

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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The Sheaves I Bring

My life is so narrow, so narrow,
 Environed by four square walls,
 But ever across my threshold
 The shadow of my duty falls.
 My eyes often wander off to the hilltops
 But ever my heart stoops down
 In a passion of love to the babes
 That helplessly cling to my gown.

In the light of a new day dawning
 I see an evangel stand
 And to fields that are white for the harvest
 I am lured by a beckoning hand.
 But I have no place with the reapers
 No part in the soul stirring strife,
 I must hover my babes on the threshold,
 I must teach them the lesson of life.

I must answer their eager questions
 With God given words of truth,
 I must guide them in the ways of wisdom,
 Through childhood and early youth,
 I must nourish their souls and their bodies
 With infinite watchful care,
 Take thought of the loaves and the fishes
 And the raiment that they must wear.

And at night when their lessons are over
 And I cuddle each sleepy head,
 When the questions are asked and answered
 And each little prayer is said,
 When this fruitless unrest has vanished,
 That fretted my heart thru the day,
 Then I kneel in the midst of my children
 And humbly and thankfully pray.

Dear Lord, when I stand with the reapers
 Before thee at set of the sun,
 When the sheaves of the harvest are garnered
 And life and its labor is done,
 I shall lay at thy feet, these, my children,
 To my heart and my garment they cling.
 I may not go forth with the reapers,
 But these are the sheaves that I bring.

—Selected.

Training Children

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

Some have thought that training means teaching, but according to the definition it has a far deeper meaning. It means to form by bending or instruction, discipline.

We see a man with an orchard of young trees. He is very careful to see that those trees have the proper care, the right food and water and protection from the weather. And above all that they are trimmed and kept growing straight. I can imagine hearing some one say, "I take the best care of my children." I see that there is a proper diet of food for them and that they are dressed warm and kept clean. But how about training? Have you been pruning them to keep out pride, self-will, anger, selfishness, etc? When a storm comes along and blows over some of the man's trees, he does not say there is nothing I can do about it, but he gets a stake and drives it down by the tree, and though it may take some effort to straighten it, he does not give up. No doubt if the tree could talk, it would cry out against the bending of it's body. Just so with our children. It may take many hours of our time to train our children, but are they of less value than the trees? Oh no, they have an eternity bound soul. Oh parents, be diligent with the training of your children. There is a God-given responsibility and we will be held accountable for it before God.

There is one thing I have noticed in the home, and it has grieved me very much: The parent will let the little children play or look at picture books while prayer is being made in family worship and when the Bible is being read. How can we expect them to be quiet in meetings and reverence God's house and worship? They must be trained at home to know how to act away from home and especially at meetings.

Now let's take notice of the man that trains horses. At first he catches the colt and ties a rope around his neck and leads him about, or ties him to the side of his mother until he gets used to it, then he is trained to the halter, and finally the harness. But if the colt is hard to train, the man does not give up and say, "I just can't do anything with the colt." But sad to say, I have heard parents say this. The first

thing is to make the child know that it is to be in subjection to you, and see to it that you carry that out. If a child is determined to have its own way, even though it might not exactly be wrong, let the child know that you do not think best, and let him know that he must obey you. Stay with it till it is conquered. It may take hours, but if conquered once it will spare you hours and hours of trouble later.

I was in a home one day where two small children were given a nickel. The mother asked the one child, "What do you say?" This child was stubborn and would not say, "Thank you" as the other one did. I instructed the mother to take the nickel from the child. She did, thus teaching the child a dear lesson, as he watched the other one enjoying his candy. I am happy to say that the mother had no more trouble with the child after that on this line. It took time, but the lesson was learned for good.

A mother told her experience of her little child who loved to play in the ashes in the hearth of the stove. She tried to break her several times with no success. One day she took her away, spanking her hands, but she went back again and again until she had spanked her hands thirty-two times before she conquered her. But I hear you say, "I would not have that much patience or time." We must again remember our responsibility and God will not call us to do any thing for which He is not able to give us the help we need. God is going to hold you responsible for the training of your children. Their wills must be broken while they are young and be bent toward God.

