the two works of grace represented in the spiritual house—justification and sanctification. In the time of the literal temple the people could not enter into the most holy place or be sanctified and cleansed from sin in the heart; but when Jesus came and hung upon the cross we read in Matt. 27:50, 51 that he cried with a loud voice and yielded up the ghost. "And behold, the vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." In this we see that Christ's blood had torn the dividing curtain down and we now can enter into the Holiest of Holies and be cleansed from the sin nature, and thereby be made most holy in a sanctified state. Thank God for the Lamb that taketh away the sin of the world, or the sin that caused men to commit sins.

In Ezekiel the 43rd chapter and beginning at the 10th verse, we read about Israel that represented the literal house and the house that we are now in (the spiritual house) compared. The prophet is told to shew the house to the house. In other words, show them the difference between the shadow and the substance, between the literal and the spiritual house. And he said, "That they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern." Those who do not experience, see, and teach the second definite work of grace wherein the soul is cleansed and made most holy are not measuring the pattern set forth for the spiritual house. Therefore they are not in a condition to receive the spiritual doctrines for the present house of God, so they stumble in darkness and lead souls astray. In the 12th verse the prophet tells us about the law of the spiritual house and says in part, "Upon the top of the mountain [the spiritual house] the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy." Sanctified souls are the most holy ones, as they have been cleansed from the fallen nature. The sin nature is cleansed out, making them most Holy. Then he says, "Behold, this is the law of the house." God's sanctified and cleansed saints are on the top of the mountain and they are the law of the spiritual house. In other words, the doctrines and truth given of God for his children proceed and come from them. In a justified state you are made holy, for you are forgiven of all your sins and have peace with God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but when you obey the truth and go on to perfection, or enter into the sanctified condition, or cleansed state, you are most holy and your life is hid with Christ in God that when he appears you will appear with him also in glory.

In the first chapter of Ephesians we read where we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. When you are cleansed from that sin nature, the Holy Spirit of promise comes in to abide and that is the mark given to you of God that you are his acceptable property and he says it is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession. He has purchased us with his own blood and with the Holy Spirit he possesses us until the redemption of this body when he will give us a glorified body to live in, an house not made with hands, eternally in the heavens with God. This also agrees with the statement that Paul made in Acts 20:28. They, the most holy, those that have the Holy Spirit, are to feed the church of God which he has purchased with his own blood. Those who do not have the cleansing in the second work of grace do not possess the Holy Spirit and therefore are not among the number that are told to feed the children of God. The law, or teachings and food for souls in the spiritual house of God come from those on the top of the mountain that are most holy. They are the law of the spiritual house. Those that reject them and the true teachings of God's Word throw themselves open to all manner of wrong theories and false doctrines that will cause men to be drowned in the on-coming stagnant waters of the enemy.

—Fred Pruitt.

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The Return of the Lord

Many people are led astray in this time in which we live, and believe the wrong thing, even as they did when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea. Many people in that day were looking for an earthly king who would set up an earthly kingdom to rule the Jews. But quite unlike their expectations, Jesus came to earth from heaven to be offered up an offering for the sins of the world. Now many people in this day are looking for Jesus to come to earth to set up a great kingdom here on this earth and rule over the nations as a man. But may we have the blindness of sin removed that we might be looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat. 2 Peter 3:12.

God's people are not looking for their King to come and set up his kingdom here, for He already reigns in their hearts, and when He comes he will deliver up the kingdom to the Father. "Beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent, that ye may be found in him in peace without spot and blameless." 2 Peter 3:13, 14. For surely, if we are not without spot, we shall not want to face the truth as it is. May I ask you, do you desire to be in a kingdom of an earthly rule, or do you desire to be in an heavenly kingdom?

Now let us consider this matter. If you are looking for and desiring an earthly kingdom, you must have an earthly king now. Surely God's people have an heavenly King who is in heaven at the throne of God, our blessed Jesus, the King of peace. He is ruling in the hearts of every one of his children today,

both in heaven and in earth. Thank God, his kingdom is a righteous kingdom. Many people in this day are looking at the things that are seen. But there are a few who are looking at things that are not seen, or eternal. While many are looking and hoping to be stolen away out of bed or some where without anyone knowing about it at the return of the Lord, I am hoping to maintain needed grace to abide his coming in the which every eye shall see him, from the least to the greatest, as recorded in Rev. 1:7, "Behold, He cometh with clouds and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him and all kindreds of the earth [or people that have an earthly king] shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen."

