

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 23, No. 3

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

March, 1953

God's Kingdom

God through Jacob told Judah of old,
That the sceptre he surely would hold;
And that law would be his career
Until the wonderful Shiloh appear.

God showed Daniel in bed one night,
A most wonderful, wonderful sight:
An everlasting kingdom so fair
For the children of God to share.

John the Baptist talked to a band,
Saying, "God's kingdom is at hand."
If this kingdom you wish to inherit,
You must be born of the Spirit.

For flesh and blood cannot possess
This kingdom of holy righteousness;
But when your sins are forgiven,
Then you're in the kingdom of heaven.
—Dolly Locker.

—:::—

Church of My Choice

We are told that eighty-seven per cent of the adult population of the United States are church members, and that this number is in excess of same a few years ago. Therefore the world looks upon us as a Christian nation, and since we are living in a "freedom-of-religion" country, there are without doubt more man-made religions in our nation than any other country in the world. Almost every person we meet with and talk to about the Lord is ready to tell us he belongs to some church. It seems to me people think the most necessary thing in their lives is to belong to the "church of their choice." And so it is, if they have made the Bible church their choice. But too many folks are not much concerned about what they belong to, so long as they have their names on a church book of some kind. But is this the teaching of the Word of God? Did Jesus say, "Upon this rock I will build several hundred CHURCHES, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against THEM?" Nay, verily. Let us read Matt. 16:18: "And I say also unto thee, thou

art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church [singular] and the gates of hell shall not prevail against IT." (only one). Jesus built only one church, and we have no record in the Bible of any other being built. He did not mean that Peter was the rock upon which he was going to build his church, for Peter had testified "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." David also said, "Who is God save the Lord, or who is a rock save our GOD?" Psa. 18:31.

The prophet Isaiah prophesied of the coming of Jesus, that he would order and establish his kingdom, the same is his church. Read Isa. 9:6, 7. We find Jesus at twelve years of age in the temple sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions; and when he was apprehended of his parents, and questioned about his behavior, he said, "How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Read Luke 2:42-50. At that tender age he was concerned about his Father's business which he was sent into the world to do. In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." After Jesus was baptized by John in Jordan he began his public ministry, also preaching, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." He preached and taught the plan of salvation, and healed all the sick who came to him. He chose twelve men from the common walk of life to be his disciples that they might learn of him those things pertaining to the kingdom of God. These things they were ordained to preach and teach, and after Jesus had ascended back to heaven, some of them wrote the beautiful New Testament Scriptures that are still being preached around the world, still revealing to souls the way of salvation. On one occasion Jesus said to his disciples, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." And again he saith, "But I have greater witness than that of John, for the works which the father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do." John 4:34; also 5:36. We see Jesus desired always to please his Father. He was aware of the task he was sent to accomplish, and he was willing to make the plan of salvation because of his great love he had for us.

When Jesus had been betrayed and the soldiers came to take him, in an effort to defend his Master,

Peter drew his sword and cut off the servant of the high priest's ear; but Jesus said unto him, "Put up thy sword into the sheath, the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" A cup, as we know, is a container. It holds something. So the cup which Jesus mentioned held something for him. Yea, it held suffering, torture, ridicule, mockery, and crucifixion. Yet Jesus was willing to suffer all this for you and me, bearing our sins, and the sins of the whole world that he might order and establish God's kingdom in the earthen vessels of poor lost mankind. Praise the Lord for such great redeeming LOVE!

In Luke 22:17-20 we find Jesus saying to his disciples, "This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." Paul tells us in the 9th chap. of Hebrews that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Jesus freely shed his precious blood in dedication of the entire New Testament scriptures which teach us the way of salvation, and the discipline of God's church in the earth. When the apostle Paul was taking leave of the brethren for the last time on one occasion, he said to them, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the CHURCH OF GOD which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Man has formulated many so-called churches, but none of them have been dedicated with blood, and none of them take sin out of the heart of man, but each and every one teach in their book of discipline or in their category of rules something added to the Word of God or something taken away (or left out). This in itself makes them man-made churches; for the church of God which Jesus built has no other discipline or creed than the teaching of the New Testament scriptures. We are forbidden by God's Word to ADD anything or take anything from the scriptures. Rev. 22:18, 19. We are satisfied therewith. When Peter preached to the multitude at Pentecost, they were pricked in their hearts and inquired of the brethren what to do. Peter said unto them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins," etc. Peter had no church for them to join. But when they repented of their sins they were born into God's church, and three thousand souls were added unto the disciples. And the last verse of the second chapter of Acts says, "The Lord added to the CHURCH daily such as should be saved. When God adds a soul to his church, he also writes its name in the book of life. How sad it will be when souls stand before God in judgment and learn that their names are not recorded in that book; for we read in Rev. 20:15, "Whosoever was not found written in the Book of life, was cast into the lake of fire."

Dear reader, are you only a church member with a sinful heart, thinking and hoping you may make it through to heaven? If this be your case, I beg you now, confess your sins, forsake them, repent of them, and ask God for Jesus sake to forgive you, and if you are in earnest with God and want salvation, God will blot out every sin and transgression you ever commit-

ted, and make you a new creature in Christ Jesus, and write your name in the Book of Life, and you will be happy, as I am happy, in God's church, the "CHURCH OF MY CHOICE."

—Mrs. S. E. Abbott

— o0o —

Gathered Unto Him

Away back in the book of Genesis, over 3500 years ago, in the 49th chapter and 10th verse we read a prophecy of Christ who was to appear in this world 1600 years later to gather believers together unto him. It reads thus: "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a law giver from between his feet, until Shiloh [Christ] come; AND UNTO HIM SHALL THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE BE."

You will notice they were to be gathered unto Him and not unto man-made organizations, humanly arranged and organized into human creeds. The following verse reads, "Binding his foal unto the vine, and his asses colt unto the choice vine." Jesus says in John 15:1, "I am the true vine." And in the 5th verse, "I am the vine, ye [his believers] are the branches." When we are born again, born from above, we are attached to Christ, the true Vine, for we are then his foal, and we should remain in the place drawing strength and grace from him day by day as we pray unto him and keep yielded into his hands. Every soul that will separate himself from the world and its organized religions as Christ did, and abide in Him, will be a member in the church of God, which is the pillar and ground of the truth. Jesus told his disciples that believed on him, "Ye are not of the world even as I am not of the world." And to the religious Jews he said, "Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world." John 8:23.

People who join lodges, unions, and worldly organized religions are making themselves a part of the world and thereby they grieve the Spirit of God, if indeed he lives in their hearts.

Anyone who is truly sanctified wholly has given up all into the hands of God, and he dare not say in his heart (or otherwise) that what he possesses is his own; for in order to remain in a sanctified state, all must be kept in the hands of God for Him to call for and use as he pleases. In giving of the substance which he places in our hands, we only give back to Him that which is already His and we have no right to receive any honor for anything that is done only as God may bestow it upon us. In the early church when the need of the poor was great, they sold their possessions and laid the money down at the apostles' feet so distribution could be made to the needy ones, and God blessed them and great grace was upon them. Folks who retain the sanctifying grace of God in the soul will be just as willing to give of their substance to their neighbor or others in need as they would to use it for their own need. To withhold from the needy when God has made you able to give would be hardening your heart against God and his Spirit working, and would bring disaster to your soul. We have a

lesson given in the first few verses of the 5th chapter of Acts where one man and his wife who claimed they had given all, held back part of the price. Peter said that Satan had filled their hearts and that they lied to the Holy Ghost. They pretended to be doing a thing that they were not doing, and they both fell dead, literally and physically.

