

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 23, No. 11

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

December, 1953

### It Is Peace or Destruction

To Abraham's descendents a promise true was given:  
That God, a great Messiah would send to them from heaven.

Thru many generations the word was handed down—  
Vast multitudes were waiting this glorious King to crown.

At last the King was given and angels came to earth  
To tell about His coming and celebrate His birth.

If hearts had grasped their message of "Peace, good will  
to men,"

The earth would have abounded with blessings rich from  
heav'n.

But Satan drew minds downward till folks failed to perceive  
That they must look toward heaven God's great gift to  
receive.

When darkened hearts and sinful refused the King a place,  
Their awful doom was certain destruction of their race.

'Twas years ago, His advent, yet He is pleading still  
For folks to heed the message of "Peace on earth, good-  
will."

Yes, YOU must make a choice: Let Him now reign within;  
Or wail with all rejecters, "Alas, what might have been!"

—G. Ray

### “Where Is The Good Way?”

“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways and see,  
and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and  
walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But  
they said, We will not walk therein.” Jer. 6:16.

As I ponder over this prophetic text, it takes my  
mind back over forty years ago. My father, by chance  
through the mighty hand of God, received a ray of  
light from a once good religious paper. At this time  
he was reading and searching the Word of God with  
prayer while in the Baptist denomination, and inquir-  
ing for more of the Lord's grace that would help one  
to live above sin. “Light broke at last.” He found  
the old path that led to this good way. Thank God,  
with others of the family, we bid farewell to the ism,  
schism, fads, fashions, and habits, bingo parties, etc.,  
and found rest for our souls. To me it is in my heart  
today just like it was then; and much more so, be-

cause the Lord has done, and is doing, wonderful  
things for us whereof we are thankful.

“And an highway shall be there, and a way, and  
it shall be called The Way of Holiness, the unclean  
shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the  
wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.”  
Isaiah 35:8.

There are, no doubt, some precious souls who are  
caged in one of those places like myself and many  
others, desiring to find the old path and the good  
way. The people of God do rejoice with joy unspeak-  
able and full of glory to be in this good old way; yet  
it is a new way, that came down from glory through  
the suffering and shed blood of our Redeemer.

It makes our very soul cry within when we see  
some seem as though they have lost the vision of this  
glorious way. “Thine ears shall hear a word behind  
saying, This is the way, walk ye in it.” “Jesus saith  
unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No  
man cometh unto the Father but by me.” John 14:6.

There are many new paths and many ways. They  
say, lo, here and lo there; but Jesus says go not in  
those ways. “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and  
a light unto my path.” Psa. 119:105. Have you found  
the old path, the good way? Are you in it?

In these modern evil days, the enemy of righteous-  
ness, peace, and unity has so befogged the minds of  
precious souls that they are wresting the Word of God  
to their shame and destruction. There are no non-  
essentials in God's Holy Writ. All are profitable, and  
each precept must be obeyed. If one is omitted, guilt  
is the doom.

Ever so often someone gets “new light” or hears  
“a voice from the Lord.” This is an age of new dis-  
coveries, inventions, etc. The air is full of voices.  
Now the light and voice which the people of God de-  
sire is that which has its origin upon the Word of  
God. During the writing of the text, they said, “We  
will not walk therein.” Today people are saying and  
doing the same thing in 1953.

How long will it take one to become established  
in the real fundamentals of this truth? Year after  
year goes by; the light shines brighter as one walks  
in it. God has watchmen on the wall declaring the  
truth as it was in the beginning, yet the way is not  
as attractive as it should be.

My soul is so filled up with this "old time truth," as we hear the expression, that I have lost all taste or desire to look on or even think of anything but this way that came our way over fifty years ago. I see it, I believe it on every line like it was first brought to us. My soul is settled in this way because I am stripped of everything that does not belong on the way.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief, and a robber." John 10:1. There is but ONE true way—it is holy, high, new, narrow, perfect, old, common, right, good, light, and living.

Consider for awhile, and think what it cost to bring this wonderful plan of salvation—a way free from sin and condemnation—to us, yea, to every one who will pay the price to walk on this highway. It is life to all who will die to self, forsake the world, its fads, fashions, bingo parties, and such like, wearing of gold, bracelets, rings, yea, everything the Word of God forbids. The enemy is holding attraction here and there to cause you to lose your soul or cause one to listen to what "folks" say. Hear the voice of God. "This is my beloved Son, hear ye Him."

This is not a popular way. And "the common people heard him gladly" Mark 12:37b.

I must appeal to the mothers, daughters, and grands—. Turn your eyes inwardly in the light of the blessed Word as it has been handed down to us and see if the following displays were on the old Highway of Holiness. Remember, the Word of God is forever the same. There is the bobbed hair or other "keep-up-with-the-world" styles: the low neck, no sleeves (for grown-ups and children), no heels, no toes, short dresses, over long dresses, transparent dresses or blouses showing laces beneath (or exposing the parts of the body which should be covered with proper covering). Judge ye, see if that is a light of the world, a city set on a hill that cannot be hid as Jesus said in Matt. 5. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Each and every soul needs Jesus, saved or unsaved, young or old. Each beating of the heart is taking us on to the end. How careful should each live and adorn the holy way, that when in trial, sickness, or death Jesus will be one in your family or any ordeal you may face. There is one Bible, one heaven, and one hell. Both young and old must abide by the same, regardless of how long a time anyone may have been in this way, preaching, etc. "Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall." 2 Cor. 10:12. —E. V. Phillips.

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## Baptism, The Mode and Purpose Of

It is a common rule, or custom in discussing the meaning of words to refer to an authorized lexicon in order to establish the meaning of the word under consideration; and I think it is fair to all parties to accept the meaning of words as defined by such lexicographers.

Now the word "baptism," according to Webster, is from the Greek word "baptismos," which word, Webster says, means to "dip," and "dipped." And this definition perfectly harmonizes with the Word of God. The Word of God nowhere says, specifically, that the mode of baptism is by immersion, or dipping; but it does imply that it was administered, by the followers of Christ, by immersion. See Matt. 3:5, 6; Romans 6:4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism . . .

"Buried with him by baptism," Col. 2:12. "Jesus when he was baptized went UP straightway out of the water." Matt 3:16. And he commanded the chariot to stand still and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him." Acts 8:38.

I cannot understand how anything could be made plainer than the mode of baptism.

Now the question might arise as to "what is baptism?"

Baptism is a religious ceremonial rite.

Then the question arises: What was, or what is, the purpose of the rite?

John's baptism was a baptism of repentance; that is, they were baptized as evidence of repentance, as a testimony that they had repented; and not, in order to repent.

Christian baptism is a testimony of one's acceptance of Christ, and not a means of getting them to accept Him. But until one is baptized, he has given no public testimony that he has accepted Christ. According to the Word of God, one is not recognized as having accepted Christ until he is baptized; therefore baptism should, and is supposed to, follow immediately after one accepts Christ as his Saviour from sin. We have no account of any one putting off baptism after they accepted Christ during the apostolic times; but the rite was performed straightway (immediately, at once). See Acts 16:33; Acts 16:14, 15.

The command to be baptized always follows immediately after the command to repent and to believe.

"He that believeth and is baptized . . ." Mark 16:16. "Repent and be baptized," Acts 2:38. And the people at the house of Cornelius, as soon as they accepted Peter's preaching and were saved and had received the Holy Spirit, were commanded to be baptized Acts 10:46-48. I fear that baptism is regarded too lightly by many so-called Christians.

Baptism is for (in order to) the remission of sins, in a ceremonial, or figurative, sense. See 1 Pet. 3:21. Those eight souls (persons) that were saved by water in the ark never would have been saved by the water, had they not first gotten into the ark before the water, before the flood, came. If they had remained outside the ark depending on the water to save them, they would have drowned just like all others who remained on the outside of the ark until the water came. Getting into the ark was figurative of getting into Christ, and after they had gotten into the ark, the water came and bore up the ark. The fact that the water bore up the ark is wherein lies the fact that those eight souls were saved by water; for if the water had not borne the ark UP, but had

gone into the ark, those eight souls would have been drowned the same as those on the outside. Had the ship (ark) sprung a leak, those eight souls would have been lost, drowned.