Surely, only the saved shall say, Amen at his coming. But as King Herod desired to do away with Jesus when he was born in Bethlehem of Judaea, tho claiming to worship him, even so do the earthly kings of false religions seek to prevent the truth that they might reign as kings in the flesh.

One thing we wish to express to you very deeply, is that Jesus is still ready to save all that will come unto God by Him. May we not stop on some cold profession until the Judgment day. But let us go on to perfection that we may be able to abide his coming.

While some look at Mystery Babylon the Mother of Harlots as mentioned in Rev. 17:5, let us look unto Mount Zion and see the holy Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world as John saw in Rev. 14:1. May the love of God through Jesus Christ come into your hearts and abide that you may abide His coming. As the shepherds were watching over their flocks in the time of Jesus' birth, may the true servants of God keep watch over the little flock of God's church unto the coming of the Lord. —H. A. McMillian.

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The Right Way

When in sin you are roaming
And knowing not where you go
Jesus has a home on high,
The devil has a place below.

Come, choose the heavenly way
While it is now yet day,
For when the night cometh on,
'Twill be too late to pray.

So dear ones, make a start
For a sweet home in heaven,
For the way was fully made
When Jesus' life was given.

If you choose the strait and narrow way,
You will never regret it, I know.
It has made my life happy and free
Since choosing this way years ago.
—Effie Miller.

To realize the worth of the anchor we need to feel the storm.

Young People's Section

My Prayer

Take my life and let it be,
All, oh Lord, I give to thee.
Help me to stay on bended knee
Until I, your face can see;
So I'll know just what to do,
So I can do my best for you.
Thou hast made it easy, Lord,
So easy that I can't afford
To miss the way, the way I've heard
As written in your blessed Word.

When it seems I cannot stand,
Trials I find on every hand,
Then I go to you and stand
Until I feel your helping hand.
May my life an example be
To the one who watches me.
Help me ever to humble be,
For as thou didst, so should we.
—Marie Bright.

Obedience

"Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother which is the first commandment with promise." Eph. 6:1, 2. I am realizing how much it really means of late to obey our parents. If we learn to obey our parents, it will not be so hard to obey the Lord. When I was going to school, I learned that to become a good leader, we must first become a good follower. So if we want to be an instrument that the Lord can really use, we must first learn obedience. And the first place we can start is when we are small by learning to obey our father and mother. There may be many times that we think father and mother are too hard on us, but when we get older we realize that they knew best.

I would like to say to the fathers and mothers that if you know that a thing is not best for the welfare of the child, be firm and kind, but do not yield no matter how hard the child pleads, for when he gets older he will thank you and respect you although at the time he may think hard of you. Proverbs 19:18, "Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying." Also read Prov. 29: 15, 17; Prov. 22:6; Prov. 23:13-14.

If we learn to obey our parents, it will not be so hard to get along with our friends, and also companions when we marry. But if we are unruly children and used to having our way, we will have trouble, for we must learn to yield our ways and to bear with others. And I believe we learn of these things by obedience to our parents. Also, if we don't learn to respect our mother and father, I'm afraid we won't respect others either. It surely means much to learn obedience. May the Lord help the children to learn to obey

and respect our parents and that the parents see that the children are made to obey and respect them, for they are responsible for the children. —L. S.

Mo.—Dear young saints,—I truly thank the Lord to-night for saving my soul. I have felt for some time that I should write my testimony to the "Faith and Victory."

I thank the Lord for healing me of the flu. The first one in our family to have it was daddy. (But he didn't trust the Lord.) I was the third one to take it, and we just trusted the Lord and he has completely healed me. My daddy still isn't well, so I don't guess his medicine is so good.

I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory". I always read the Young People's section. Please continue to pray for our congregation. We need your prayers.

With Christian love, Aquilla Miller.

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The Sin of Trifling With Another's Affections

Girls and boys, I want to speak plainly on a subject that will interest all of you who are old enough to think you should have a girl friend or a boy friend. Now in this day we find small boys and girls confessing to elders, "I have me a boy friend," or "girl friend."

O children and young people, do you know these should be sacred thoughts? This involves your whole life; it will make you happy or make you unhappy. Because some did not guard their affection they have paid for it with years of grief and remorse of conscience. They just let their affections run out to the opposite sex freely. Oh, dear ones, we have to pay. God has given your affections as a precious gift to be given to the one you are to love and be a companion to through life. But what will happen if you trifle with your God-given affections and let every one you may chum about with have a portion of those God-given affections? The time will come when you feel you want a companion to go with you through life, but sad, sad for you cannot make up your mind whom you do love for you have trifled on your own self. You made your chummy friends think they were one of your choice and they have begun to think you love no one but yourself, which is true, for you were enjoying trifling and you find that you have no true affections for anyone. By and by you will be shunned by both girls and boys, for they will call you a flirt.