I have been thinking of the many that are lying to God today when they say they are sanctified yet hold on to the substance that God allows them to have and pile up more rather than to keep it in God's hands with an open heart before Him, asking Him daily, What shall I give and where and how much? even to the last penny, that God may be glorified through their giving. If you are withholding from God, you place your soul in the same state that Ananias and Sapphira were in. It is impossible for you to keep an experience of sanctification and withhold from God the things you claim by being sanctified are in God's hands. Many will not earnestly seek God in prayer as to where to give and what to do with what He puts in their hands for fear they will hear from heaven and will have to give up that which they covet. Such actions prove that they are not sanctified, and if they do not repent of such actions and begin to do otherwise, their souls will be wrecked and ruined, even though they do profess. The gospel by evangelists would be carried farther and more abundantly, also the gospel by the printed page would double and triple and reach many precious souls that otherwise are denied the light and knowledge of full and free salvation if this consecration were holding good in the many who claim to be sanctified. Let us make our calling and election sure by obedience to his Word and Spirit. To do otherwise would be denying God the right to handle your affairs in this life and would be proving that you are of the world and not like Christ and the disciples were. Paul says, in Gal. 6:6, "Let him that is taught in the word communicate [or give] unto him that teacheth in all good things. Be not deceived; God is not mocked [or fooled, as He knows your heart]; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh, shall of the flesh reap corruption [or damnation]: but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." And then he exhorts us not to be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not (or quit doing and giving). —Fred Pruitt

—:::—

Reflecting His Light

May the love of God fill your very being and cause you to rejoice in His wondrous ways. Except He fill our hearts and lives, we are as lamps without oil—useless. That is, we are useless as long as we remain in that state; but there is always the hope that we can come to God and He will fill our lives till we can shine as lights set on a hill.

There are many ways we can compare God to the sun which shines upon us each day. Without the sun nothing on this earth could live. All light and color come from the sun. As different objects reflect cer-

tain of the sun's rays, it takes on the color of those rays. So we can reflect the goodness of God. Truly we are not good of ourselves; not a one of us. It is only as we reflect the goodness of God that we are able to take on the goodness for ourselves. All the virtues of God are sent forth as the sun's rays, and shine upon our souls. If our souls are clear and bright, we are able to reflect these rays much as one would use a mirror to reflect the sun's rays to brighten up a dark corner.

I believe this is what Jesus had in mind when he said, "None is good, save one, that is, God." All the virtues we possess are reflections of the virtues of God. We should keep our souls clean and shining that we may be able to reflect His goodness to sinners that they may desire Him, and to saints that they may know Him better. Our sole purpose in being here is to show others the image of God. If we fail in that, we fail in all.

May God help us to establish ourselves in such a position before Him that as He shines upon us we may be able to reflect His goodness to all the darkened souls around us. Pray for me.

A sister in Christ, Mrs. Clifford Wilson.

— oOo —

LOOK TO CHRIST FOR LOVE

"... A believer gets offended because he thinks the saints do not love him. He is looking for love in others, when he is told to look for it in Christ Jesus. No wonder he is disappointed. Look to Him for love and you will never be let down. And when you find all you need in Christ, instead of looking for love in your fellow saints, you will be showing love to them. Many times we are told to love one another, but never to look for love from one another." —Selected.

"... We come to Him many times to have our own needs met. Do we ever come just to satisfy the longings of His own heart of love? ... God is hungry for love." —Sel.

— oOo —

NOW

If you'd do a good deed,
Do it today;
Tomorrow, you know,
Is one day away.

The NOW folks make good;
Often vain just to "try":
Today is our day;
"Tomorrow we die."

If we lose out on heaven,
We'll sink in despair:
Hell's imps will receive us,
But, "Misery doesn't like
company there."
—Erle E. Forbes

—:::—

Egermeier's Bible Story Book. 608 pages, cloth bound. The favorite book for children. Price, \$2.95 each.

"FAITH AND VICTORY" 16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

—SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—

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

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

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

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE
920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
Phone Number 1479

—:::—

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.

Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies. 40¢ each subscription in quantities of five or more to one address for a yr. (Pay quarterly if you desire).

Editorials

We have several thousand addresses on our subscription list for the "Faith and Victory" paper of the three months offer, which expire with this March issue. We are inserting an expiration subscription blank in each paper of these to make it convenient for you to subscribe for the paper for a year or five years. It is only 25 cents per year or one dollar for five years. We do not want to take you off our mailing list, so please renew your subscription at once so you can get the next paper and on through the year. We are sure you need this clear gospel truth in your home for your spiritual benefit and growth in the Lord. To neglect the soul is the worst thing that anyone could do, for this life will soon be over and your eternal soul will be somewhere with God or with Satan. You will have to do the choosing now as to your soul's destiny. You had better bear the cross in this short life and wear a crown in long eternity. Please send in your subscription today so we will have time to get your name on our regular list of subscribers for the next paper, the April issue.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

To be saved means to be delivered from sin and the power of Satan, who causes men and women to sin against God and fills them with pride and self-conceit. According to 2 Cor 5:17, the saved soul is made a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." In the 21st verse we read, "For he [God] hath made him [Christ] to be sin for us [to die as though he were a sinner] that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." When we get in Christ by repentance and confession, and his Spirit moves into our souls, we then become the righteousness of God and are in Him.

In Col. 1:13 we read that God has delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son. All who are not in Christ are under the power of darkness, the kingdom of Satan who rules over them and causes them to commit sin and follow after the lusts of the flesh or carnal nature (Read Eph. 2:2, 3). Turning from sin and darkness unto Christ is the only hope for man. The difference between the saved and the unsaved is that one sins and the other is made free from sin. There are just two families in the world, one is the family of Satan and the other is the family of God. You will find this truth brought out quite clearly in 1 John 3:8, 9, 10. It is sad to think that a multitude of people in the world today are professing to follow Christ and are committing sin and giving way to the lusts of the flesh by having an evil eye of adultery, reveling, fornication, worldly conformity, cursing, hating, backbiting, lying, stealing, drinking strong drink, using tobacco in some form or other; for such are still in the family of Satan and will have no inheritance in the glory world. All of these sins may not be found in you, but being guilty of one will bar you out of heaven and glory. Oh, that men would really believe to the saving of their souls and have that translation from the power of darkness into the kingdom

of God's dear Son! Unbelief and covetousness is a very prominent sin in this present world. To love God with all thine heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself is more than most professors of religion are doing, and in this they are falling short of the kingdom of God. There is a way out for every one if he will seek God for the grace and wisdom needed and become willing for Him to work in and through him both to will and to do of His good pleasure. Begin to realize that you are not your own, that you are bought with a price, even by the precious blood of Christ, then act upon that truth.

—oOo—

LOS ANGELES ASSEMBLY MEETING

You can't stop a river. The River of Life will flow over obstacles that arise in front of it. If you did not come out of that last trial with victory, better check back and see if something is hindering the River of Life from flowing into your soul.—Ostis Wilson

The Word of God and the Spirit of God agree. Leave the Spirit out and the word is dead—Merrill Williamson.

I have proved it over and over that God is able to do anything—Bro. Francisco.

The dew of heaven only falls when there is no wind and everything is quiet. Just so we must be quiet and calm in our souls before the dew of heaven will fall upon us.—Opal Wilson.

God can only use consecrated men and women. Put yourself on the altar and leave yourself and possessions there.—Ira Stover.

Jesus suffered first everything that has ever and will ever come to you. That is the reason he knows how to help you.—Isaac Chandler.

When you do wrong to my brother you do wrong to me. When you fix it up with my brother you fix it up with me.—Bro. Harris.

Did you ever hear of a shoreless sea? The song says, "Humility, thou shoreless sea." If you are not willing to receive counsel, you are putting a shore on your humility.—LaVerne Manuel.

You had better stay away from false beliefs and false teachers. They have a false spirit and it might get a hold of you.—Sister Francisco.