I think the ark, the flood, the water give us a wonderful analogue. The ark, representing Christ, the flood representing sin. The ark was prepared before the flood came. The flood caused the people to realize, recognize, their need of a way of escape, and they saw the ark as their only way of escape. So it was the flood that drove them to seek refuge, or safety in the ark; and only those that accepted the ark as a means of safety were saved.

Christ stood as a "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." He was prepared to be our Saviour before sin entered into the world. Sin caused man to realize, recognize, his need of a Saviour, an ark of safety; and realizing the destructiveness of sin, is the cause of people resorting to Christ for safety, for salvation.

If there had never been a flood, the people would never have needed the ark. If there had never been sin, we would never have any need of Christ.

If those eight souls had stayed out of the ark until the flood came, depending on the water, the flood, to float them into the ark, they would have been destroyed with all the other people. If we depend on baptism to put us into Christ, I fear we will be left out.

—E. E. Mitchener.

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## Are You A Rusty Christian?

Open your dictionary and look up the word "rust." Here is one definition: "Rust, a corrosive or injurious accretion, or influence."

This is a highly suggestive definition of what I choose to call a "rusty" Christian. And this rust is nothing more than worry. How many "worrying" Christians there are who have "rusted away," so far as their effectiveness and usefulness for the Lord is concerned! Because of that "corrosive or injurious accretion" of worry, of fear, of doubt, of uncertainty many Christians have become a sort of castaway.

Some years ago I noted a strange motto on a wall. It read, "Why pray when you can worry?" At first I thought I had read the motto incorrectly, but then I saw the suggestive point. In cold, tragic truth, isn't that what far too many of the Lord's people are actually doing? When problems confront them they begin to worry faster than pray.

Worry is an interesting word in itself and is highly suggestive. It comes from an old Anglo-Saxon word that means harm and is but another form of the word wolf. This gives a graphic picture, for worry is like a thing of wild, untamed fury, tearing into the very vitals of the Christian's life and testimony, wrecking immeasurable havoc and devastation.

Even the world recognizes the waste that is caused by worry, for one of their own has said, "Perpetual worry will get you to one place ahead of time—the cemetery." And it will bring the Christian to a place of great uncasiness and loss, for the sin and the folly

and the wickedness of worry will be laid bare at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

More spiritual damage is wrought by worry, by fretting, by this fever of fearfulness than we can possibly realize. It hangs a heavy crepe across the heart, acting as a veil between the soul and our Lord. Worry slanders every promise in the Word of God. Worry, fear, doubt, fretting—all of these strike to the very heart of the prayer life until it becomes a pitiable shell of mere custom.

And worry warps the witness for the Gospel. Paul wrote to the Romans of a burden which every Christian should take up and bear in this present life. Paul said, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are in Rome also" (Rom. 1:14, 15). But the worrying Christian simply cannot take up that burden in these dark and needy days, for he is already carrying a burden that is totally unnecessary . . . the wicked burden of worry. When worry rules in the heart of the Christian, it is the gospel that must suffer.

Worry makes a coward of the Christian. The worried Christian is actually ashamed to face the Lord Jesus Christ and give a satisfactory answer to His question, "Why are ye fearful?" (Matt. 8:26). The worried Christian must blush in confusion and stammer with deepest shame before each "Fear not" of the Bible.

I would lovingly, earnestly call upon every worrying Christian here and now to pause and to consider what is at the core of the wickedness of worry. It is nothing less than a tool in the hands of the devil. It is the devil's "deflector." Because of worry, the Christian sees the wind and the waves rather than the Wonderful One. Because of worry, the Christian trembles before the fury of earth-sounds and cannot listen to the "still, small voice" of the living Lord. Because of worry, the Christian beholds the calamities in the clouds which obscure the face of Christ.

How about your life and my life? Are we "rusty" Christians? Remember what is rusted is almost ruined. A worrying Christian is an agony to the Lord and an asset to the devil. In dramatic words, Paul said to the Romans, "It is high time to wake out of sleep" (Romans 13:11). May the Holy Spirit search and prove our own hearts and deliver us from this sin. May we look to our living Lord who will forgive us and take away the rust so that we will be bright and shining lights. May this be the portion of each of the Lord's own: "Be careful for nothing [be anxious for nothing, do not worry]; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6, 7).

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## ALL-DAY SERVICES NEAR SAPULPA

The congregation of saints who meet in the little chapel on the old Tulsa road north of Sapulpa, wish to announce a change in their all-day meeting date. Now they will have all day meetings on the fifth Sundays, the first one being November 29th.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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RADIO BROADCAST**

Greetings to all the saints in Jesus' name.

We felt led of the Lord to start a Radio Broadcast here in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and the Lord is blessing us in the effort. We have services each Sunday at 1 p. m. to 1:30 p. m. over KGFF Shawnee, 1450 K. C. on the dial. We are trusting God to supply the need and hope to get more time as the Lord supplies. If interested in helping in this move, or desire any more information, write to Bro. Archie Souder, 230 S. McKinley St., Shawnee, Okla.

**Editorials**

The ministers' meeting held at Guthrie was quite well attended by ministers from seven different states, nearly sixty in number. The meeting lasted four days. Many subjects were discussed and conclusions determined. Some ministers who had been in doubt were restored back to fellowship in Christ, which caused rejoicing among the saints. We consider the meeting as a whole very profitable and quite necessary. It is needful for ministers to keep balanced and settled in the truth correctly, and not to go beyond the general teachings of the Word and hold to some extreme idea, neither become liberal on some points and compromise with the devil. All of us ministers surely need to live meek and humble before God—low at his feet—and keep our hearts filled with divine love, which will cover a multitude of faults and cause misunderstandings to be removed and adjusted to the increase of the body of Christ in fellowship and love. I say again that ministers' meetings are profitable if conducted in the Spirit of the Lord, both for local congregations and the church as a whole; and is a wholesome activity in keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There were two ministers ordained, or rather their ordination of God was recognized by the laying on of the hands of the ministers. One was Anna Marie Miles of Pomona, California, who is our daughter; and the other was Sister Laverne Manuel of Los Angeles, Calif. We pray that God will richly bless these two young ministers and give them heavenly wisdom and make them a blessing to many, being the means of a host of souls getting saved and prepared for the glory world.

Recently we received a letter from one who requested us to expound the Scriptures on the subject of the separation of man and wife; in other words, for what reasons does God permit man and wife to separate? I do not feel like the Lord would have me to write an article on the subject, but feel like making a few remarks that may help some. Repeatedly in the New Testament we find Scriptures bearing on this subject. In Mark 10:12 we read, "And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery." In Matt. 19th chapter it gives one reason for putting them away, and that is for fornication; but we do not see in this that parties thus separated have any scriptural right to marry again. If you put away your lawfully wedded companion, you have no right to marry again until such an one has died. It seems to me that the Bible is very plain on this subject. In 1 Cor. 7:10 we read, "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: but and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife." These Scriptures are plain enough for any one to understand. This thing of husband and wife separating over anything less than adultery or fornication is not approved of God. In the 15th verse we read, "But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart, a brother or sister is not under bondage in

such cases; but God has called us to peace." According to this, if the unbelieving one (not a saint) departs, the other is not obligated to them as a companion, but is to keep peace in the soul by living free from any of the other's sins. They would have no right to marry another, but remain unmarried as Paul says, "or be reconciled to her husband." If the departed husband (or wife) repents and gets saved and cleansed from all of his sins, she could be reconciled to him and him only. In the 39th verse we read, "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." A saved person would have no scriptural right to marry an unsaved person.

For more Scriptures on the subject, read the first few verses of the 7th chapter of Romans. Men and women should fear the Lord and be careful not to tangle themselves up in questionable marriages.

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The offer of ten subscriptions for one dollar for three months has given the opportunity to a lot of our readers to do some home missionary work and the subscriptions have been coming in very satisfactorily, some send in twenty, thirty, and forty addresses. One brother sent in eighty addresses. A few have asked us to begin the subscription with the November paper, but it would be quite inconvenient for the office girls to do this; and, too, the November paper has been called for so much that our supply is about exhausted. Our agreement was to begin the subscriptions with the January, 1954 issue, and the subscriptions were to be in here at the office by the 12th of December. Please get them in by that time, so the office force can give their attention to other needed work after the 12th of December.