I have heard many ask why our young people do not keep saved. They seem to get saved all right, but soon backslide. I believe I have found one solution to this problem. It is found in the lack of government in the home, in bringing the children under subjection to the will of the parents. If that is done, then they can be brought into subjection to God. My words seem to be so weak to get to you the burden of my heart, for I am in tears as I write to you, wanting to say something to wake you up to your responsibility. Parents, take more time in prayer and seek the Lord for your needs, even though your children are getting up in years. I believe the Lord will help you to take the time to read and pray with your children. Set a good example before them so you can say like Paul, "Follow me as I follow Christ." I am not writing something I do not know about, for I had five children, and write from experience.

I am praying and will keep on praying for parents of today to redeem the time with your children. They are precious in God's sight, and we need to do all we can to get them saved. The greatest responsibility is upon parents at home in their training.

We have the watchmen on the walls of Zion to sound the warning of on-coming danger, and mothers in Israel to teach the younger parents; so let us take warning from them, for the Bible says for the older women to teach the younger. In order to obey the Bible, we must take their admonition, but if we rebel, it will become sin to us and we will go into darkness just as our children do when they rebel against our teachings.

I plead with you in Jesus' name to take warning: seek God to lead you in the training of your children. Please do remember to not let one day pass without taking time to read and pray with your children.

—A Grandmother.

Estem for the Place of Worship

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem." Psa. 122:1, 2.

It is a delight to every born-again soul to have and to enjoy the privilege of going with others to the place of worship where they will be permitted to mingle their voices together in prayer and songs of praise unto their heavenly King, thereby giving glory to his name. We are exhorted to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing." Psa. 100:1, 2. Also, "O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise unto the rock of our salvation." Psa. 95:1. Yes, it is a glorious blessing to be able to enjoy the sweet presence of the Lord in the assembly of the righteous. It is soul-inspiring and uplifting, not only to enjoy the heavenly music and the sweet fellowship of the Spirit, but also to learn more of his wonderful ways and his guiding laws, as we read in Isaiah 2:3: ". . . 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." Oh, how sweet it is to hear the Word of the Lord go forth under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. It is just like sitting at a well-spread table; for truly the Lord has spread a table before his people. He has said that man shall not live by bread alone; but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. The Word of God is food to the soul, just as natural food is food to the body. And we are exhorted to desire the sincere milk of the Word that we may grow thereby. Peter tells us that the Word of God is able to build us up.

The receiving of the Word of God is very essential to spiritual life. "How beautiful are the feet of them that bring glad tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith to Zion, Thy God reigneth." The message of salvation is proclaimed at the house of God, at the place of prayer, at the place appointed for public worship. We read in Heb. 10:24, 25, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching."

There are benefits to be received by the assembling together of the true worshipers of God that can not be expressed in mere words. It is necessary for one to taste and see that the Lord is good. The slogan of a certain confection could be applied in a spiritual sense: "The more you eat, the more you want." One of old has said, "As the hart panteth after the water brook so panteth my soul after thee, O God." Psa. 42:1.

It stands to reason that when one has lost a relish or desire to meet with the rest of God's people in public service, that there is something wrong with that one's spiritual condition. I do not have reference to formality, such as is spoken of in Ezekiel 33:31, "And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness." But that soul that God smiles upon is the one that says from the heart, "He will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths:" walking in the fear of God. It is a wonderful experience to walk in God's holy fear. Every one who truly walks in the fear of God is a praying man or woman, and although they engage in secret prayer, at times wrestling alone with God in intercessions and supplications and interceedings both for themselves and for others, yet they are possessed with an urge or desire to meet with others who are of the same spirit as themselves, to be in prayer together.