Oh dear ones, wake up. This sin of trifling is after all ages, married or single. Many homes are broken these days by the SIN of trifling. Little children are becoming orphans all because of the sin of trifling.

Let us see what trifling will do. It will cause deception, murder, adultery, fornication, jealousy, hatred, lying, and many things too numerous to mention. It is deception. People who trifle have no principal. They are of such character as not to be trusted in after life.

People who will so deceive another as to let them believe they love them and then turn about and deny having any affection for them, lack in certain fundamental principals of womanhood (or manhood) which are necessary for the formation of a happy home. Dear ones, you can't build your happiness on the ashes of someone else's love, it is impossible for you to go unchastened. And, oh, that bitterness of knowing that you caused some dear unsuspecting soul to lose faith in the thing God so intended to bring every woman and man happiness. You can never build your home on one you wrecked. These are real gospel truths.

Remember, folks who are capable of deceiving before marriage are capable of being just as deceptive and treacherous after marriage.

Trifling is based on a carnal heart, a romantic heart and it carries the guilt of lying in word, thought, and deed. Your actions seem to speak louder than your words.

Let us look into the Word of God about trifling with one's affections. Judges 16th chapter. Samson, the strongest man of the world, lost a great deal by trifling with a woman's affections. 1. He lost God out of his heart. 2. He lost his hair, which was long and beautiful. 3. He lost his strength to resist enemies. 4. He lost his eyes. 5. He lost his freedom. He became a slave to the Philistines who made him work at a task that should have been done by a strong ox or horse. 6. He lost his reputation, for his enemies used him for making sport or fun for thousands of spectators. What a come-down for a holy Nazarene whose strength was God-given. 7. Lastly, he lost his life and all as a result of trifling with a woman's affections.

Today we have many, many pictures of broken lives all because of people going out of God's bounds and serving the sin of trifling. Trifling slips in among people who claim to be saved. They go around with different ones. Oh, they will say, there is nothing serious. We just want to be together and after awhile one of them gets to drifting into a mood of trifling and the devil will take advantage and soon they have drifted too far and they become caught in the current of a trifler. Then they find that the grace of God has leaked out of their hearts. The devil has placed a carnalness in their hearts which has come in the form of love. Then there must come a breaking up. They will say, "I did not know I was letting my affections go out to the other." Then loss of confidence comes and it will affect both parties. You know I am telling you the truth. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Married life is beautiful, but we cannot build on the ashes of broken affections. Life together can be very beautiful. Look at that white haired couple who have lived for God, for each other, and their home. During those days when they were striving for their home and little ones, their love has been a wall of protection for both husband and wife, and children included. See those lovely ones setting God up as the head of the home with their love for each other, bend-

ing right into God's plan. And as the children come along, they fit into God's plan, so it just completes a beautiful home with God and love reigning.

Then we see the things that come against their love—sickness, death, troubles, poverty, crop failures, storms, floods—but all these only make love grow and they become nearer and closer to each other with God as their leader.

—Mrs. Sam Barton.

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THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Continued from Page Three

it, for the Great Shepherd is able to keep us, and will be with us in our dying hour. He will not give us up in that hour, but is with us.

Read the account in Luke 16:19 of the rich man that fared sumptuously every day. The other was very poor. He was laid at the rich man's gate full of sores, desiring to be fed, moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. His name was Lazarus. From appearance, he looked like he was God-forsaken. He died and was carried by the ANGELS into Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. Lazarus learned that He was his Shepherd after he died. (Rev. 6:9; Gen. 5:18; 1 Cor. 15).

In the last days he will separate the sheep from the goats and to the goats, he will say, "Depart from me." Matt. 25:31. When all other chance is gone to hear those glorious words, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of the Lord."

I can say as David, it is no longer a story, but the Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want. The Lord leadeth me beside the still waters. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for thy rod and staff do comfort me, etc. Notice the difference in the two—the rich man and the poor. Those who have made Him their Shepherd in this life shall inherit the kingdom.