The printing work is having a wholesome increase and it is a source of comfort and joy to see the gospel going forth in a steady stream and to have knowledge that God is working with the printed page and making the contents a blessing to so many precious souls. May all the members of the body of Christ keep active in the service of the Lord so their souls will prosper and the hope of glory will be in each one and kept clear until the Lord calls us home to himself. Pray for us and the Lord's work here, as responsibilities are quite heavy. The Lord is the source of our strength, and we look to Him only. He has not failed us and never will if we keep our covenant with Him; having that unfeigned faith in God brings peace, quietness, and assurance forever and makes us bold to come to him for grace and wisdom in time of need. May the rich blessings and favors of God rest upon every reader of this paper, is the prayer of your unworthy editor.

### Obituaries

Mrs. Lizzie Marie Robb, daughter of Isaac and Harriott Luckett, was born in Shelby County, Tenn. June 11, 1889, and departed this life in her home in Hennessey, Okla., Oct. 15, 1953 at the age of 64 years, 4 months, and 4 days.

She moved with her parents to Hennessey, Okla. June 20, 1894. In order to avoid hardships the early settlers

suffered, her parents sent her to live with her sister in Kansas City, Kansas, where she attended high school, but returned to Hennessey to finish her high school education.

She received a college education at Langston University, Langston, Okla., and at the age of 18 years she began teaching school at Lone Oak school, east of Dover, Okla., and for many years taught in Hennessey.

In 1948 she was saved in the Church of God and was faithful to death.

Bereaved are: her husband, Mr. Charles Robb; two sisters, Mrs. Ella White of St. Joseph, Mo., and Mrs. Alice Gale of Hennessey; two nephews; other relatives and a host of friends. Funeral services conducted by Sister Ada Davis and U. Phillips.

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Mrs. Ragna Benson, born in Princeton, Minn., Nov. 16, 1891, passed away October 23, 1953 at the age of 61 years, 11 months, and seven days. She is survived by her husband, Carl W.; three sons, William R., Edmund K., Reuben H.; two daughters, Mrs. Joseph Koniar, Mrs. Donovan Ortell; four grandchildren, all of Minneapolis, Minn.; one sister, Mrs. Gust Falkstrom, Oak Park, Minn.; two brothers, Ed of Princeton, Minn. and Albert of Minneapolis.

Sister Benson will be missed by the little congregation of saints at Minneapolis, as well as by her family. She has been one of the "faithful few" in that city for a number of years, and labored for the Lord through much affliction. She became sick this last time on Friday, Sept. 11, and died six weeks later. She did not have any pain—she just slept away.

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### My Decision

When I think of the mercies and loving kindness of God,  
Of the plan of Salvation, the road His Son trod,  
It makes me feel humble and deep with regret  
That I gave the devil a chance, my life to beset.

But I've started again, by His help I'm going on,  
Let come what may, tho it be mild or strong.  
God's grace is promised me, if ever, I be true;  
So by His sustenance I can go through.

I'm glad I heeded and answered his call,  
For He is my strength, my all and in all,  
My courage, my fortress in time of distress;  
He'll never forsake me, my soul He doth bless.

So onward and upward and forward I'll go,  
To live for my Lord, from whom all blessings flow.  
My aim is for Heaven, a most wonderful sight,  
That Home of the Blessed, that land of delight.

—Lela Gibson.

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### NATIONAL CAMPGROUND NOTICE

The attendance at the National campmeeting at Monark Springs (Neosho), Mo. increased again this year, and the facilities for caring for the folks were barely adequate, even though eleven new cabin units had been erected since last campmeeting. Present plans are to purchase more ground adjoining the campground, for more parking, building and camping space. The saints desire also to enlarge the tabernacle for more seating capacity and provide adequate modern rest rooms. With the Lord's blessing, this can be done by next campmeeting if the saints will sacrifice and put forth the effort.

Space on the present ground is sufficient to build five more cabin units under one roof like those built last year. The building would be 12 feet wide and about 50

feet long. One of the saints, a carpenter near the grounds, has agreed to furnish the labor and material for these units at \$1.35 per square foot floor space, provided orders for all five units are received. Two, and possibly three, orders have been received, and as soon as two more are received, then the orders will be turned to the carpenter. The units will be of native rough oak frame, not sealed except partitions, concrete floor, composition shingle roof and siding, two windows and screens, door and screen door, with two coats of paint on windows and doors. The price for 8x12 is \$129.60; 10x12 is \$162.00; and 12x12 is \$194.40. If you want a unit, send your order promptly with cash, stating size wanted, to Bro. Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kansas. Offerings for the much-needed improvements on the campground may be sent to Bro. Beisly or to the undersigned, and your reward will be waiting at the end of a faithful Christian race.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secretary-Treasurer  
1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla.

### NOTICE

Bro. Earl Sharp lost a red leather-back "Select Hymns" song book, either at the Monark Springs or the Myrtle, Mo. campmeeting. If anyone has found it, please send it to Earl Sharp, 25 N. Moraine Circle, Dayton 9, Ohio.

### 1953 FAITH & VICTORY BOOKS READY

The eleven copies of 1953 "Faith and Victory" papers are now bound in book form and will be sent to any address in the United States for 60 cents each, postpaid. Send for yours NOW!

### CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR IN PRISON

Bro. William Weir is in Federal prison at Florence, Arizona for refusing induction into the armed forces. We regret to advise you that the officials will not permit him to receive any mail whatsoever from anyone except his immediate family and one friend. Reports are that he is keeping the victory and witnessing for the Lord. However, in that dark place he desires and will need your continuing fervent prayers.

—L. D. Pruitt

### PRAYER REQUESTS

I sincerely ask all the saints to earnestly remember my wife, Sister Hinshaw, in prayer, that the Lord will restore her mind. She is in a mental Hospital. This is an important request to me, and should be to all who know her; so pray often for her according to Mark 11:24, and someone can pray the prayer of faith according to James 5:14, 15. —Her husband, J. T. Hinshaw, 11465 Osborne St., San Fernando, Calif.

Dear saints,—Please pray that my throat and kidney trouble will be healed. I believe in prayer and know our God can do all things and will heal His children.

A brother, A. L. Bright.

Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. This leaves me up, but not well. My back is afflicted, also my bladder, and I am asking all the saints who read the "Faith and Victory" to pray for my complete healing. I mean to live a saved life by the grace of God. I mean to go right on until the crown is won; I mean to fight the fight of faith till life on earth is done. Pray much for me.

—Hilda Grady

### Assembly Meeting Notice

The saints at Guthrie, Okla. extend a welcome to saints and friends and ministers here and elsewhere to meet with them in the annual state assembly meeting, on the corner

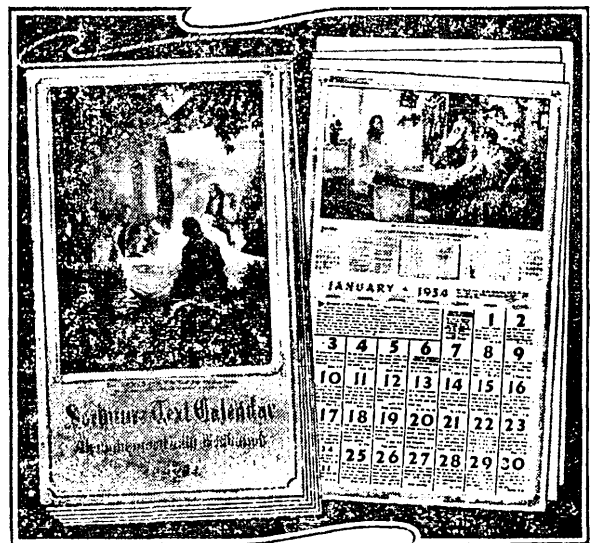
of 6th St. and W. Warner Ave., December 25, 1953 to Jan. 3, 1954. Sleeping quarters and other physical needs will be provided; meals served in the dining hall on the grounds. Bring your bedding if convenient. Donations of canned or fresh fruits or vegetables or free-will offerings will be appreciated. We trust the Lord to supply for the needs of the meeting by such offerings. All the truths of the Bible will be taught as the Lord gives anointing and understanding. COME for help in soul or body.

Send offerings, or for information write to O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie, Okla.

The California State Assembly meeting will convene from Dec. 25 to Jan. 3, in the saints' chapel on the corner of Walnut and Naomi Sts., Los Angeles California. Interested people of all nations are invited. Come, if you need help in soul or body, or if you desire to help others.