We read of an incident that happened when two of God's men were about to enter the house where prayers were wont to be made: "Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour." We see here was a building erected especially for public worship and Jesus referred to it as the house of prayer. It was God's house. The prophet spoke of the zeal of the Lord for the house of God, saying, "The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up." We find that not only was the house built for a place of worship, where the worshippers could meet and engage in prayer together to God, but there was also a designated hour or time for the prayer service, that all should have an understanding of the time they were expected to be there. Peter and John knew the hour of prayer. They had a zeal for God and for the work of the Lord, they were on hand; there was work to be done, they were ready for service. The lame man was healed, and went with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. The report went out, the people wondered. They were filled with amazement, fear fell on many and the result was that many souls turned unto the Lord. I am persuaded that we will never fully realize the blessings and benefits that has been bestowed upon humanity through the effects and influence of the public services conducted in the fear of God, and under the unction and inspiration of His Holy Spirit. There God meets with men and talks with them through His holy prophets and ambassadors. There He reveals his will to them. He opens up their understanding to his word, and has designed that through the foolishness of preaching, men should be saved. The Word of the Lord has gone forth in this place.

Job was not delinquent in his desire and relish for the law of God. He said, "I have esteemed the words of His lips more than my necessary food." Job 23:12b.

Many shall say, "Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the house 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 path," Isa. 2:3b. Yes, "I was glad

when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."
—Ulysses Phillips.

God Is Love

Oh, what a mighty God we serve! He is a God of love and a God of light. He will shine out a brilliant light to all who will live a blameless life. God is so good, He says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Just think of our God; He gave his only begotten Son to die for us that we might live. Yes, dear readers, let us live for him all the days of our life so that when we leave this world, we can be with Christ and the angels in glory in all eternity.

Praise his dear name forever more. By the grace of God I mean to live for Him by day and by night every minute of my life; for I have no time to lose. We do not know how soon our Lord will say, "Time is up." So let us stay ready all the time to meet Christ our Lord so we can dwell with him and the angels in eternity.

Thank God, I love everybody. God has healed me of that long spell of weak affliction, and to Him I give all the praise.
Your sister in Christ,
Salissa Griffin.

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Alone With Jesus

Alone with Jesus, oh, how sweet!
And to be humble at his feet,
And follow him where e'er he leads,
And feast with him on what he feeds.

Alone with Jesus—peace and rest—
Happy with Him I'm saved and blessed
There is no fear while he's so near,
For perfect love casts out all fear.

Alone with Jesus, all is fair
As there I rest and kneel in prayer
In the shadow of his pure love,
I rest in peace and look above.

Alone with Jesus—safe retreat,
A sure foundation for my feet.
Under the shadow of his wing,
And to him all my cares I bring.

Alone with God I love to be—
He ope's my eyes so I can see
To follow him where e'er he leads
As for my soul he intercedes.

Alone with God, the world shut out,
With calm assurance then I shout.
Oh Lord! I love to be with thee
Where I'm so happy and so free.

Alone with God I'll live for aye,
For in his presence I will stay
Throughout His long eternity
I'll still be happy and so free.

—Bro. Geo. W. Stephenson

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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.

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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.

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.

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

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to Faith Pub. House. All offerings and gifts given or sent in to Fred Pruitt or his wife will be used in the general up-keep of the printing work unless you state that it is for personal needs. We make His work first.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
Phone Number 1479

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

"The Beautiful Way" a four-page leaflet for children is published quarterly in thirteen leaflets, one for each week. Marie Miles Editor, assisted by others. Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies.

Editorials

The printing work is moving along nicely, and we are now printing Bro. Phillip's Poem book, which contains 160 pages of poems. This is the third edition of this book. The Lord has used it, or rather the contents of this book, to be an inspiration and comfort to many of the children of God. We are thankful to the Lord to have the privilege of printing and making up this book again, as the poems contained therein are inspired and given of God. If you want one of these books, send your dollar to Bro. Ulysses Phillips, Dover, Okla. and he will mail you one just as soon as they are completed and ready for delivery.