1 Peter 2:25. He is the Shepherd and bishop of our souls, and he is a good one and a great one and the chief one. Isa. 40:10, 11 tells us that he has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand. Surely that hand is able to carry me through in time of burden or trouble. He is a good Shepherd. It is wonderful to consider the importance of having the Lord as our Shepherd. If he ever becomes our Shepherd in this life and we keep true to God, he will always be our Shepherd, in sickness or health, in the hour we are dying, and after we are dead, from the start to the end. While working on a job, the supervisor became a very good friend to me and he was on my side. When I left he said, "Let me know if you need anything." But the Lord is on my side, too. No wonder David said, "I shall not want." Why is it and how is it that David said so boldly, "I shall not want"? The word want means to lack or fall short, and there is no want to them that fear him. Those that fear the Lord shall not want any good thing or lack or fall short of any good thing. We are told that the young lions do lack and suffer hunger but there is no want to those that fear him.

To those that have not made the Lord their Shepherd: Let us consider that day when He shall separate you from the sheep, and may He be yours now, yours in death, the resurrection, and for evermore.

Send for a free sample of tracts including a copy of the "Faith and Victory" paper.

CORRESPONDENCE

Calif.—Dear saints of God,—I am thankful tonight for victory in my soul. This leaves me saved, sanctified, and encouraged to go on for the dear Lord. I promised the Lord that I would write my testimony if he would give me victory over the devil. The devil tried to discourage me many times. He would tell me that I wasn't saved. I would look back over my life and couldn't find anything I had done. I requested prayer for the saints to pray for me. I was fasting, and praying for the Lord to bless me, and if it was anything I had done to show it to me. I couldn't find anything. I went to the altar for prayer. Brother Chandler told me how the devil accuses us. He also told me that when God accuses or condemns, he shows us the thing he condemns us of. I felt better, but not satisfied. I continued to pray for victory. I was meditating with the Lord, He told me the victory was mine, have faith, and believe. I praise God for victory in my soul. Pray for me that I keep true and victory to ever increase in my soul. Your sister, Maxine Mays.

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Ohio—Dear saints,—I want to take this means of telling others of what God has done for me. I promised Him that I would write a testimony to your paper and he has answered so many prayers for me, that I'll forever be grateful to him.

My mother has been ill for several years with a kidney ailment, but God has helped her. She is saved and has lived for God many years. I'm truly thankful to God for my parents. My father is also saved and living for God.

Before my baby was born I had a lot of trouble and was in bed two or three months. The doctor thought it would be necessary for me to have it by caesarean operation, but I prayed to our Heavenly Father, the only one who can do for us the impossible, to help me. I now have a sweet little boy and I got along wonderfully and without an operation. Praise his dear, holy name. My prayer now, is that God will give me strength and wisdom to raise my baby to love God, to do good, and to shun evil.

Pray for me that I'll forever be true to the one who loved us enough to die on the cross to save us from our sins. Pray for my baby that he will stay in good health, and that my mother, father and family will enjoy good health. From one who loves God, Wilma Horsley.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' sweet name. I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper so much. I carry it where I go so some one else may read it.

Yours in Christ, Mrs. Lena Barnett.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am so thankful that He had mercy on me and gave me another chance to be saved. This finds me enjoying the blessings of the good Lord although I did suffer much and got very little enjoyment out of life while in sin. The Lord surely has worked with me since that night I turned him away at the meeting in Springfield. That night the Lord

was dealing with me but I knew that I would have to give up the love of money. I never had only a few dollars at a time but I would always hang on to it like something dear to me. I was always fussing at my husband over money. But I surely thank the Lord for taking the desire of money from me for now what we have is to be used for what it's needed for.

Wednesday morning as I opened my Bible to read I turned to 1 Timothy 6:10 which says, "For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." Oh, how true this verse is and I never want to be guilty of it again.

The devil surely has tried me these few days as I got where I would swear so much, but thank the Lord he has taken this unclean talk away and now I praise the Lord instead. Just this morning I stepped on some ice and fell, hurting my foot and knee and all I could say was "Praise God," because I was thankful I hadn't broken my leg. If it had been last week I would have sworn.

We hadn't gone to meeting for a few times as Murphy Allen and brother Gibson's were gone to Okla. So this was Tuesday night and I just prayed that some way we would know if there would be meeting that night. When husband brought the mail in that evening there was a card from brother Murphy saying that they were back and that there would be meeting. Brother Gibson brought the talk on "How have you got your table set." After meeting was over we were talking with brother Gibson and I just felt like that was my last chance to get right with the Lord, so I had them to pray with me. Thank the Lord, I have been so happy with Him this week. I am glad that I have my table set with righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness. I had hatred in my heart but now I have love and oh how much happier I am.