For further information, contact O. B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif., Phone EMpire 1-0608.

### 1954 Calendar



1954 Scripture Text Calendar in full rich colors, wall type, size 9½ by 15½ inches. Price per single copy 35 cents, 3 copies for \$1.00, 12 copies for \$3.50, 25 copies for \$7.00, 50 for \$12.50 post paid to you.

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All of the above folders are of the Sunshine Line and are beautifully made in rich appropriate colors. They will be post paid to you at prices quoted to any Post Office in the U. S. Order them now so they will reach you before the mails become jammed up with holiday goods.

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We have in stock a variety of Testaments and Bibles. Pocket New Testament with Psalms, \$1.50; Large Print New Testament, \$2.50; Large print Bible with references, \$6.50; Ministers' and Teachers' Bibles with references and concordance, price of one kind is \$8.50 and the other is \$13.00. These Bibles are all of the King James Version.

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## Were the Disciples Saved Before Jesus' Crucifixion?

This question is asked by some, and we shall let the Bible answer it.

In Matt. 3:7, 8, we read what was required of the people who came to John the Baptist to be baptized: "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Saducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." John the Baptist was the forerunner of Christ and preached to the point of true repentance and wanted them to give proof that they had.

Before Jesus was born of the virgin Mary, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." Jesus' first sermon, as given in Matt. 4:17, was to "repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." In 2 Cor. 7:10, we read that "godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of," which is a real sorrow for sin. Salvation means deliverance. The sinner becomes so sorry for his sins that he confesses and forsakes them according to Pro. 28:13, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Then he is saved from his sins. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins" 1 Jno. 1:9.

In Matt. 9:2, Jesus said to the palsied man, "Thy sins be forgiven thee." The scribes thought Jesus blasphemed when he said that, according to verse 3. And in verses 4 to 6 we read, "And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee: or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins (then saith he to the sick of the palsy) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house."

In Matthew 10:1-8 we read where Jesus sent the twelve apostles out to preach the gospel. Read verses 7, 8, "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils." Remember now, that all the above took place before Jesus' crucifixion; and do you suppose the twelve could have cast out devils in an unsaved condition? Had they been unsaved, the

results would have been similar to the account given in Acts 19:13-17. "Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered him and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus, and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified." Jesus said a house or kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Let us now read Matt. 12:24-26: "But when the Pharisee heard it, they said, This fellow [speaking of Jesus] doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself shall not stand, and if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself, how shall then his kingdom stand?" In Luke 10th chapter we read where Jesus sent out the seventy with the same commission that he gave the twelve.

We must remember that the disciples had very little light and knowledge of the Scriptures and God's will, and we have heard it said that light determines responsibility. Just for a moment, let us put ourselves in their place and see how little we would have understood. Both you and I have seen sinners get saved, truly saved from their sins, where there was much rejoicing, who had so much to learn before they really fit with the saints on every line. It took time and patience on their part and ours, too. Hence, we read in Luke 9:51-56, where the disciples, James and John asked the Lord for permission to command fire to come down from heaven and consume the Samaritans because they did not receive Jesus. "But he turned and rebuked them and said, ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." In reading two other translations, viz., Emphatic Diaglott and Weymouth, we see that neither say any more in verse 55 than that "he rebuked them." And in Moffatt's translation it says, "He checked them." I don't know why these translators do not give the full verse while the King James translation does; that is, "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." Of course, they felt like they should defend their Lord like Peter did later. We read the account given in John 10:11 where he cut off Malchus' ear when Jesus was being taken by the mob to be judged and condemned to be crucified. They certainly lacked understanding, but were saved to all they knew and understood.

For further proof that they were, we will read now from Luke 10:20, "Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven," which was written after their return from the trip Jesus had sent them with the commission to preach, heal, cast out devils, etc. In Matt. 4:18-20, we read where Jesus called Peter and Andrew to follow



him, which they straightway did, also James and John. The conversation between these disciples and Jesus is not given in full. John tells us in St. John 21:25, "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written." All of us know there was not room to record all that Jesus said and did during his pilgrimage here on earth.

So people must have truly got saved from their sins from the time of John the Baptist's preaching to the crucifixion of Christ, but they had everything to learn, just like any new-born babe naturally and spiritually speaking. "Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself." Luke 24:25-27. "And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures." Verses 44:45.

According to Scripture proof, we must say without a doubt in our minds that the disciples were really saved from their sins before the crucifixion and could not be any other way, but their experience with the Lord became richer and brighter as they walked in the light of the Lord, especially after they were sanctified on the day of Pentecost. Amen.

Yours for the old-time truth and the good old Bible way,  
Katherine Key.

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## The Body of Christ Is Not Defiled With Sin

We agree with the article in this issue on "Water Baptism" written by E. E. Mitchener, for we realize the teachings are Biblically true and that every soul ought to have this knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures to keep them out of (or get them out of) the many deceptive teachings in the world on this subject.

Many religious institutions today put the stress on water baptism as the means of saving the soul, or teach that the water washes our sins away. Water baptism does wash our sins away, but, according to the Scriptures, only in a figurative sense. Read First Peter 3:20, 21, and the Lord give you spiritual understanding. The ark was a type of Christ. The eight souls in the Ark was a type of us in Christ today. The water bore up the ark and showed that those in the ark were saved; so also, it is today. The God-ordained rite of water baptism shows that we are saved in Christ from all the flood of sin in the world, and this rite should be performed by a clean, Holy-Spirit-filled man of God. No soul that has humbled himself (or herself) before God in repentance and has accepted the Blood of Christ as an atonement for all

his sins should put off water baptism, for it is a commandment of God to us. In Mark 16:16 we read, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Sprinkling a little water on the head will not answer God's commandment. A little sprinkle of water would never have borne up the ark and would have shown nothing as being saved. Water baptism is for believers, and a child is not accountable and cannot believe, therefore a rite of that kind would all be in vain and would not fulfill the scriptural command to "believe and be baptized."

Those who put the stress on water baptism as a saving ordinance have no scriptures to back up such a theory, only in a figurative sense. They claim that the word "water" used by the Lord in the third chapter of John means literal water. The Scripture reads thus: "Verily, verily [or truly, truly] I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."

The word "water" here is used as a metaphor of Christ and His Spirit, and in John 1:14, we read, "And the Word [Christ] was made flesh and dwelt among us." So we see and understand spiritually that water here has reference to the Word, therefore Peter says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible [Christ did no sin] by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1:23. Christ is alive forevermore. Rev. 1:18.

The denominations that put the stress on water baptism as being a saving ordinance are deceiving a multitude of souls and leading them on to a final destruction while Satan grins with satisfaction. They not only misguide them concerning water baptism, but they also teach them that you cannot expect to live free from sin in this life; but will sin more or less along in life. And because of such teaching, a great host of them are found giving way continually to fleshly lusts; such as, living in double marriage, using filthy poisonous tobacco; some become angry and have hatred in their hearts toward their enemies, and others are filled up with jealousy and envy or with ill-feelings toward some of God's created beings. Thus a multitude of souls go on in sin and think they will make it into heaven because their teachers make them believe that their water baptism saves them and that they are in the church, and that they cannot help but sin some. By such teaching, they make void the saving grace of God and leave both Christ and God as liars. God says in his Word in Matt. 5:48, "Be ye therefore perfect [in heart toward God, not in knowledge], even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." In 1 Peter 1:16 we read, "Because it is written, be ye holy, for I am holy." These false teachers tell their subjects that one cannot be perfect and live holy in this life and keep free from sin, but that one just will sin some along in life. In that way they make out the Lord a liar and limit the power of God to keep people free from sin. In John 8:34, we read what Jesus said, "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." But these false teachers say, "Oh, no; you can commit sin and not be the servant of sin, for you have been baptized in water and you are now in the church of Christ." Thus they contradict the Lord and



picture the body of Christ in the world as something that is defiled with fleshly lusts and sin. In Luke 1: 73, 74 and 75 we find an oath which God swore unto Abraham. Among other things, He says, "That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve Him [not a servant of sin] without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him [the Lord], all the days of our life." These false prophets say, "No, no, not all the days of our life, for some days we will sin." Thus they pervert the counsel of God to men and keep them in sin. In 1 Thess. the 5th chapter, beginning at the 22nd verse, we read, "Abstain from all appearance of evil, and the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ." All of the preachers that hate holiness will not receive Paul's teaching here, but say we cannot expect to be preserved blameless, for this old body will lust and sin in word, thought, and deed, and that Paul should not have included the body and that personal experience teaches that we cannot live blameless until the Lord comes. And in so teaching, they contradict and limit God's power to preserve and keep the soul and body and spirit of man blameless in this life. Let us read the next verse, "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." God says he will do it, but these false teachers say it cannot be done as we all sin more or less in this life. Shame on such denying of God's power to keep a soul free from sin every day until the Lord comes!