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The children of God have such great and precious promises in the Word of God that none need be discouraged or cast down, for the Spirit of the Lord in the child of God makes his Word as living truth to their souls, and they have the assurance that Paul had when he said in 2 Cor. 5:1, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." This house that each one will inherit is that mansion or glorified body that will be given us at his appearing. Read the first few verses of the third chapter of Colossians. Surely we have something to praise Him for even in the severest tests and trials of life. In Isaiah the 12th chapter we find that we in this day of grace and deliverance from sin are to give honor, praise and thanksgiving to Him continually. In the last two verses we read, "Sing unto the Lord for he has done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. "Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy one of Israel in the midst of thee." In Hebrews 13:15 we read again, "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name." All discouragement comes from Satan who is arrayed against the children of God.

If the children of light were as wise as many of the children of darkness, their joy and comfort in this world would be complete, as they continually add treasure to treasure in heaven. The children of this world strive, work and labor to gain things that perish with the using and many of them will not give way to discouragement, but go forth again and again after being defeated, and make their failures stepping stones for achievement and success. It is written concerning Abraham Lincoln that when he was a young man he ran for the legislature and was badly swamped. He next entered business, failed and spent seventeen years of his life paying up the debts of a worthless partner. He fell in love with a beautiful young woman to whom he became engaged. She died. Entering politics, he ran for congress and was badly defeated. He then tried to get an appointment to the U. S. Land Office, but failed. He became a candidate for the U. S. Senate and was badly defeated. In 1856 he became candidate for the vice-presidency and was again defeated. In 1858 he was defeated by Douglas. In the face of all this defeat and failure he eventually achieved the highest success attainable in this material life, and undying fame.

If the children of God would manifest as much faith in God as many of the world do in their abilities to achieve things, they would grow, increase, and rejoice daily in the living God who giveth us all things to enjoy and supplies grace for every need.

A brother sent in a little poem recently, which I believe will be helpful to every child of God:

"Three men were walking on a wall;

Feeling, faith, and fact.

Feeling had an awful fall,

And faith was taken back.

Faith was so close to feeling,

He fell too.

But Fact remained and pulled Faith up,

And that brought Feeling up too."

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In 1 Cor. 10:13 we read, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape that ye may be able to bear it." Having a promise like this, the saint ought to so believe God that he would rejoice while in the fiery trial, knowing that God is going to make a way for him to escape that he may be able to bear it. To be sure, we have a cross to bear, Red Seas to cross and mountains to climb, but Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Faith in the living God will cause one to triumph and the glory will linger near all the crosses of life.

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L. D. Pruitt, our son, and I have just returned from Greencastle, Ind., where we made purchase of an automatic tract folder. We are looking to the Lord to so help us that the folding will be speeded up, and we can keep the Gospel tracts in stock to send out to the many calls coming in continually. The Lord especially blessed us on this trip. The car registered 1520 miles for the round trip, and we had no car trouble, not even a flat tire on the whole trip. We brought the folding machine back in a trailer. Its weight was 1400 lbs. The Lord surely blessed us in a great measure on this trip.

Obituaries

In memory of our dear Mother in Zion, who was called to her reward February 28, 1954, Sister N. G. Wilson, known to many as Aunt Priscilla, who lived at Chehalis, Washington. Written by one who loved her dearly, knowing her faithful and godly life through the years.

Our hearts are sad, our tears doth flow
Because we miss our loved one so,
Her fervent prayers both night and day
As she traveled through life's rugged way.
For many years she walked with God,
Sometimes she bore the chastening rod;
Yet God's pure love did fill her so
His presence sweetened every blow.

Her work on earth is finished now,
And to God's will we humbly bow;
His wisdom knoweth what is best,
He has called her to eternal rest.
Her soul ascended to blissful lands
To find her house not made with hands.

She will meet with us on earth no more,
She reigns in bliss on yon bright shore;
Yet through the blood that saved her soul
We all can reach that heavenly goal.
The Saviour calls in melting love:
Come, all who will, to realms above!