I have been doctoring for almost two years now but thank the Lord, I am trusting the Lord for healing now. I know he is able to heal me of this affliction. I haven't used any medicine since Tuesday and the Lord has given me relief, so I can rest better at night. Please pray that He will completely heal me and I am also having boils, which I know he can heal me of.

My husband is getting along fine. He is able to be out working on the farm now. He has been plowing with a tractor. When he went in for a check up the doctor told him that the outside scar was completely well, but for him not to strain yet, that the ulcer wasn't well yet. The Lord surely has helped him. He is to go back in February for another check up and I am trusting the Lord that he will be completely healed by then.

With Christian love,

Mrs. Nels Allen.

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Ore.—Dear saints,—I feel impressed to write about what it means to be a child of God and what it means to be in the will of God. I had a desire to go to California after the Oregon assembly meeting, but something seemed to say not yet. So we went to Portland and stopped at my son's place for a couple of days.

One night while we were there my son-in-law called and asked us to come over. We got in the car and drove over. When we got there it seemed that all the devils were there. What a pressure I felt. It seemed the home was being split up. I felt helpless. I began to call on God and I got an answer right away. It said, "Talk to them about their soul." I asked my son-in-law if he would like to serve the Lord and that God was able to

take away all their burdens and make them happy again. He said he would if his wife would get saved too, so I talked to her about getting right with God. She said she would so we knelt down and asked God to have mercy. It seemed a short time and God poured out his blessings. We had a glorious time. They got sanctified about a week later and are happy in their home and most precious of all they are happy in their souls. I fear that if I had gotten out of God's will, one or maybe both would have been in eternity. May God help us to know his will at all times. I can't thank my dear Saviour enough for what he has done for me. Two years ago the 27th of December I was saved and am happy in the Lord. Praise his holy name. Pray for us. C. H. Olson.

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Ariz.—To the saints scattered abroad,—Greetings. I am yet saved and have a deep determination to go all the way with Jesus. Truly I find him a present help in every time of need, both spiritually and temporally.

I have been afflicted with a very bad cough, so I wrote to the saints asking them to be agreed in prayer for me, and the Lord has wonderfully touched my body and made me every whit whole, for which I give him all the glory and praise. Yours in Him, Bertha Slaughter.

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Okl.—Dear saints,—I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper. It has always been so precious to me every time I read it. I am happy in the Lord. I always love to read God's word. But we, his children will have to be a doer of the word. Therefore 2 Cor. 6:17 means everything to me. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." May the Lord bless you.

Your brother in Christ, Sam Nusz.

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Ohio—Dear saints of God everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am glad today for salvation in my soul. The Lord means much to me. Praise his dear name.

I feel burdened for the unsaved. Oh, if they would just know the peace and joy of salvation they surely wouldn't lose any time in giving their heart to the Lord. Won't you put your soul in the hands of the Master, who can save you from your sins, and give a joy and peace within your heart that the world cannot give or take away? I have a friend in Jesus, he is everything to me.

If any feel led to write to me I would be glad to hear from any of the saints.

Ethel Mohr, Congress St., Van Wert, Ohio.

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La.—Dear ones in Christ,—This morning finds me saved and encouraged to live for Jesus. Thank God for his healing power. Surely God heals just the same as when He walked the shores of Galilee. The same God that can save our souls can heal our bodies. I am so thankful that I love to trust him.

My heart goes out to Him this morning in praise and thanksgiving for what he has done for my daughter, Clotilde. She had a sore foot during our assembly meeting and on Thursday afterwards she took very sick. Her foot was very red and swollen, and until Sunday towards noon, it looked as if the Lord was going to take her. We phoned for the saints out at Loranger to come in, and they did, and the saints here, all agreed in prayer. The irritation didn't go any further up her limb, yet her fever was awful high. On Saturday her husband phoned his mother in California for prayer, so they got together and the saints here agreed in prayer about the same time. We also had written to brother and sister D. A. Gibson

and brother Charles Smith for prayer. She was very sick Saturday night, but about the middle of Sunday morning the fever went down, she began to look natural, and from then on she has improved. Her foot is looking normal, but she can't walk on it yet. She, by the help of crutches, gets around some. We thank God that her decision from the beginning was to trust Him completely. Oh, that man would praise the Lord for his wonderful works and healing power that he has for those who will love and obey him. We surely desire your prayers that we be faithful until he calls us. One who loves our Lord and all God's little ones. Elma Forbes.