Then in order to justify themselves in sin, they will quote 1 John 1:8, which reads thus: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." Being in darkness, they do not understand this Scripture and wrest its meaning to their own destruction and to the destruction of those that believe them and get themselves in a trap. If they would read the 7th and 8th verses of 1 John, chapter three, and believe what John says there as strong as they believe the first Scripture, they would have John contradicting himself.

The fact is, in the first Scripture you will notice that the word sin is in the singular number and has reference to the sin-nature or that indwelling sin that passed upon all men through the fall of Adam. If you will take note of the 7th verse which precedes the 8th, you will see that he is saying to these new converts that if they would walk in the light as He, God, is in the light (and in that way keep free from committing sin) they would soon be to the place, by having fellowship with God, they could enter in by faith into standing grace, where they would be cleansed from all sin, even the sin nature. Then in the 8th verse, he is still talking to the same persons, and says, "If we say that we have no sin [to be cleansed from] we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." Of course, these false teachers, being in darkness as to the two works of grace and the mighty cleansing work and infilling of the Holy Spirit are in a class with those spoken of in the 6th verse of this chapter, which reads, "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth."

These false teachers, when cornered, generally resort to the 7th chapter of Romans and class themselves with Paul and his experiences when he was in sin and under the law and was a wretched man. They say that Paul was giving his experiences as a Christian, and thus they drag Paul down in the mire of sin with themselves and blaspheme the name of Christ whom they profess to love and follow. Such preachers could not be less than the ministers of Satan; and as Paul said of some in his day, recorded in Phil. 3:18, 19, that they were the enemies of the cross of Christ, and their god was their belly. It is no wonder that the world is growing so wicked when the pulpits of our land are generally filled up with Satan's preachers who wrest the scriptures from their right meaning and revel in fleshly lusts and deny the people their right of hearing and receiving the true holiness doctrines of the sacred Word of God. --Fred Pruitt.

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### My Daily Prayer

Bless me, O my Saviour, keep me  
Thru the darkness of this life;  
Keep me in thy presence near thee,  
Thru every storm and strife.

Help me, Lord, to e'er be able  
Just to know thy mind and will,  
And to eat at Father's table  
With love and peace—be still.

How very precious is His promise  
To all those who will obey.  
Never be a doubting Thomas,  
Let the Father have his way.

Our lives then will prove a blessing  
To some lost and erring soul,  
If we will only learn the lesson:  
Let quietness be our goal.

Dear God, come just now and teach me  
While I sit low at thy feet;  
The schooling of my precious Saviour,  
It alone, will be complete.

Oh, I love to sit and listen  
To my Jesus while he talks;  
And the soul, how it will glisten,  
If we only with him walk.

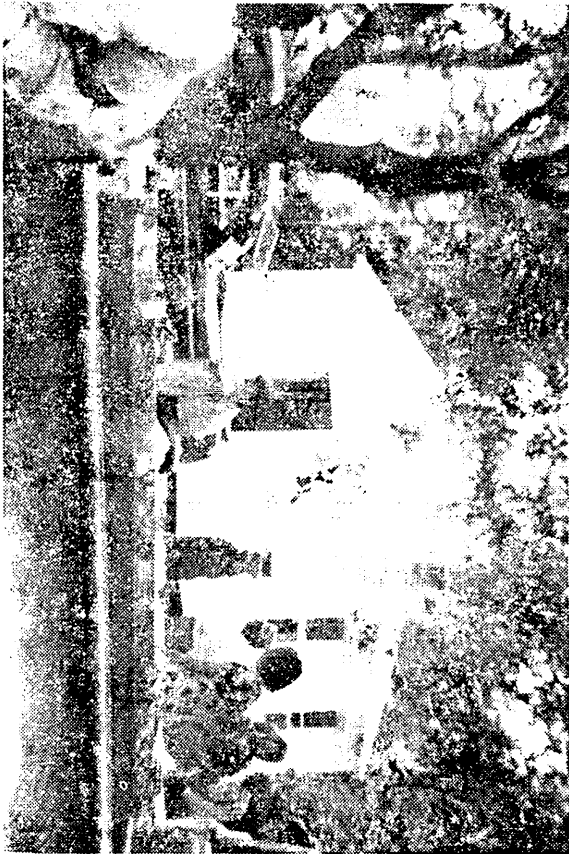
Lo, how sweetly Jesus tells us  
When from right we step aside;  
He rebukes his own with kindness,  
Helps us to in him abide.

He will never let us falter,  
But will guide us all the way,  
If we keep all on the altar,  
And be sure to watch and pray.

Help me, dear God, to be careful,  
Of all that I do and say,  
That my life may prove a blessing  
To some traveler every day.

--Pauline Brown.

This is the Long Branch Chapel, near Covington, La.



La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints:—I have waited a long time to let you know that the church building is finished, and is painted white inside and out. We thank everyone who sent donations to get the building finished.

People were here from Hammond, Louisiana, also some from other places, on the fifth Sunday in August. Ministers present were Bro. Max Williamson, Bro. L. L. Perry, and Sister Lottie Joiner. We had good preaching, and our souls were fed. Dinner was served on the grounds.

Please forgive me for not letting you know sooner.

—W. H. Cleland.

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Mo.—“Anyone who would publish such a tract as this does not know God: has neither charity, understanding of scripture nor common sense. He does the cause of Christ harm; more harm than 100 infidels could do. He lies on God and on his Son. The same goes for the publisher.—Lloyd A. Flanders, Rt. 2, Longlane, Mo.”

**Editor's Note**—We received the above statements written at the end of the tract which we publish and circulate, entitled, “The Last Cool Drink.” We have long been aware that the contents of this particular tract is quite stirring and shows the power and Spirit of God working to save souls from a devil's hell; but we had never thought of any of God's created beings objecting to its being published and circulated. We are praying for this dear man, and ask your agreement.

This tract contains six pages, and is no doubt doing a mighty work for God and precious souls. We send out a sample of forty different tracts and a copy of the “Faith and Victory” paper free to anyone who writes for them. If you want this particular tract, entitled, “The

Last Cool Drink,” we will include one of them, if you will mention the same. We are very anxious to reach as many souls as possible with the gospel by the printed page. Let us hear from every interested soul.—Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear young saints,—Today, I am encouraged more than ever to live for the Lord. I thank Him for saving my soul and helping me to keep saved. I realize I could do nothing without the Lord's help.

I felt that I should write my testimony, some time ago, but I let the devil have his way and neglected writing. This seems to be much of the trouble in this old world, today. Too many times the devil has his own way in the hearts and lives of men and women, instead of the good Lord. Young saints, let us pray much, and by the help and grace of God we can defeat the devil.

It seems that I cannot thank the Lord enough for the way He has been blessing me. As many may know, I am draft age and have not had the classification that I desired. I had been praying much concerning this, and one morning as I was working, I promised the Lord I would write my testimony in the “Faith and Victory” if He would hear and answer prayer. Well, that very evening I received the answer to my prayer, through the mail. Yes, the Lord is still on the throne and does hear and answer prayer, if we will only have faith to believe. Young saints, I find it to be this way: if I believe, I receive; if I doubt, I do without.

The Lord does help me in so many ways. Last week I had taken much cold and was sneezing and coughing quite a bit. The next door neighbors found out that I was not feeling well and they asked me what I was taking for my cold. I told them I wasn't taking anything. They suggested that I take some aspirins and asked me if I had any. I told them I didn't have any and that I had lived this far without them and I would make it the rest of my way. Thank the Lord, I feel so much better today. If I had taken the aspirins, doped up, and etc., there could have been some doubt in my mind as to whether the Lord or the medicine did the work. But I can say Praise the Lord for it all.