Let's take the path our loved one trod;
It will lead us home to be with God,
Where all the blood-washed saints will be
As endless as eternity.
The price is paid to save our souls;
Christ shed his blood to make us whole
And fit us for that home above
Where all is joy and peace and love.

Nancy Priscilla Killiam, born Sept. 26, 1870 at Norwood, Mo. passed to her reward Feb. 28, 1954 at her home near Chehalis, Wash., age 83 years, 5 mos., and 2 days.

She was united in marriage to Neddy Grant Wilson Sept 8, 1889. To this union 10 children were born; three preceded her in death. Her husband passed away July 16, 1948.

Bereaved are: Two sons, Nona of Chehalis, Wash., and George Wilson of Salem, Ore.; 5 daughters, Emma Busch, Scio, Ore., Lona Davis, Salem, Ore., Jewel Kennedy, Salem, Ore., Lillie Wilson, Port Orchard, Wash., Jessie Gish, Chehalis, Wash.; 2 brothers, Phillip and Frank Killiam; one sister, Mrs. Euphia Ryan; 35 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren and a host of friends and saints who will miss her presence and deeds of kindness and encouraging testimonies in meeting.

Mother Wilson heard and accepted the truth of the church of God about sixty years ago and was faithful to the end. In all those years she never gave up her decision to live for God. She was asked in recent months if she ever became discouraged through the years. She said, yes, one time for a short time, then saw how foolish that was and made an eternal decision to live for God regardless of anything the enemy would bring. That decision brought a victory that carried her through. Her life was an example to all. In the closing days of her life the presence of the Lord was so near and dear. One sister was with her in prayer and felt the presence of angels so near she turned to see if someone was standing by. Mother Wilson said, "It went that way," and pointed across the room. She had strong faith in God and trusted Him for the healing of her body for many years. As this dear old saint was nearing the end we gathered around her bedside in prayer many times, and God never failed to give her ease and rest. Her passing was glorious. Shortly before she breathed her last, we asked if she wanted us to have another season of prayer. She made us to know she did. As we prayed she could be heard saying, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name." She just fell asleep in Jesus. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Mother Wilson will be greatly missed by the saints at Jefferson, Ore. where she has been in meetings through the years. Especially the camp meetings and assembly meetings. But we weep not as those that have no hope. Our loss is heaven's gain. Funeral conducted by the writer. Text: James 4:14; Psa. 116:15. —I. D. Stover.

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Sister Mollie Light of Sandusky, Ohio was born April 1st, 1882 at Dyersburg, Tenn., and departed this life March 13, 1954 at her home in Sandusky. She had a stroke several years ago, but she was able to get about until shortly before her passing. She loved the Lord and was faithful unto the end. Although she suffered before

the Lord took her, she bore her affliction with patience. She was a dear sister and was loved by all who knew her. Funeral service by Henry Chaney.

Campmeeting Notices

Hennessey, Oklahoma

The campmeeting of the Church of God at Hennessey, Okla. begins May 28th and continues through June 6th. All are invited to come. It will be run on the free-will offering plan. Bring sheets, pillows, and covers. Cots and mattresses will be furnished. Anyone desiring to send any contributions or want more particulars about the meeting may send or write to Sister Willa J. Williams, R. 1, Box 113, Hennessey, Okla., or to Bro. Thomas Davis, Box 441, Hennessey. —Sister Ada Davis, pastor.

Jefferson, Oregon

The Jefferson, Oregon campmeeting will be held, Lord willing, on the saints' grounds on Hazel St., one block south and a half block east of the bus depot in Jefferson, June 18-28. Jefferson is nine miles north of Albany and 16 miles south of Salem.