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For Meditation

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies that ye should obey it in the lust thereof. Rom. 6:12.

Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory, but in lowliness of mind, let each esteem others better than themselves. Phil. 2:3.

Let not then your good be evil spoken of. Romans 14:16.

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. Let all bitterness and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice. Eph. 4:29, 31.

Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matt. 5:16.

Let brotherly love continue. Heb. 13:1.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Col. 3:16, 17.

Let all your things be done with charity. 1 Cor. 16:14.

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus. Phil. 2:5.

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man. Thess. 4:16.

Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Phil. 4:5.

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil, cleave to that which is good. Rom. 12:9.

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee. Heb. 13:5.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb. 4:16.—E. V. P.

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Be Thou An Example

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." 1 Tim. 4:12.

What a glorious privilege, that we can be true examples of Jesus Christ! When he left this world, he left us a pattern. So none of us have an excuse for not knowing the way.

We see by the above scripture that Jesus wants us to be an example in word—that is to be careful about what kind of words we use. We should let our words be few. How can we be an example in conversation? When we speak, it should be to edification. Sometimes Satan will bring a lightness over us and cause us to say things that are of no benefit to any one. We all have an influence in this world, and if we talk such things as are of no benefit, our doing so will be sure to influence some one who is weak on this line to follow our example. Our minds should be so occupied with the things of God that our conversation will be such as will glorify him.

We are also required to be examples in charity. To be full of charity will cause us to be liberal in the judging of others, and it will also cause us to be disposed to look on the best side and to avoid harsh judgment. If we show forth these graces from our hearts, it will cause others to be the same way.

We should be an example in spirituality. How necessary it is that we be spiritual. Not only is it our duty to live spiritual but, thank the dear Lord, it is also a wonderful privilege. Our whole heart and mind should be devoted to God and his word. Not only is it those who are called to spiritual work that the Lord requires to live spiritual, but it is all those who are called to be saints.

If we are living spiritual, we shall be very careful how we dress. Jesus wants us to have an eye single to the glory of God. When we dress, we should always have in mind whether this is pleasing to the Lord or not, instead of wondering what man will say or think. It is so much sweeter to have the approval of God than the approbation of this whole world. If we begin to drift and to put unnecessary things on our persons, we shall thereby induce others to do the same thing. Jesus should always be first in our minds. What we do we should do all to the glory of God.

Sometimes it becomes necessary for us to be an example in suffering for Jesus. In 1 Peter 2:21 we read, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps." It is not always the devil that is the cause of our suffering. Sometimes the Lord permits us to go through some severe suffering either in body or in soul. He may cause us to suffer in body in order to teach us some lesson. And again, we may be suffering under a burden for lost humanity. In such cases the devil has nothing to do with it.

We find by searching the Word of God, and also by observation, that it is very necessary for us to live such true and devoted lives as shall gain the confidence of the world and convince them that we are the true children of God. There are always some who are watching us to see whether we live just what we profess. We do not always know who is watching us. A young lady told me at one time that she had been watching to see if our family lived what we professed,

and now she says that she is convinced that there is such a thing as salvation. I am so glad that the young as well as the old have a part in being examples for Jesus and examples of Jesus. He fills our hearts with joy and gladness and causes us to live above sin, worldliness, and the pride and foolishness of this world. Let us all endeavor to be true examples for Jesus.

—A saint.

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The Midnight Cry

"And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Matt. 25:6. Christ is the bridegroom, and is soon coming as he said. Both saved and unsaved will hear this awful, solemn cry, and will then be compelled to face the judgment. But the most important question is, Where shall I be? Shall I be reckoned with the foolish whose lamps have burned dry? or shall I stand redeemed with my lamp brightly burning?

We do not know why the Lord used the term "midnight" in connection with his return unless it was to convey to the minds of the wise the fact that great spiritual darkness would be prevailing. Truly there is much light shining in the world for those who want it, but men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil. When I was first saved, I marvelled at the great darkness by which I had been surrounded. Surely it is midnight darkness. The world is in an awful condition; and just at the very instant when the cry is made, "Behold the bridegroom cometh," some husband and wife will be quarreling; some one will be drinking intoxicating liquor; someone will be backbiting his neighbor; some one will be accusing and faultfinding the brethren; some one will be trying to gain a higher position by pushing and crowding others; some one will be speaking unkindly to his fellow beings; someone will be committing adultery; someone will be taking his neighbor's life; some will be taking that which does not belong to them; and numbers will be claiming to follow the Lord but living to please the flesh and will not really have an experience of salvation. Many other evils could be mentioned. Sometimes I shudder when I think of the many evils that are going on around me; and I see and know of a very small per cent. How it must grieve God, who sees and knows everything!!