Ask God to give you a broken up and mellow heart, so that the seed of truth may grow and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.—Gene Harmon.

These are a few of the many, many precious truths that was given to us during the Los Angeles, California Assembly Meeting. God so wonderfully blessed in every service. I had to miss a little over three days of the meeting, but the services I was in were a great blessing to me. There are no meetings like the meetings the saints have. The singing is heavenly and the love of God flows from heart to heart.

I sat by and listened to some of the Young People's meetings and the Lord surely did bless them. I rejoiced to hear them testifying how God gave them grace to live for God while going to school, and how God worked it out so they would not have to take

dancing, go to the picture shows, and partake of worldly things given in the schools. God is able to keep us saved anywhere and under any circumstances if we will only be willing to let him keep us.

The children's meetings were good. Vera Forbes has a gift of teaching children, and I am sure the parents of our children appreciate it so much.

—Marie Miles

MEETING REPORT

Our revival meeting started November 16th with a house full of happy saints. Brothers O. B. Wilson and Isaac Chandler brought deep glorious messages to the waiting congregation night after night. In the last Sunday afternoon service the dear Lord added a sister to our number who had been wonderfully healed while in a hospital in Chicago. There was great rejoicing as she told how God raised her from death's door. We still desire your prayers for us here at Okeene, Okla., that we press on the upward way. Sister Bessie L. Gordon.

MEETING NOTICE

The Oklahoma City annual meeting of the church of God at 800 N. E. 3rd St. will begin March 8, 1953, and continue through March 22nd.

Let every saint come prayed up so we can feel the divine presence and Spirit of God leading in the entire meeting so that souls may be saved, sanctified and healed.

We are expecting brother Isaac Chandler and other Spirit-filled ministers to be here during the meeting. Every one has an extended invitation.

For further information get in touch with brother Manley Spears, 2704 N. E. 19th, Oklahoma City. Phone Garfield 71033.

WANTED at once a Christian woman between the age of 50 to 60 to stay with my wife when I go down town. She will have a furnished room, heat, water, and lights all free, for someone who needs a home.

Mr. Lewis Cannan, 128 Dickson St., Plymouth, Ind.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Miss.—I want all the saints who read the "Faith and Victory" paper to earnestly pray that God will heal me of gall bladder trouble from which I suffer greatly.

Your sister in Christ,

Hattie Legg.

Dear saints—I feel it very important to write this request to be published in the "Faith and Victory" paper. I am in deep trial about a certain matter. God knows the burden, and I need help. So far I have been able to pray for myself, but the time has come and now is when I desire much earnest prayer of the dear saints that God will remove this awful burden. I remain your brother in Christ.

Brother Glenn O. Brewer, Joplin, Mo.

Colo.—Dear saints,—I have had the flu and was almost deaf in both ears for awhile. I can hear some better now, thank God, but I still suffer with my ears, eyes and chest. God is encouraging me to believe for healing, but being isolated and alone, I need your prayers.

E. Coral Johnson.

—:::—

"The Beautiful Way" contains comments for Sunday school lessons suitable for different ages of children. 60c per year for single subscriptions; 40 cents per year for each subscription in quantities of five or more.

Obituaries

Mary Amelia Hall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hall was born in Germany on February 23, 1874, and departed this life January 25, 1953, at the age of 78 years, 11 months, and 2 days. In the year of 1892 she came from Germany to Alta Vista, Iowa.

On February 18, 1894 she was united in marriage to Robert Roethler in North Washington, Iowa. To this union seven children were born. From Iowa the family moved to New Mexico and in 1914 came to Deer Creek, Oklahoma. Six years later they moved from Deer Creek, making their home in and around Guthrie. Her husband preceded her in death in 1933. One daughter and one son also preceded her in death.

In her youth she was a Lutheran but when she married she joined the Catholic Church. About nineteen years ago the Lord by His Spirit led her to repentance and to a personal knowledge of His saving grace. Since that time sister Roethler has worshipped with the saints at Guthrie and was faithful in His service.

She is survived by one son, Earl of Guthrie, Okla., four daughters, Mrs. Martha Blank and Mrs. Carrie Switzer of Enid, Okla., Mrs. Victoria Conkel of Texas, and Mrs. Pearl Morrow of Hennessey, Okla.; six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted by brothers O. C. Porter and Fred Pruitt. Scripture text was Psalm 103. The remains were laid to rest by her husband in the Cemetery west of Lowery, Okla.

o-o-o-o-o

Thomas Jefferson Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Davis was born in the year 1888 at Abita Springs, La., and departed this life Nov. 26, 1952 at the age of 65. He was united in marriage to Lillie Lee on December 13, 1906 at Loranger, La. To this union six children were born, two daughters, Mrs. Frank Allred and Mrs. Lillie Mae Kowalski; four sons, HESSIE, T. C., Leon, and Wallace. Leon preceded him in death a few years ago. He also leaves four brothers, one sister, and a number of other relatives and friends.

Brother Davis was converted at Hammond, La., 35 years ago and lived for the Lord these many years. He always desired to do that which was right and pleasing unto the Lord.

He suffered a broken back some weeks before his passing, caused from a fall from a pecan tree. He will be greatly missed by the saints here. Interment was in Greenlawn Cemetery in Hammond, La.

Just a few minutes before he died he lifted up his hands and said, "Praise God" and then he bade his wife goodbye.

o-o-o-o-o

Elton C. Wiggins was born February 9, 1884 in Georgiana, Ala. and passed to his reward January 3, 1953. In 1908 he was united in marriage to Miss Eva East. To this union seven children were born, three sons, Wilburn, E. C., Jr., and Jack; four daughters, Mrs. Ernest Hornsby, Mrs. German Smith, Mrs. Norman Cutrer and Mrs. Lloyd Hodges.

Brother Wiggins was converted here at Hammond, La. a number of years ago and really lived a life for the Lord. Old things had passed away and behold all things had become new. We will miss him from our midst greatly.

Besides a wife and children he is survived by one brother, Herman of New Orleans and two sisters, Mrs. Abe Barrett and Mrs. Sidney Vowell both of Mississippi.

Funeral service was conducted at the saints' chapel

and interment in Greenlawn Cemetery in Hammond, La. Brother Max Williamson officiated, assisted by brother L. L. Perry and sister Katherine Key. Scriptures—1 Cor. 15:12-20; Psalm 23; 1 Thess. 4:14-18.

o-o-o-o-o

Mrs. Duallie Jackson was born January 25, 1891 in Plano, Texas. She departed this life December 21, 1952 at the age of 61 years, 11 months, and 4 days. She moved from Plano, Texas at 7 years of age. At the age of 17 years she married William Jackson on May 4, 1909 at Okmulgee, Okla. To this union ten children were born, four boys and six girls, three of whom preceded her in death.

She embraced the Evening Light Truth in her early twenties and was a faithful sister and a dear loving mother until the end. She took sick October 10, 1952 and suffered severely, but strictly trusted the Lord. She had a wonderful testimony. The Lord gave her the song "Not Made With Hands." After singing this song she requested that it be sung at her departure.

She leaves to mourn her passing a husband, two sons, William Jackson, Jr., and Jasper Jackson; five daughters, Mrs. Thelma Christopher, Mrs. Edna Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Annie Stilles, Lucille and Dorothy Jackson; seven grandchildren; two brothers, Ira Huffman of New York City and Elma Wilson of Akron, Ohio; a host of relatives, saints and friends. Our loss is heaven's gain.

"Rest on loving Mother, from all your toil, suffering, and care, with the mighty host of heaven, forever rejoicing up there."

Funeral services were conducted by brother Manley Spears of Oklahoma City, Okla.

—::—

The Word Will Judge

The world today is cursed with creedism; cursed with human traditions, dogmas, and man-made religions—religions of human origin, animated by human life. The religion of the Bible is divine. Its power and life come from God.