Dear ones, if the Lord tells us to testify for Him, let us do it. What few words the Lord would have us say, might be great encouragement to someone.

I surely enjoy reading the testimonies and they are much encouragement to me.

I desire the prayers of all who know the Lord, that I may grow stronger in Him each day.

Edward Lee Sorrell.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This finds me still saved, sanctified, and encouraged to live for Him and do all I can for his cause. The way grows brighter to me each day. I find it takes more pressing now, than it did when I first started to serve God, but the harder we press, the greater the victory.

I want to do what I can in God's service, and it seems like the Lord has given me a little place to fill in his vineyard.

The saints, here, are very well, except Sister Sell, who fell and bruised herself pretty badly.

We had a good meeting a few weeks ago. Brother and Sister Abbott, Brother Key, Brother Barton, and Brother Zinn, all helped some in the meeting.

Pray for us,

T. V. McMillan and family.

Mo.—Dear Brother Pruitt and saints everywhere, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me still saved, sanctified, and satisfied. By the help of the Lord I mean to go all the way.

I have never sent in a testimony since I got saved, but felt impressed of the Lord, this morning, to send in my testimony of what He has done for me.

I was saved at the Monark camp meeting a year ago. I feel like the song says: if I had ten thousand lives, I could not praise Him enough for what He has done for me.

He has healed my body many times. Some will try to tell me that Jesus doesn't heal today and that that was all done away with, but thank the Lord, I know the days of miracles are not past. Jesus is just the same, yesterday, today, and forever. Praise His dear name. He is still healing people today.

About six months ago, I was putting some fruit jars on a shelf, and one of them fell and hit some other jars that I was holding close to my face, and just crashed to pieces. Glass went all over my face and in my right eye, and oh, how it did hurt. I could hardly move my eye, it was cut so badly. My husband was away at work. When he came home that night my eye looked so bad. We prayed and asked the Lord to heal it, but it didn't get any better. When Husband left for work the next morning, my eye looked worse and he was so worried about me all day. When he came home that night, puss and water was running out of my eye. He said, "what do you want to do"? I went into my bedroom, fell on my knees, and began pouring out my heart to the Lord. Then it came to me so plain, "go, be anointed and prayed for." When I came out, Husband said "what do you want to do"? I said, "go, be anointed and prayed for." We went to Sister Bowers' and she anointed me. By the time prayer was over, the Lord had healed my eye. I don't know what became of the glass, that was the last time I felt it. That was on Friday, and Sunday at meeting, my eye was almost cleared up. At the time I was prayed for, it looked like a piece of raw meat and was so swollen.

He has healed me of another affliction I had in my body. I had had it for years and would have to go to bed for days, at times. Thank God, He healed that not long after I was saved. He healed it instantly. I haven't felt any symptoms of it since.

I am so glad I ever found the true way. I love the Lord with all my heart, and love the saints. They are so precious to me. Meeting the saints and getting saved has been like discovering a new world.

The devil tries so hard some times to discourage me, but dear ones, we may pass through deep waters, persecutions, and it may seem the waves will overflow us; but Jesus has said, "I will be with thee." He is a safe retreat in time of trouble, a shelter in time of storm. He said, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you." Also, "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isaiah 43:2.

I desire your prayers that I keep humble at Jesus' dear feet, and be what He would have me to be in this life.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Ralph Sell.

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Va.—Dear folks in Christ,—Greetings in the Lord. I feel led to write my testimony tonight. I am praising "Him" for his precious Word, for it is dear to my heart.

I praise God for healing and giving me a portion of good health.

I feel like this might help someone that has lost a loved one or friend.

Mrs. Ira B. Nuckols.

### JESUS AS I SAW HIM

This is my description of Jesus as I saw Him a few minutes before my son fell asleep in Jesus, January 23, 1933.

I was standing by my son's bedside praying, and as I said, "Lord, not my will but thine be done," a wind seemed to be blowing in the room. The curtains and shade, and also a small picture began to rattle. I turned to see what it was all about, and standing over my Bible—that was lying on a trunk—stood Jesus, dressed in a white robe with a large white cord tied around His waist and a bow hanging downward. His medium-brown hair was parted in the middle. It was so straight to his ears, then curly about his shoulders. There was a shining halo on the right side of His head. His face was most beautiful, His complexion rosy and smooth, His eyes were blue and rather large. He had a full beard, the color of His hair. His feet were bare.

I turned to see if my son was still breathing and he was. I turned back to see Jesus, and He was walking toward the bed where my son and I were. As He walked, I could see His feet from under His robe. He was holding His hand out to me, as if to say "Come unto me."

I knew He came to comfort me and to take my son home with Him. Some day I will meet my son on the other side with Jesus and all the saints.

I beg each one that reads this, if you have not accepted this Jesus, won't you kneel right where you are and ask Him to forgive your sins? Then live for Him and tell others of this wonderful Jesus. Mrs. Ira B. Nuckols.

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Calif.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I want to send my testimony of how the Lord healed me. I had a small wart, as nearly as I could tell, on my eyelid. It was quite annoying and became sore. I prayed and asked the Lord to please heal me. I told Him if He would heal me, I would tell others about it. A few days later, I felt my eyelid and the wart was gone. Praise the Lord! This is still the day of miraculous healings, even though some people tell me the day of miracles stopped when Jesus died. Some churches are teaching that Jesus doesn't heal any more. What deception is being taught to people.

I am thankful that we, saints of God, believe the Word of God and trust Him when we get sick.

About three years ago I had a chronic affliction which lasted for more than three months. Finally I got so bad I felt I could hardly stand the pain. I could not get comfortable lying down or sitting. One afternoon I got so faint I quickly got to the bed to keep from fainting. I had been praying the Lord to heal me. I felt I should be anointed as James 5:14-16 tells us to do.

One of my neighbors took me in her car to Sister Hoffman's house. Sister Hoffman and I went to Sister Bell's, where she and another sister prayed for me. The pain all stopped. Then we went on to Sister Bimbo's, where Brother and Sister Smith anointed and prayed for me. I could feel the healing touch go through my body. When I returned to Sister Hoffman's house, I walked on home, which was about two blocks. When I walked into our yard, my husband and his mother were waiting outside for me. I told them I was healed. My husband said, "oh, it will come back on you." I said, "no, it won't." I didn't

think of it coming back on me after I was healed, but the enemy tried to afflict me for several days. I kept praising the Lord and telling Him, "I know you healed me." That was the end of that affliction, and I marvel how the Lord healed me. So many others with the same thing have had operations.

I am not tempted to go to doctors when I get sick. The Lord has healed me all of my life. My mother was saved a while before I was born and she trusted all of her children in the Lord's hands. She never once gave us a drop of medicine, neither did she use any remedies. The Lord has proven to us over and over that his promises are true. With Christian love, Sister Lucille Elliott.

o—o—o—o—o

Pa. Dear ones,—I receive the "Faith and Victory," and do enjoy reading it. I have found lots of help through it.

Please pray for me. I am not well. Mrs. Yehl.

o—o—o—o—o

Ore.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings. I want to give my testimony of God's gracious dealings with me, and to thank everyone who prayed for my healing. I am very glad to report that the dear Lord has healed the affliction that attacked me in July. I am gaining steadily in health and strength; also in faith and love to God and all mankind.

I truly do praise my Savior for saving me and giving me victory over sin. He led me out of seetism years ago, and has healed me so many times. He has also blessed and comforted me since my dear husband went home to Glory, over two years ago.

Remember me in your prayers; also my son, who needs healing of body for several afflictions.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Geo. Galloway.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Kans.—To the Saints scattered abroad—Greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. Today finds us still saved and much encouraged to press the battle on.

Surely the devil can see his time is short and he is raging and roaring, seeking whom he may devour, but we don't have to be afraid of the devil. Thank God!

Surely the Lord has been good to us through the fiery trial we have been going through. As most of you know, our second daughter, Dorothy Jean, has a bad case of amnesia. She doesn't know any of us. The Lord once healed her instantly. She was well for nearly two weeks, then for some reason—God only knows—it came back, and I know the Lord is going to heal her again. We know God cannot fail.

The court took her away from us and put her in a hospital here in Kansas City, then without asking us, took her to the Topeka State Hospital, where she still refuses to see anyone.