It seems that some think they will get by if they can make their fellow men think they are all right. Jesus had many rebukes for this class of people when he was here. He said they appeared before men to be righteous, but he called them hypocrites. There will be many hypocrites when the midnight cry is made. Some of these hypocrites claim they are saved but not sanctified and use the fact that they are not sanctified to cover things in their lives that they know are not right. They pretend to be seeking for sanctification but never seem to gain the experience. Why? God knows the heart. They want a little of the pride of life, and to enjoy some fleshly pleasures, they want to love the things of this world, give way to their ill feelings and hold grudges against others, gossip,

and backbite. "The hypocrite's hope shall perish." If one is not clear from all known sins, he is not saved; his lamp is empty. There is no satisfaction nor eternal profit in trying to appear what we are not. We should live unto the Lord and not to be seen of men. If we wear some article of dress for pride before worldly people, we may as well wear it before the saints even if we do know they will count us unsaved for doing so because God counts us unsaved if we have the desire in our hearts, and His opinion is what counts. His word says if we love the things of the world the love of the Father is not in us. If we are cross at home we do not need to put on a pious face around others and act like we would never speak an unkind word, for God heard the words at home. Some guard their speech quite closely when around Christian people, but join in with slang, jesting, and joking when around others who indulge in it. We ought to guard our speech more around worldly people than we do around the righteous, for we need to be an example and point them to the right way. If we are pure in heart, our speech will always be pure, and we will not be under a strain for fear we will say wrong words when in the presence of the righteous. If some people could be known by others as God knows them, they would not appear in day light. They would be ashamed to let their wives or husbands see them as they really are. These little thoughts and deeds of impurity and deceitfulness which, if allowed, will cluster around our minds and hearts like cancers, and cancers of the soul should be as nauseating to us as cancers of the body, or more so. We ought to live as purely and conscientiously every day as we would want to be living when the cry is made. Salvation makes men or women appear to be just what they really are, and only those who have salvation will be ready when the Lord comes. God is light, and in him and his people there is no darkness at all.

People are becoming accustomed to being warned about the coming of the Lord and the midnight cry, and it is becoming as an old tale to them. People would live quite differently if they really believed from the heart that they would have to stand before the flaming bar of God to give an account of the way they have spent their time here. Unbelief along this line is another sign that the midnight hour is fast approaching. And yet we hesitate to call it total unbelief, for even though they act like they do not believe it, yet their actions in times of a sudden calamity show that they really do believe and that there is an instinct in each heart to make them know that at the coming of the Lord there will be "tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, . . . but glory, honor, and peace, to every man that worketh good . . . For there is no respect of persons with God." Rom. 2:9. We are told that last summer during the Bakersfield, Calif. earthquake many thought the Lord was coming and began to pray and confess their sins. One woman was living in adultery with another woman's husband. She had justified herself in this condition until the earth began to shake, then she cried out, "Oh, Lord, if I had known you were coming so soon, I would not have been living here

with this man!" But when the earthquake was over and all seemed quiet again, she settled down in her life of sin. Oh! the mercy of God to bear with sinful humanity!! A few years ago we knew of a family of saints. The father was becoming careless and unconcerned about the things of God. The rest of the family seemed to want to do better, but because of the father's example and influence the family was seldom ever seen at prayer meeting. One Wednesday night they were at home listening to the radio. A program came over the radio which they thought was real and they thought the end of the world was upon them. Immediately they began to repent of their carelessness and indifference and even that night they got ready and came to prayer meeting, though it was late. These are only examples of what men will do when they really hear the midnight cry. But it will be too late then to repent or to change our way of living. We need to live at all times so we can look up to God with a sweet assurance in our hearts that we have lived to please Him. Read again these words concerning the coming of the Lord, Acts 1:9-11, "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Does your heart thrill with joy when you read these words? and can you say, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus," without having to pray another prayer, or finish some neglected work, or make a wrong right? --G. Ray

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POSSESSIONS AND THE KINGDOM

February 1, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 19:16-26.

Matt. 19:16. And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

17. And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

18. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness,

19. Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

20. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21. Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

23. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

26. But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Memory Verse: Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. Luke 12:15.