The church of God has great reason to rejoice, that with us, the apostasy that has crushed and left its blight upon Christianity down through the ages, is past. In getting out from under the apostasy, we had to discard all the creeds and doctrines of men, and come back to the blessed old Bible. Every religious reformation since the Dark Ages has had a part of the truth. Some special truth was held up as the hub around which the movement clustered. But we have now restored to us, as in primitive times, the whole truth. Our motto is, "The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Therefore the creeds, teachings, and doctrines of men we no longer recognize as the standard; nothing but the Bible.

"The word I have spoken, the same shall judge you in the last day." This written, revealed Word of God is the true standard. It will be the only standard in the day of judgment. The traditions of men will not count in that great day. If we measure to the teaching of the written Word here in this world, we shall stand approved before God in the great day of eternity. God has but one standard, and by it he judges us to be right or wrong, saved or unsaved. It is by the Word of God that you and I are judged in the sight of God today. The only way to have God's

approval is to live in perfect harmony with the whole revealed will of God. People may measure up to the doctrines of men, but if they fail to measure to the Word of God, they will be condemned in the judgment day. A certain preacher recently said to me, "I have always believed that we ought to practise the ordinance of feet-washing, but, you see, our creed does not enjoin it, so our church fails to practise it." This is virtually setting aside the plain truth for tradition. In the day of judgment that man will not be judged by what his church practises and teaches, but by the Word of God. Men's teachings and doctrines have set aside the sacred Scriptures. This is an awful thought. There are many people who know what the Bible teaches, and the only reason why they fail to practise its teaching is because their creed does not enjoin it. Our obedience is predicted, not upon tradition enforced by men, but upon our obligation to God. This makes our Christian life of devotion a delightful service.

—Selected

CORRESPONDENCE

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am very much encouraged to live for the dear Lord. He has been so good to me in so many ways. I am so thankful to him for healing my body of the dreadful disease of T. B. a few years ago, when my body was racked with pain. It took much earnest and agonizing prayer to get healed, but thank the dear Lord he came in due time and wonderfully healed me. He has healed me of other afflictions too, and I surely do thank and praise him for it all. I mean to trust him for both soul and body until the end of this life.

I surely do enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. I have been reading "God's Gracious Dealings" and it is so encouraging and uplifting to wife and me.

I desire your prayers that I will always be found doing the will of God. A brother, F. E. Wilson.

o-o-o-o-o

Tenn.—Dear saints,—Greetings. Last night my right side was hurting so badly, that I promised the Lord if he would cause it to get so I could sleep, that I would write my testimony to you. After I prayed and promised to write, I got better and went to sleep. Please pray for my wife and me. Colonel Pendleton.

o-o-o-o-o

Miss.—Dear brother Pruitt and all the saints scattered abroad,—Today finds me saved and living for God. He is such a present help in time of need. I am more determined to go on for him than I have ever been. Praise his holy name!

I am so happy in the Lord for all his goodness he bestows upon me. I was real sick about seven weeks, (in bed about six) and was so weak I was hardly able to get up at all. The doctor was waiting until I got well enough to be examined to see if I needed an operation. I didn't get well enough the whole time he was treating me which makes me happy now since I am saved.

My mother-in-law, Mrs. Nelia Hilbun, was real sick at the time and brother and sister Ray Key came to pray for her, then came to my house to visit me. The last words sister Key said when she left kept bearing on my very weak mind, "Be ready to go when Jesus comes. This is the main thing." I knew I wasn't ready, but I had been under conviction for several months, but kept putting it off. After my mother-in-law died, brother and sister Key came back and held a few nights meeting. I

was able to be up some then and went every night. The Lord showed me right then and there was the time to get saved. I am so wonderfully saved and happy in the Lord. I was anointed that same night and prayed for, for my complete healing, but about a week later was when I really felt the power of God go through my body and soul. I didn't need to go back for an examination or an operation, the Lord did it all at one time. Praise his name. I got complete victory. Praise the Lord! Matt. 11:24, John 15:7.

"I have found the pleasure I once craved,
It is joy and peace within;
What a wondrous blessing! I am saved
From the awful gulf of sin."

Pray for me that I will ever be found working for the Lord. It is a real pleasure to me. I wouldn't give Him for anything else I know.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Hollis Hilbun.

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear saints,—I thought I would write a few lines to let you know of the Lord's goodness to me.. He is my all and all. He is my healer, Saviour, and keeper. Praise the Lord! He is so good to me. We have so much to be thankful for. My desire and prayer is to go with the Lord to the end and hold out faithful unto the end. I am asking the saints to pray for me.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Lettie Cheek.

o-o-o-o-o

Tex.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I feel led to write and thank each one for the prayers you have prayed for me and my mother. She is much better and can sleep pretty good. She has quit dipping snuff. Thank the Lord. She needs your prayers that she will feel stronger and not so drowsy.

My arm is better and I can milk again. I am looking to the good Lord for complete healing, for he says "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Praise God! May God bless and keep each of you encouraged to press on in my prayer. A sister, Nellie Lovell

o-o-o-o-o

Ore.—Dear brother in Christ,—Greetings in God's holy name.

Our hearts rejoice as we read the wonderful testimonies of the dear saints of God, and also the wonderful messages of truth, that our souls have been so hungry for, for so long. As we read and meditate upon the precious truths of God the tears flow down our cheeks with love and gratitude to the dear saints that are laboring so faithfully for our precious Lord in spreading this wonderful true message of God. Praise His dear name. We cannot praise our precious Lord enough for what he does for us. All our faith and trust is in God, for both soul and body and for everything that we stand in need of. He is our all and in all.

You spoke of the wonderful assembly meeting that you had there and of how the Lord sent forth the word in the power and demonstration of the Spirit and how you wished we could have been there. Dear Bro. you don't know how our hearts cry within, to be able to get to attend some of these wonderful meetings and to hear these precious messages from God.

We are not discouraged, for as we are waiting upon the Lord for his guidance, we are doing much studying and praying and staying before Him. For we are ready to go and do, where ever the Holy Spirit leads. We are earnestly seeking a deeper walk with God.

Charles W. King

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I promised the Lord if he would answer prayer for me that I would write a letter to "Faith and Victory," and thank God he did. I have so much to be thankful for. I don't think I'm thankful enough. Praise the Lord! He is so good to us. So many times he has answered prayer for me. I have been saved about two years.

I have some unspoken requests I would like for all the saints to pray for. There aren't very many saints here. Pray that the Lord will send some more here. Pray for my family that they will see the right way before it's too late. May God bless each of you is my prayer.

A friend in Jesus.

o—o—o—o—o

Mich.—Dear Christian friends,—Having been a subscriber of "Faith and Victory" since 1926, I can say it is the messages with the truth. Many times I have longed to write my experience but being in an institution that is very communistic and my liberty is limited, not allowed to travel or have passes I desire that you send me the offer of assorted tracts and the paper to hand to a friend.

I used to wonder could people's faith dwindle so faint as to lose sight of the glorious Evening Light this nation has enjoyed.

I enjoy wonderful victory in my soul and know that our God can fulfill his promises.

Willis Burkett.

—::—

"Beware Lest Thou Forget the Lord"

"When thou shalt have eaten and be full, then beware lest thou forget the Lord." Deut. 6:11b, 12a. These words were spoken to the Israelites, but they are good for us today. Too often when we have received our fill of temporal blessings, we forget or neglect the Lord. Our secret prayer ceases, our daily Bible reading and meditations diminish, and our minds become more and more engrossed with earthly things.

The children of Israel were constantly guilty of forgetting the Lord when they were free from persecutions. It was then that they began to worship idols and marry strange wives. In Psalm 106 we find a number of miracles related: of how God delivered them from bondage and rebuked the Red Sea, but the 13th verse says, "They soon forgot his works and waited not for his counsel."