Surely my heart aches for those who are in trouble, who know not God. It would be a most miserable place to live without the strong arm of the Saviour to lean on.

We are not the least bit discouraged. I must admit we have had our battles and heartaches, but we came thru them all victorious. We are looking forward to having our daughter home with us again soon.

"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." Psalms 37:4, 5.

Also Romans 4:20, 21 says, "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform."

What a mighty God we serve!! What God doesn't do for us, we want left undone. We don't want the hospital to do her any good.

We have received many encouraging letters from the saints. We want to take this opportunity to thank each one of you. We would be glad to hear from all of you. The interest of the saints has meant much to us. Remember Dorothy Jean and each one of us in your prayers. To our knowledge, we have submitted everything to God, and we want Him to have his way.

With much Christian love, your humble fellow-servants,  
Virginia and Roy Harmon, 7522 Hardy, Overland Park,  
Kansas

o—o—o—o—o

Seymour, Mo.—Dear ones in Christ—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I want to thank you for the prayers that went up in my behalf, as I know the Lord did hear and answer those prayers. I am feeling better in body than I have in two or three years. Praise the Lord.

I do tire out yet very easily and things black-out for me at times, but this is due to the low blood-pressure I have. I am trusting the Lord to heal me of this also.

I want to thank each one who was so kind to send us the gifts and offerings, and also the encouraging letters. I have written to those whose addresses I had, and I also want to thank the rest, so am sending your thanks here.

I got to pay some on all of the hospital and Dr. bills, which I am thanking God for making it possible through you dear ones. May the Lord bless you all.

With Christian Love, Mrs. Nels Allen and family.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Pa.—Greetings to all the dear saints in Jesus' dear name,—I have intended to write for some time, but just put it off. I am still encouraged to live for the Lord because He is so good to all.

I am the only saint here in this place, but the saints from Akron have been very dear to me and family. I go to Akron when I can.

Sister Cordelia Jones has been so dear to us. She was here for about two weeks, and every evening we had prayer meeting. She put the meeting over so good and clear that a child could understand about the Lord's goodness.

On October 11 Brother Jones, Brother Molone and daughter, Brother Jackson and wife and daughter, and a few others were here. We had a very nice meeting that morning and evening. We had a very nice crowd of people and the prayers and testimonies were wonderful. The Lord's Word was a blessing to all. The meeting was in our home, but if the Lord keeps blessing, we are hoping to get a meeting place. We ask the saints to pray that we do.

Pray for me and my family, I would like for them to accept the truth.

A sister in Christ, Mrs. Quint Stevens.

o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear Saints,—Greetings to you all in Jesus' dear name. I am still saved and much encouraged to press on for the dear Lord. I've had some real tests for the last month, but I fully trusted in my Lord for both soul and body.

I have been very ill. I want to thank all the saints for their prayers in my behalf. Satan tried to make me believe I wasn't healed, but I knew that the Lord healed me.

I still need the prayers of the saints that the Lord will give me a closer walk with Him, and give me grace to stand all the tests that come upon me. You all pray

for me that I will keep true and do all that the Lord will have me to do.

I have an unspoken request I would like to have remembered. A sister in Christ, Lorene Payne.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear saints everywhere.—I am going to write my testimony. I am saved, and rejoice because I am.

I am in bad health and request prayer for divine healing for my body. My left lung bled awfully bad in the month of April. I nearly bled to death. My sister and I went to the Lord in prayer and he healed the bleeding, but my lung still runs puss and will not heal. I also have catarrh in my head and sinus trouble. I request prayer for the complete healing of my body.

Yours truly in the Lord, W. N. Graves.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Ohio.—Dear saints,—I am isolated from the saints, but the blessed Saviour is with me and is a present help in every time of need.

Christ is the vine, we are the branches; every branch in Him that beareth fruit, He will purge that it bring forth more fruit. Every branch that abides not in Christ, the Vine, is cut off. Jesus said they would be gathered into bundles to be burned. Sect people say they are the branches. (They are the cut off portion).

Oh, He is the good shepherd, and the only one. He tells us that his sheep hear his voice, and a stranger they will not follow. Jesus has given his life to redeem us. Praise His dear name! It seems as though I can hear His voice saying to us, "lovest thou me? feed my lambs."

Now He is sending the ministers out into the world to preach the gospel. For He said, "how can ye hear without a preacher, and how can they preach except they be sent." When Jesus sends His ministers, they are filled with the Spirit. Oh, God has warned people not to be deceived, God is not mocked. He tells that the natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit, for they are spiritually discerned.

He tells us to keep our lamps trimmed and burning, and always keep oil in our vessels—which is the Spirit of God, so we won't be like the five foolish virgins, who had no oil in their vessels. Then, when Jesus tells us our work on earth is done we can hear His voice saying "enter into my joys, prepared for the faithful in Christ Jesus, from the foundation of the world."

Oh, He says "beloved believe not every spirit, but try the spirits," for many false spirits are going out into the world and will deceive many people. For if the spirit of Christ dwell in us, we know we are a child of God.

John saw the holy city, the church of God, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Rev. 21. He tells us that by one spirit we are all baptised into one body. That beautiful church is the only one of her mother, and Jerusalem above, is the mother of us all.

The Word tells us we cannot serve two masters at once. So, when I repented of my sins and had a godly sorrow that I had ever committed sin, Jesus forgave me of all my sins. I became a new creature in Him and my old sinful life was blotted out by the precious blood of Jesus. Behold, old things passed away and all things became new. Now I hate sin of every kind.

A great change takes place in our lives when we are born again. I remember when I was in sectism, the preacher would say, "come up and give me your hand, and God your heart." I just prayed, and the light from heaven showed me the way. I began to search God's Word and

read Rev. 21 and the light shone brighter and brighter. Then I read Rev. 17 and saw that the members of Christ could not be joined to a harlot, God forbid! I had read in Jeremiah where it says to join yourself to the Lord in a perpetual covenant. I fully consecrated my life to do God's will. Jesus is the foundation and no other foundation can any man lay than that which is laid. Jesus, himself being the chief corner stone.

I desire the prayers of all the saints.

Let us hold to God's unchanging hand and keep our minds on things eternal. Your sister in the one body, Amanda (Jones) Basye.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Ala.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. Praise His holy name! Today finds me saved and with a stronger determination to live for Him than ever before.

I promised the Lord if He would heal my month-old baby, that I would testify to it through the "Faith and Victory" paper. I am happy to say that the Lord did heal him.

I also want to testify to what the Lord has done for me. I had a very bad case of what I thought to be neuritis. I could not lie down or walk, and had been sitting up night and day for a week. My father, who is a saint, came and prayed for me, and last night I went to bed and had a good night's rest.

I desire the prayers of all the saints.

A sister in Christ, Irene Richardson.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still praising the Lord for victory in my soul and body. It is a mighty God we serve. I am so thankful He ever found me and placed me in the one body, one faith, and one spirit. The sweet unity of God's people is so precious to my soul.

I am so thankful for the prayers of the saints in my behalf and also my family's. We had such awful bad colds and coughs. I sent request for prayer one day, and the next day the Lord had wonderfully touched our bodies until we were much better. Now, most every symptom is gone. I am so glad the children and I can give the Lord all the praise, as we haven't taken medicine in several years. We have always found our dear Lord to be a present help in time of need. Praise His sweet name.

I would like to tell how the dear Lord has helped us to pay most all our debts. Two years ago we were deeply in debt. The place we farmed was poor land and we felt we could not get out of debt on that farm. We were very burdened for the Lord to help us to find a better place. Also, other saints were praying for us. So the Lord opened up a way for us to get this place and it is a good place. He gave us a good crop last year and this year—much more than we expected, as it has been so dry these two years. It has been a miracle what the dear Lord has done for us. I cannot tell it in words, but several have said they didn't see how we did it. I say it wasn't us, it was the Lord.

I think about the great draught of fishes Peter and those with him caught when they let down the net on the other side at Jesus' command. Peter realized it was the Lord and not himself. Praise the name of Jesus. I wish everyone would live for Him.

Pray for me that I will ever keep true. It is the desire of my heart to do His will.

A child of God,

Effie Miller.

Dear Saints,—I thank the Lord for all He means to me. He has surely proved himself a Father unto me.