Practical Truth: We are under obligation to make any sacrifice that Jesus requires for his sake.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

While here in this world we must deal with material things. This rich young ruler had many possessions. Besides his material wealth he had a position as a ruler, he had culture, he was moral for he kept the commandments, and he was in earnest as far as the light he had. Jesus loved him when he told him that he had kept the commandments. Jesus has a special love for those who will do what his word teaches and thereby they show their love for God. But just keeping the commandments is not enough if the nature has not been changed. The rule that Jesus gave Nicodemus is also applicable here, "Ye must be born again." When the nature is changed, then the affections are set on "Things above." Col. 3:2. "Not on things on the earth." It is not only those who are already rich that are in danger but they "That will be rich fall into temptation and a snare." 1 Tim. 6:9.

What a sad outcome is this before us. "He went away sorrowful." It is plain that his heart was set on his riches. Where was the zeal that was his at the start? "There came one running and kneeled to him." Mark 10:17. There needs to be a striving to "enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." Luke 13:24.

JESUS TEACHES GOD'S GRACE

February 8, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 20:1-16.

Mat. 20:1. For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

2. And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

3. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,

4. And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

5. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.

6. And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

7. They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.

8. So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.

9. And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.

10. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received a penny.

11. And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,

12. Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.

13. But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

14. Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.

15. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

16. So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

Memory Verse: By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8.

Practical Truth: The grace of God is extended to all who will respond to his call.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Grace is defined thus: "A state of being favored or in favor. Temporary exemption from penalty, relief or postponement of a settlement; attractiveness, charm; divine forgiveness or mercy, divine assistance; state of being pleasing to God because of responsiveness to grace, state of the elect, a Christian virtue." Grace is a gift according to Eph. 2:8, and we receive it through faith. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared unto all men." Titus 2:11. "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation (merciful favor) through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past."

According to the above definition of grace and the Bible quotations; all that we receive from God is wholly of the good will of God toward man. Those who worked all day received a penny and those who came in at the

last hour also received a penny. In other words, God makes no distinction and is no respecter of persons but the honest heart that will surrender to God can receive grace any time he (the honest soul) will put in for it.

WHOSE IS THE KINGDOM?

February 15, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 21:33-43.

Matt. 21:33. Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country:

34. And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it.

35. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another.

36. Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise.

37. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son.

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 on his inheritance.

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

40. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?

41. They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.

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?

43. Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

Memory Verse: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Luke 12:32.

Practical Truth: Those who reject Christ close the door of opportunity against themselves.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The kingdom here spoken of is the one that God had in the Old Testament and by looking in 2 Chron. 36:15-16 we find that what Jesus said in his parable actually took place. "And the Lord God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: but they mocked the messengers of God and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy." All God asked of them was to "Execute true judgment, and show mercy and compassions every man to his brother." Zech. 7:9. "But they refused to hearken" verse 11. So then the censure Christ gave here was coming to them justly. Since the Jews rejected the God that had redeemed them out of Egypt, who was so kind to them, it was only natural that they would reject his Son when he came.

These were an example to us and we find in Heb. 12:24, 25 "Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and the blood of sprinkling." "See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we

turn away from him that speaketh from heaven."

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HOW JESUS ANSWERED QUESTIONS

February 22, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 22:15-22, 34-40.

Matt. 22:15. Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk.

16. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men.

17. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?

18. But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?

19. Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny.

20. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription?

21. They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

22. When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

34. But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together.

35. Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,

36. Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

37. Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38. This is the first and great commandment.

39. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

40. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Memory Verse: Never man spake like this man. John 7:46.

Practical Truth: Jesus answered questions with unerring insight and accuracy.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?" The quarreling Jewish leaders (63 B. C.) had appealed to Pompey to help them in the government because they could not agree among themselves; therefore the Romans had taken possession of Palestine and had a right to expect their own money (some of it) to be paid back in taxes. Jesus sanctioned this and thereby gave us a rule, how to obey our laws and pay taxes when they do not conflict with the laws of God.

What is it to love with all the heart? To love another is to have a desire for and a delight in his welfare. To love God with all the heart, soul, mind, and strength is to have a supreme desire for and delight in God's glory, so that everything else is secondary to that. The proof that we have in our souls is our being ready at every turn to serve God first of all, no matter as to how much the cost. And Jesus said the second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Then to follow Jesus would be to do like him in his statement that he made in John 8:29 "And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him."

C. W.