Let us stir ourselves that we forget not the Lord who delivered our souls from sin. Let us not become idol worshipers of our homes, cars, furniture, or anything. God deserves first place in our lives. If we find ourselves becoming a little careless, let us pray as David did in Psalm 137:5, 6, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth: If I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy."

How much better to have our hand paralyzed and to be dumb rather than forget the Lord and have him as our chief joy. "Beware lest we forget the Lord."

—O. A. Davenport

—::—

To Whom It May Concern:

My heart is very sad as I look at the awful sin in this world, how fast it is going down into gross darkness. And remember that the Lord said that as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the coming of the

Son of Man, for he said that the imaginations of man's heart were only evil continually. Read Genesis 5: 6, 7 and compare it with the sins of the world today. We see people all about us that have not the fear of God before their eyes. Little children before they reach their teens are going into sin and adultery and their parents are paying no attention to where they go or what they do. Morals have gone down 100 per cent to what they were fifty years ago, and there is no respect for God's Word or for His faithful saints who will dare to tell the truth and what is to come. The powers of darkness are turned loose in this world. Old Satan himself has been turned loose for a little season as recorded in Revelation 20:7.

And now is gathering together Gog and Magog, making war with the saints of God. Already they have put millions to death, and what can we Americans expect when Communism takes over in this country—and that is what is going to happen. Many Bible prophecies warn us of the great destruction of this world. Jesus said that as it was in the day of Sodom, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man. Luke 17:26-30. We read, "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded, but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

These are not idle words, but the words of the Lord Jesus, and they cannot be changed to suit the theories of men, but will stand when this old world is on fire. Search the scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life.

The great masses of the religious world today are dreaming of a great age to come in which they will have another chance to be saved, but Jesus said in Luke 17:29-31 that they were all destroyed, and I believe the Bible, don't you? Read Revelation 20: 7-15. These are the words of Jesus, and they cannot be changed. He said in the 10th verse that the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and false prophet are—which means false preachers, too—and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever. And the 15th verse reads that whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Dear reader, take no chances. Your soul is of too much value to take a chance. Be sure that your name is written in heaven, in the Lord's Book of Life. Dear friend, there are just two places to go, either with Christ in heaven or with the beast and the false prophets in the lake of fire which will you choose?

— Bro. Stubbs.

If you desire to work for the Lord, send for a roll of papers to give out to friends and neighbors. The Lord has no idlers in His vineyard.

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

Large print New Testament with Psalms, well made with good stiff back. Price only \$2.00 each.

Pocket Testament, clear print overlapping cover, \$1.50.

Young People's Section

The Church of God

I saw a picture of the church
In all its splendor and glory.
Musing, I can see it in my mind's eye;
I'll tell you about it—'tis a wonderful story.

My Daddy was reading; he was talking to me,
Telling me about this church so dear.
More closely I leaned, nearer I drew—
This was about God; I bowed my head to hear.

Then as I raised my head, I knew at once
That some glorious change had just taken place.
As I looked, before me rose a great high building, (1)
Raised in the splendor of Zion's own grace.

Oh! as I saw it, I called upon God!
For its beauty, no riches could ever compare.
It was built of the saints of the true living God— (2)
More precious than stones or jewels so rare!

As I looked at that building, so gloriously divine,
I beheld the Light; it was shining so brightly (3)
That I covered my face with the hem of my coat—
And then heard a voice talking to me. (4)

It was strong, it was kind, as I hearkened unto it,
And it said, "My beloved, now follow me,
And I'll show you the Lamb's bride, the church; (5)
This rock which it rests on, I want you to see. (6)

"How strong it is! How firm and unwrinkled!
Jump on it! Stamp on it! Not a bit loose can you
knock!

For the very gates of the burning hell (6)
Can never prevail against this rock!

"Now see this foundation, yea, one ever be— (7)
Which is Jesus Christ. It holds up the church—
Built of the saints of the true living God!" (8)
(How lowly the smallest of nails I must be!)

"This brother is a window, this one is a floor, (9)
A sister is this side wall, so humble, yet strong,
While others are pillars, steadfast in the Lord— (10)
When one crashes down, many souls go along!"

(I could feel my Lord weeping, while I stood there thus
And as I could feel it, I wondered within me
How many pillars He'd have to replace!
O Lord, give me grace to walk onward with thee!)

The angel was talking, and his voice rang on high,
As I looked at the door—had I seen it before?
How humble I felt as I gazed there upon it—
And then I remembered, Jesus said, "I am the door!" (11)

In the midst of my praises, gently pressing me on,
He showed me the cornerstone, so strong and so
steadfast; (12)
And he whispered, "That's Jesus," and my praise be-

gan anew!
Hallelujah in glory! May love ever last!

The stone which the builders rejected had become the
head of the corner (13)
Though the Jews had rejected the dear Lamb, our
own,
And had hung him upon the cruel cross to die,
He had risen and become the chief corner stone!

Oh, God, how I love that chief corner stone,
Raised as a motto of salvation divine;
And I know, dear Lord, I am part of the church—
Praises sing ye in glory, for Jesus is mine!

(1) 1 Cor. 3:9; (2) Acts 2:47 and 1 Cor. 6:15; (3) Rev. 21:23; (4) Rev. 21:9; (5) Rev. 21:9; (6) Matt. 16:18; (7) 1 Cor. 3:11; (8) Acts 2:47 or 1 Cor. 6:15; (9) Eph. 2:19-22; (10) Rev. 3:12; (11) John 10:9; (12) Eph. 2:20; (13) Matt. 21:42).

—Alta Mae Harmon

—:::—

Reading

In many ways reading affects our Christian life. The most important of all is the reading of God's Word which is the Bible. Jesus himself teaches us to "search the scriptures." In Ephesians 3:4 it is written, "Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ." If we do not read the Bible, how do we know what Jesus says, and how do we know how He expects us to live?

Reading is a good thing if we use it right. There are many books besides the Bible that we may read, but we must be careful to always read the right things. In 1 Cor. 10:33 it says, "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient; all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not." And surely the wrong kind of books not only are not edifying to us, but also can be harmful to our experience. A good thing to remember when we start to read anything is to ask ourselves: "Is this profitable to me?" "Will it edify or help me spiritually?" If we let God and our conscience be our guide in such things, I am sure we shall never go wrong.—A. L. a young person.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear young people,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name this morning. As I see the dawn of another day, I want to keep it holy, by God's help, and have nothing to regret when the sun sets this evening. What a privilege it is to serve God, yet people pass his mercy by as if it were a shame to be His child.

I promised the Lord I would send in my testimony if He would answer my prayer request, as it meant so much to me concerning the future. Nothing is impossible for the Lord though, and he surely answered prayer in a wonderful way. It has strengthened my faith and helped me along in this way of holiness.

Last week I took a sick spell quite unexpectedly with-

in a few hours time. As I hadn't had a bad sick spell since my marriage (of one year), even long before that, it rather took me by surprise. But the Lord was right there to keep me encouraged and stand by me. I suffered with my lungs and head severely at times, accompanied with a high temperature, but the Lord would give me relief. I took sick Tuesday night and this Monday morning I have completely regained my strength. I was able to get up and fix my husband's breakfast and clear things away without any effect on me at all. Surely the Lord does much for those that trust Him. I still have trouble with my head, but I know the Lord will heal that too, in due time.