I feel that I should tell of His healing power in behalf of my father. Summer before last, he was taken with a dizzy illness, but the Lord wonderfully healed him. Then last winter he had what was thought to be a blood clot trying to enter the artery of his heart. He suffered almost constantly for some time, with this terrible pain. We called the saints at different places for prayer. The saints at home were also agreed in prayer for him. Brother Carver came to Jena to pray for daddy. Then Brother Key came and stayed until the victory came, which was soon, Thank the dear Lord!

I am thankful that I am a child of God. I desire the prayers of the saints that I will always live in the center of His will. If there ever was a time in our lives that we needed to be settled and standing boldly for the Lord, surely it is now. Yours in Him, Aquila Green

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear saints in light,—As I sit tonight, I realize that the devil is setting up his trying forces against me, he has not been able to uproot me with his present trials and persecutions. He is adding to my trials daily, yet I have a deep settled peace in my soul. It gives me much joy to know as it is said in the word of God, as much as you have done it unto the least of one of His you have done it unto Him.

As a young saint, I have found that we have to go through a purifying process before we can be made into what God wants us to be. We have to be refined as gold, tried, rocted, settled, established, proven to God, and approved by Him.

Having been consecrated and dedicated to God to be used in whatever way He sees fit, my joy is that God is now proving my worthiness of the vocation wherein I am to be called.

As I am surrounded by Satan and his trying forces, I realize that God is letting them come steadily, against me to cast away all my hope or trust in man's wisdom, knowledge, and his carnal mind, so that I might put my whole trust, fear, hope, and all in Him.

Realizing more perilous times are just ahead, I see God strengthening and settling those that are serving Him. If we can't bear these trials that are sent to prepare us for future ones, how can we hope to bear those that are yet to come?

I am not writing only to encourage others, but myself too. I know that there must be others going through such things as I am, and it encourages me to know that others are trusting God as well as I. I am learning to pray more sincerely for those that are being tried. I am only able to see the eye of God pierce through the dark clouds and can say from my heart, "tis no longer I, but He." Pray for me. Yours in Christ, Leon Phillips.

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### MEETING REPORT

Bakersfield, Calif.—The Lord gave us a wonderful young people's meeting from Friday, Oct. 30th through Sunday. Quite a number of young people were out, both saved and unsaved. On Sunday the house was full. Extra seats had to be brought in. Saints from different congregations were with us during the meeting.

Bro. Clarence Hattley and Bro. Everett Pierro from Stockton, Calif. were here with us. One message was quite outstanding on the subject of Christians being lazy, Prov. 6:6-11. The Lord wonderfully blessed in each service. Several received help in many ways. All the saints were

greatly encouraged, both young and old. It was said by some that the meeting couldn't be beat.

Pray that the Lord will continue to stir the young saints in this place, and to save others here, especially them that meet with us from time to time.

—Hazel Blackwell.

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## BIBLE STUDY

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### GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD

December 6, 1953

Printed Portion: .....Romans 13:1-10; Acts 5:25-29.

Romans 13:1. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

3. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

4. For he is the minister of God to thee for good, But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; For he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

5. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

7. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

8. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another; for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

9. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

10. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Acts 5:25. Then came one and told them, saying, Behold the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

26. Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: For they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

27. And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28. Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

29. Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

**Memory Verse:** He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law. Isaiah 42:4.

**Practical Truth:** We should strive to make every part of our government righteous and efficient.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

During the time when Paul lived, the rulers of his day were very wicked, some of them were worse, or as bad as the world has ever seen, but Paul here says to obey them. As long as their laws do not conflict with the laws of God, the Christian can and ought to obey them. He is a minister of God and in consequence of this we must needs be in subjection; not for the fear of the wrath that we will bring upon our heads if we are not but "conscience sake" recognizing the ruler as ordained of God and obeying him in order thus to obey God.

It is not hard for the Christian to obey the laws of the land for his love for God and then for his neighbor also make him do things out of his love for any one with whom he comes in contact. He says to "owe no man anything but to love one another." It is not hard for the Christian to keep the ten commandments for his daily living is superior to that. The New Testament law on stealing is far above the old law, "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor with his hands the thing which is good that he may have to give to him that needeth". Eph. 4:28. Love is the secret of all right doing.

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#### ONE HUMAN RACE

December 13, 1953

**Printed Portion:** Acts 10:9-15, 25-28, 34-35, 44-45.

Acts 10:9. On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10. And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

11. And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

12. Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

13. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill and eat.

14. But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

15. And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Acts 10:25. And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

26. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

27. And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.

28. And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

Acts 10:34. Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Acts 10:44. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

**Memory Verse:** Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. Acts 10:34-35.

**Practical Truth:** Our attitude toward those of other races and nations and classes should be one of sympathetic helpfulness.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The established facts of history prove there is a God that is ruling the universe. Those who read history as well as the Bible and are informed, do know that there is a God. Those who deliberately reject this teaching and the records as we have them today are infidels of their own choice and would rather continue in their sins and be rebellious than to be won for Christ.

Here we have two men that were quite a distance apart and no telephone or telegraph system with which to communicate, but special notice can be taken of how God communicated to each of them at the proper time so that Peter came to the house of Cornelius in due time, with the message of the gospel whereby Cornelius and his household were saved. Acts 11:14. The Spirit even told Peter how many men there were that had come for him, verse 19. This was done by wireless, but not the modern invention. The Spirit can speak to those who are in a spiritual condition to listen.

God dealt with Peter in the vision so particularly that he knew that God was no "respecter of persons: but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him". God requires one to be humble in order to find him.

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#### THE PRINCE OF PEACE AND A WARLESS WORLD

December 20, 1953

**Printed Portion:** Isaiah 2:2-4; 9:2, 5-7; Luke 2:8-14.

Isaiah 2:2. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

3. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah 9:2. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Isaiah 9:5. For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given



and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Luke 2:8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Memory Verse: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6.

Practical Truth: We should let the Prince of Peace rule in our hearts and lives.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Another year passed on and Christmas is here again and God still has a Christmas gift for every man, woman, and child in the whole world; his Son, Jesus Christ. When the Prince of Peace comes into the heart of man "By faith" Eph. 3:17b, and reigns in the heart, there is peace in the soul. Peace with ourselves and with every one else.

In the families of the world, we say that a son was given to the family when he is born, and when God gave his Son to the world that through him all might be saved, he counts us as his family. There are those who say that Jesus Christ, our Lord, has three hundred names recorded in the Bible. How many can you count? and what is the meaning of each name to you? The name Saviour comes first and then he becomes Lord or King and takes over as the ruler of the life. The name, Jesus (his human name) is explained in Matt. 1:21 "Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins". There are names given Him here in this lesson that will yield rich meditation by the study of them.

In Isa. 9:6 the prophecy is given in the present tense. It was counted as done, and in Luke 2:11 the prophecy was actually fulfilled. God's promise come to pass.

#### "THY KINGDOM COME"

December 27, 1953

Printed Portion: Matthew 6:9-10; 28:16-20; John 17:18-21; Acts 1:6-8; Revelation 11:15b.

Matt. 6:9. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Matt. 28:16. Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

18. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

John 17:18. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

20. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

21. That they all may be one; as thou, Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Acts 1:6. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7. And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Rev. 11:15b. The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of the Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Memory Verse: The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. Revelation 11:15b.

Practical Truth: It is our duty to pray, and then diligently work, for the fuller coming of God's kingdom.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There is a radical difference in the two that are called "Father" in this sinful, dark world. Those who are "Born again" can call God their Father, but those who are not born again, it tells very plainly who their father is, in John 8:44 "Ye are of your father the devil". Jesus had shown them in verse 34 that they were still in their sins and were not free for they were in bondage, or servants to sin. But to the "Jews which believed on him" verse 31, he told them, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" verse 32. So then in verse 9 of our lesson, it is only those who are born from above who can address God as their "Father." The thought of the fatherhood of God is the important foundation upon which a Christian can base his prayer and then he is in a correct position to pray the prayer "Thy kingdom come," and "Thy will be done." No one can pray "Thy will be done," who is not making God's will the absolute law of his life.

In John 17 is recorded the prayer Jesus offered for his disciples and for "them also which shall believe on me through their word," verse 20. He prayed "That they all may be one," verse 21. Denominations divide God's people, so Jesus could not be praying for them; but he was still praying for those who belong to him "That they be one."