I'm just starting in the last year of my teens and some may think young people like that may falter along this line. But I have always had faith in God for my healing as well as any other need. I have never asked for the aid of man. I've been taught to trust God all the way and to put it into practice. I believe the reason some of our young people stumble on different important teachings of the Bible is because some of the professed parents fail to put it into practice in the home as they should. If they call a doctor whenever one gets sick, it makes it hard for the children to have faith for healing when they get saved. If the mother dresses one way at home and town, another way for church, the children will follow her example. If the father tells jokes and does things he would not do if some of the saints were around, the children are likely to follow his example. And so we could go on. But when the child grows up and gets saved, he or she will have to get a real settled experience before they can change that habit, formed all these years. Otherwise they may always be up and down in their experience, never able to do themselves nor anyone else any good.

I also feel that perhaps, courtship has been taken too lightly among some of the young people. Going from one to another continually is not good. It will sap out your spiritual life if you don't watch and pray. Your conduct together can make a difference spiritually also.

I'm glad that I can say we have nothing to regret in our courtship before marriage. I would do the same again and it is a fit example for others to follow. It was more like getting acquainted before marriage and courtship afterward. There was no love making, riding all hugged up, goodnight kisses, etc. We both kept the Lord with us when we were alone as well as in company, and He instructed us. If you'll keep Jesus as your guide, he won't lead you wrong. Keep faithful and true, for some day we may have to carry on in other's places. Pray for me.

Christian love,

Mrs. Troy Meek.

Ark.—Dear saints,—It has been some time since I have sent in my testimony. I wish that everyone could have complete faith in Jesus. Jesus heals people as well as giving them salvation. It makes me sad to hear some people say that healing belongs to old times. Does it not say in the Bible that "I am the Lord that healeth thee"? Certainly it does. I would like to know why some people take some scriptures and won't take it all.

I would like to tell you of an experience that we had. Last night my youngest brother's side hurt him all night. When he woke up this morning his side was worse. Daddy was going to take him to the doctor to see if he had appendicitis. Mother and I prayed for him, then suddenly all of the pain stopped. Daddy didn't know what to think when we told him that God had healed him. I am thankful for what God can do. Pray for the complete healing of my rheumatism. A brother, Floyd Tolleson.

PENALTIES FOR ADULTERY

"And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death" Lev. 20:10.

"If a man entice a maid that is not betrothed, and lie with her; he shall surely endow her to be his wife." Exodus 22:16.

"And I will judge thee, as woman that break wedlock and shed blood are judged" Ezek. 16:38.

"Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" Matt. 5:28. "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murderers, adulteries, fornication, false witness, blasphemies" Matt. 15:19.

"Whosoever shall put away his wife except it be for fornication and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" Matt. 19:9.

"Thou shalt not commit adultery" Ex. 20:14.

"Thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbor's wife to defile thyself with her" Lev. 18:20. "But fornication and all uncleanness . . . let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints" Eph. 5:3.

"For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth: but if the husband be dead she is loosed from the law of her husband" Rom. 7:2.

"The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth: but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will: only in the Lord." 1 Cor. 7:39.

—Ora Futch.

—o0o—

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

The saints at Guthrie, Oklahoma, who meet for worship in their chapel on the corner of 6th St. and W. Warner Ave., extend a welcome to other saints and friends to meet with them in their annual Easter Sunday services, April 5, 1953. There will be Sunday school, Morning services, ordinance services in the afternoon, and night service. A basket dinner will be served in the dining hall.

—:::—

GUTHRIE CHAPEL FINANCIAL REPORT

The new chapel at Guthrie was appreciated by all who came to the assembly meeting, yet it is not completed. There is much more work to be done.

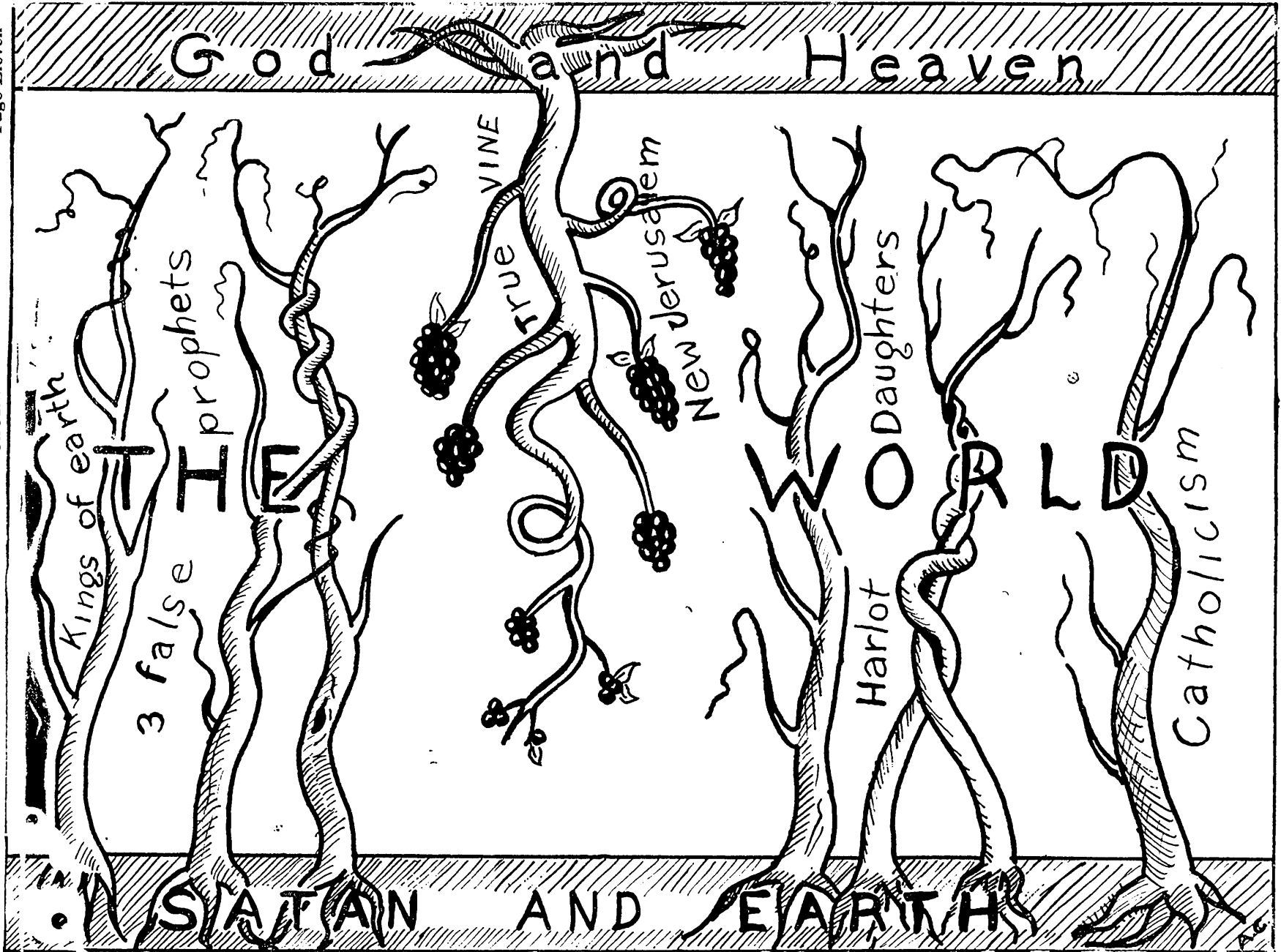
Gifts from individuals and congregations since the meeting	\$250.00
Amount carried forward	634.00
Total on hand	884.00
Total indebtedness	\$5000.00

—O. C. Porter

—:::—

GABIN ON MONARK SPRINGS CAMPGROUND

If any of the saints want to buy a cabin on the Monark Springs campground, write Sister E. Coral Johnson, Box 86, La Junta, Colo.



The above diagram illustrates what constitutes the religious world in its Babel confusion and the True Vine (Christ), which is in the world but not of the world, which the Scriptures call, "The Church of God," the "Family of God," and the

The True Vine and The False Vine

In the first verse of the fifteenth chapter of John's gospel, Jesus says, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman." Jesus would have been guilty of using idle words if there had been no false vines; so we know if he is the true vine, there are false vines. In the gospels, Jesus quite often spoke of false prophets and false teachers, men coming in sheep's clothing, and some saying, "Here is Christ," and "Lo, there is Christ;" but he warns us to be not deceived.

In the fifth verse he says, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." From this statement it is plain to see that every saved person who retains the Spirit of Christ in the soul is a branch in the vine (Christ) or a member in his body, the church. "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned." (verse 6).

As there are many false prophets and false teachers in the world who have false vines (churches) that will be burned and destroyed, it is easy to see how a branch (a saved soul) that ceases to abide in the true vine (Christ) will become withered and men will gather them into their false vines and they will in time be burned or destroyed with the other false vines (religions). In the chart or diagram, you will notice that the true vine is rooted in God and in heaven, but the false vines are rooted in Satan and in the earth, yet both are flourishing in the world and have their life here. In John 17:14, 15 Jesus prayed for his disciples who were branches in the true vine, "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil."

In the third chapter of John's gospel, Jesus says, "Ye must be born again." In the margin it says, "From above." A soul that is truly born again is born from above, and has a life coming down into it from above, from God and from heaven, and it is not of this world any more than Jesus and his disciples were of this world. He did not pray for the Father to take His people out of the world, but to keep them from the evil. We who are truly born again are in the world where all these false religions are, but we do not partake of them, and the Spirit of God keeps us from all these evils; therefore we are not of the world, but of heaven.

Jesus met with the false religions of his day, and they hated him because he told them the truth. False religions and false teachers and prophets will not receive all the truth, and they will array themselves against the true ministers of God, who are not of this world but are from above. Jesus told the false teachers in his day, "Ye are from beneath: I am from above: Ye are of this world; I am not of this world." John 8:23.

The present-day religions are nearly all of this world and are drawing their substance from the earth, are from beneath, are of this world, and will not receive all the truth, but just that which suits them to hold up their false religions. They can mix with and draw support from the world, and at the same time claim to be following Christ and leading souls to heaven.

It is remarkable to note the comparison of Jesus and the false religions of his day, and the branches in the true Vine today and the false vines. In Jesus' time the false teachers and prophets claimed Abraham as their father and owned and worshiped God, but at the same time they reviled and hated Jesus who was the true God manifested in the flesh. Present-day false teachers and prophets claim God as their Father and Jesus Christ as their Saviour, but at the same time they hate and resist the true Vine in the world today that comes down from God out of heaven and brings all of the real truth to men. Often they will brand the branches of the true vine as fanatical and legalistic people, narrow minded, and such like, in order to justify themselves before men in their attachments to the world. James says that the world is the enemy of God. "Whosoever will be a friend to the world is the enemy of God." We love the souls of men, but not the spirit of the world in which they move. Those who are Christ's, or pretend to be, and conform to the world in different ways, are showing themselves to be friends of the world, which is the enemy of God. Read James 4:4, and also 1 John 2:15, 16.

Some one may ask, "How is it that these ministers in the different man-made religions have so much light, and preach so many right things, and many of them seem so nice and pious?" Jesus witnessed that they were such in his day, and said that they were like "whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." Matt. 23:27. False teachers have the appearance of the true, but they have poison doctrines back of it that will defile the soul if believed and practiced, and will cause folks to be of the world and not from above. In Luke 11:44 Jesus said to them, "Ye are as graves that appear not." In other words, he was telling them that they appeared to be much alive in the things of God, but at the same time their end was death, as their beliefs and practices showed them to be dead in their souls as far as real truth was concerned.

Paul, in 2 Cor. 11:13-15, tells us very plainly what false teachers are and why they become such: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light [knows the truth about a lot of spiritual things]. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

Some one may ask, "Why is it that many who once had the truth are now in this class, and are partakers of the world with other false religions?" For

an answer to this question, read 2 Thess. 2:10, 11, "Because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved, and for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." These people did not continue to love the truth, but began to love the world and conform to it, and became withered branches. God sent them strong delusion, so that they went right on preaching and claimed to follow Christ, becoming more and more like other false religions, and partaking of nearly all manner of worldliness. Thus they became the enemies of the cross of Christ.

In the chart you will notice Catholicism and her harlot daughters (Rev. 17:5) pictured as false vines coming out of the earth, and they are very prominent in the world. You will also notice on the other side of the "true Vine" more false vines coming out of the earth and of Satan, and in the world. These represent the three unclean spirits like frogs which have come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth [Kings here means ministers that have wide influence, swaying the multitudes into false doctrines and ruling over them, spiritually speaking. They are kings of the earth and not from above. They draw their substance from the earth and Satan, and are, spiritually speaking, as angels of light, transformed into preachers of righteousness—as they preach many right things.] and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Read Revelation 16:14, 15.

The true Vine in the picture represents the family of God that is in the world but not of the world. It is not of the multitude of false religions, but is separated unto God and set apart from all the religious rabble. It does not love the world nor the things in the world, but it has its affections on things above where Christ sitteth at the right hand of the Father. In the Scriptures it is symbolized as Jerusalem which is above and free from the world, which is the mother of us all (Gal. 4:26); and also symbolized as, "New Jerusalem" (Read Rev. 3:12; also Rev. 21:2). It is also termed "the bride, the Lamb's wife," for when one is saved he is symbolized as being married to the Lord (Read Rom. 7:4). You will notice that John saw the holy city (which symbolizes the holy children of God) the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (Rev. 21:2). Also, notice that the true Vine is come down from God out of heaven and this is symbolized as the new Jerusalem, the people of God that are born from above. They are in the world but not of the world. They draw their power, strength, wisdom, and righteousness from above and bear the fruits of the Spirit in the world, to the glory of God. Souls that are born from above are all made new in Christ Jesus, old things have passed away and all things have become new. They do not walk according to the course of this world any more, do not fellowship the multitude

of false religions in and of the world.

Rev. 21:10 is a description of what John saw when he was shown the bride, the Lamb's wife, "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." The children of God are often termed as on a mountain, and a mountain. Read Isaiah 2:22, 23; also, read in Ezekiel 43:12, "Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof around about shall be most holy."

We shall now show you that John also saw the fallen church, the multitude of earthly religions that surround us in the world today which he called "Mystery Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abomination of the earth." Notice, these things are of the earth and not from above. Read Rev. 17:5.

Let us begin reading at the first verse of the 17th chapter of Revelation, "And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore [Mystery Babylon the great and her harlot daughters] that sitteth upon many waters." Waters here symbolize people. You will get the definition out of the 15th verse of this chapter. This great mystery of the false religion is resting on the people and they are supporting her, are in bondage to her and become idol worshipers. In the 2nd verse it says, "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication." The kings of the earth are these great preachers that sway the people, such as popular radio preachers, pulpit preachers, and editors. You notice it says, "Kings of the earth." They are not of heaven although they claim to be of God and to worship him and claim Jesus as their Savior. They are of earth and rule over men, spiritually speaking, and commit fornication with the harlot daughters of Babylon. They acknowledge them, conform to the world as they do, and get their converts into the family of some harlot daughter, and in that way commit fornication with the whore that sitteth upon many waters. All ministers, radio preachers, and editors that call themselves interdenominational are committing fornication with the harlot daughters of Babylon whether they realize it or not. This verse reads on, "And the inhabitants of the earth [You notice it says "earth," which would leave the true children of God out, as they are from above] have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication." In other words, they drink of her doctrines, imbibe them and are spiritually intoxicated, being partakers with her in her fornication and are conformed more or less to the world, as all the false, "Mystery-Babylon-the-great" religions are.

The third verse reads thus, "So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness." You will notice the contrast between the scene of the bride, the Lamb's wife, and the scene of Mystery Babylon the great and her harlot daughters. In the one he was carried to a great and high mountain to see the bride, the Lamb's wife; but here he is carried into the wilderness, which symbolizes a wild, unattended place where many evil things grow and some good things which have no husbandman to dress them, to purge

them and cause them to bear acceptable fruit unto God or to keep them from the world and the intoxicating wine of Mystery Babylon and her harlot daughters. In order to see this Mystery Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth, it was needful to go into a wilderness place not inhabited, not cultivated, or tended by the true God.

When I mentioned wilderness where John was carried to see the "MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT AND HER HARLOT DAUGHTERS" and said that some good things grew there, I meant by that that there are some of God's people in these places who are sincere and living up to all the light they have, but God in these last days is calling them out of those places to separate them from the world and its religions and abide in the true Vine alone to fully glorify God.

—Fred Pruitt.

My Best

God has His highest things in life

For the few who dare to stand the test;

God has His second choice

For those who will not have His best;

And some there be who never make the highest choice

And when by trials pressed,

They shrink, they yield, they shun the cross,

And so they lose the best.

I want in this short life of mine

Just as much as may be pressed,

Of service true to God and man,

So help me, Lord, to do my best.—Sel.

Our best is none too good for Him who did His best for us; and surely nothing could please Him better than to follow in His footsteps and seek to save the lost, remembering that what we do, we must do quickly for "the night cometh when no man can work."

—T. C. H.

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

BIBLE STUDY

Price Change—Primary Picture Roll \$1.35, Lesson cards 9c

JESUS CONDEMNS FALSE LEADERSHIP

March 1, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 23:1-12, 37-39.

Matt. 23:1. Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,

2. Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:

3. All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

4. For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they them-

selves will not move them with one of their fingers.

5. But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments.

6. And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,

7. And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

8. But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

9. And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

10. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.

11. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

12. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

37. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

38. Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

39. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Memory Verse: Whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. Matt. 23:12.

Practical Truth: Religious leaders should be careful to teach the truth and to exemplify the spirit of Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Ever since the devil told the first lie in the garden of Eden the history of the world has been one of much falsehood, but when it is found in the leaders who are trusted by the common people, no wonder Jesus is so severe in his denunciation. We as representatives of the true Christianity need to be watchful that such does not creep in unawares. May God help us. Let us notice the solemn denunciation of Jesus as he related this list of sins; they shut up the windows of heaven, and devour widow's houses, verses 13 and 14. He plainly calls them hypocrites in verses 25 through 27. "Ye are the children of them that killed the prophets" verse 31. Many such things Jesus said they had done and were still doing and in verses 34-36 he tells what they will continue to do.

Throughout all the history of the Jewish nation God had shown a continual lament over the way Jerusalem had received his mercies and here we have the lament of Jesus as he weeps over this same Jerusalem and says, "How often would I have gathered thy children together." Jesus has that same message today for the world and says "Come unto me" Matt. 11:28-30. He still has mercy and compassion for all of those who will come.

JESUS URGES ALERTNESS

March 8, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 25:1-13.

Matt. 25:1. Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

4. But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
5. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.
6. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.
7. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.
8. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.
9. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.
10. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.
11. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.
12. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.
13. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Memory Verse: Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. 1 Cor. 16:13.

Practical Truth: The Christian should be constantly prepared to meet his Lord.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The key words here are to watch and be ready. There are a number of warnings in the Bible which show that we need to be on our guard that we may not lose out by "Unbelief, in departing from the living God." Heb. 3:12. It must be possible to do this or surely God would not have had it recorded just as he has here to warn us. God is longsuffering and full of compassion for all that are ready to take his warning for he is "Not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

In the case of the foolish virgins, it is quite evident that they had lost the Holy Spirit out of their lives and yet were going on with a profession just as if they were still the same. Rom. 8:9 plainly says, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy." 1 Cor. 3:16-17. Therefore it is very plain that we need to heed the directions given in Heb. 12:15 "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God."

ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD

March 15, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 25:31-46.

Matt. 25:31. When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

32. And before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33. And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35. For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36. Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

38. When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39. Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40. And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

41. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42. For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43. I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45. Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Memory Verse: Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Matt. 25:40.

Practical Truth: We all must render an account to God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus gives us here the picture of the judgment scene so particularly described that no one can make mistake. The fact of the coming judgment is mentioned many, many times; here are three, Acts 17:31 "He hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world." Rom. 14:12, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." 2 Cor. 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." So then the important fact is to learn that we are answerable to God. Since God has created all, he has a right to do with us as he will. Listen to Rev. 4:11, "Thou art worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." No one is left out. God watches over every one with mercy.

There is a reward for the righteous right here in this life as well as in the world to come, for when he gets saved from sin he begins a happy life that will last throughout all eternity. Ponder Rom. 6:22, "But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life." Mal. 3:16-17, "And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels."

IN THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS

March 22, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 26:6-13, 26-30.

Matt. 26:6. Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,

7. There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.

8. But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste?

9. For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

10. When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

11. For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always.

12. For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial.

13. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

26. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

27. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28. For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

29. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

30. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

Memory Verse: I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. John 10:17-18.

Practical Truth: The outpoured love of Christ for us demands a responsive love on our part, suitably expressed.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus is drawing nearer and nearer to the cross and we notice some of his definite preparations for it. In our preparation for crucifixion of self there needs to be a definite preparation. The Bible gives definite instructions. Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ." Gal. 2:20. "The world is crucified unto me and I unto the world."

Mary of Bethany had her part in this preparation. Read John 11:1-2, 12:1-9. It must have cost Mary all that she had, for Jesus, who knows all things said, "She hath done what she could." She gave what was considered a year's earnings and Judas who criticized her, sold his Lord for thirty pieces of silver (\$5.10). Mary showed that she really believed Jesus when he told her of his coming death. Her love was poured out and her contrition was displayed by the tears that she shed. "Are we bringing the gift of true love to the Saviour? Are we honouring Jesus so gentle and good? Oh, how sweet it will be when our service is ended, If we hear his voice say, 'Ye have done what ye could.'" (Song 254 in Evening Light Songs)

"This do in remembrance of me." In John 6:53-63, Jesus explains about eating his flesh and drinking his blood by saying, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." Rev. 2:17, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna."

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

March 29, 1953

Printed Portion.....Matthew 27:32-44, 54.

Matt. 27:32. And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross.

33. And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull,

34. They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

35. And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

36. And sitting down they watched him there;

37. And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

38. Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.

39. And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,

40. And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.

41. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,

42. He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

43. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.

44. The thieves, also which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.

54. Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

Memory Verse: God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8.

Practical Truth: Through the greatest sacrifice ever made the greatest triumph was achieved—the redemption of a lost world.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Brother C. E. Orr had a vision of the cross when he said, "I see thee on the reeking cross, I'm thinking, Lord, of thee." It makes the tears come when we get a vision of Christ on the cross for us. Rom. 5:8 plainly declares, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." The wonderful love of God. God gave his Son, (John 3:16) and the Son gave his life, (John 10:17-18). This is a great cost in the great plan of redemption for us who are "by nature the children of wrath." Eph. 2:3. We deserved wrath but God had mercy. "According to his mercy he saved us" Titus 3:4, 5. The reason for this is given in 2 Cor. 5:21, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

What a contrast there is; when Jesus Christ was born, the glory of the Lord, shining forth upon the earth in radiant splendor, turned night into day. When he died, God veiled the sun, and turned midday into the blackness of night. During that time Jesus felt that God had left him for he said, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matt. 27:46. But the triumphant cry of Jesus, "It is finished," gave to the world the finished plan of redemption. There is no other love like the love of Jesus that can satisfy the longing of the soul. C. W.