All saints and lovers of the truth are invited to come and will receive a hearty welcome. The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan as usual with meals served free in the dining hall. All are welcome. The Lord has always provided the needful things to care for all who come and we urge all who can to come. There are a number of cabins on the grounds and all will be cared for and made as comfortable as possible. Those who can should bring bedding as the nights are cool. Sleeping quarters will be provided in homes near grounds for the more aged saints. This meeting is especially for those in the North West, and we urge all isolated saints to plan now to come. Come praying and looking to the Lord for a good meeting. We are expecting the Lord to send Spirit-filled ministers of His choosing who will preach the whole truth and clearly give out the full gospel of Christ to the people. Those needing help in soul or body should attend this meeting. All are cordially invited.

For further information write to Bro. Harry Davis, P. O. Box 547, Stayton, Ore., Sister Emma Busch, Scio, Ore. or Bro. Noah White, Jefferson, Ore. Those attending the meeting can have mail sent in care of Sam Wilson, P. O. Box 41, Jefferson, Ore. and get it any time.

Yours in His service, Bro. and Sister Stover.

Hammond, Louisiana

The 47th annual campmeeting of the Church of God will be held June 25th to July 4th inclusive, on the saints' Southern Camp ground in the south-west part of the town of Hammond, La., just off White St., and on the dead end of the street running west from the "Red Top" filling station on the New Orleans highway, No. 51. Each year these meetings have been run on the free-will offering plan, and any of the saints or lovers of the truth in the south wishing to help with money or provisions may send to names and addresses given below. Meals and sleeping quarters will be provided without charge for all who come, as God provides. Those living near, please bring your bed linens, pillows, and towels. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers of his choosing who will preach the Word without fear or favor as the Holy Spirit directs. All saints and lovers of the truth are invited to attend. Ray Key, 705 White St., Max Williamson, 803 White St. Hammond, La.

Midway (Jena), Louisiana

Date: July 8-18.

Location: One mile west of Jena, four blocks south off Highway No. 84.

For information write to Ernest Mitchell R. 1, Trout, La. or Ruth Murphey Box 824, Jena, La.

National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo.

Date: July 23rd to August 1st.

Location: Five miles east of Neosho, Mo.

For information write Bro. Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kans or L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla.

Guthrie, Oklahoma

Date: August 6th to 15th.

Location: 600 block West Warner Ave.

For information write O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Will every saint of God pray earnestly for the Lord to give me entire success in a material or financial matter which is absolutely essential to the raising up of a true church of God work in this place. And pray the Lord to send the needed spiritual helpers for the work. Also please ask God earnestly to spare this country; and moderate a certain trouble to a most pleasing degree for me as long as the Lord is pleased for me to live and work and serve Him. His service is my delight. —A saint of God.

Kinmundy, Ill.—Greetings in Jesus' name! I would like for you to have special prayer for my husband, Morris A. Childress, who is in the Ind. State Prison at Michigan City, Ind., having been charged with involuntary manslaughter because we had a baby to die without having had a doctor. We were praying and trusting the Lord. My husband was sent there for 2 to 21 years last June 12, 1953. He is burdened to be out of prison to preach the gospel and is not in very good health. I am left with our six small children to care for, the oldest being 12 and the youngest about four months old. Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Morris A. Childress.

Sister Edwin Weir of Jones, Okla. requests the saints everywhere to pray for a serious bodily affliction. Her six small children need the care of their mother, which at present she is unable to give.

— NOTICE —

Greetings to the saints in Jesus' name. I am writing for a dear sister who needs help. Anyone who feels led of the Lord to help her with free will offerings, please send their donations to: Sister Laura Powell, 2408 Melbourne Ave., Richmond, Va.

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I am so happy to know when my day's work is all done That I have read the Bible and obeyed God's Holy Son. When I lie down on my bed at night and look back o'er the day

I am thankful that Jesus has kept me in the narrow way. Then when I arise in the morning, I thank and praise the dear Lord,

I ask Him to bless me and help me to obey His holy word.

—Effie Miller

From Glory to Glory

We read in 2 Cor. 3:18, "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory."

When God made man, he made him pure and holy. He was in the likeness of God the Father and was the crowning feature of the whole creation of God. But God gave man a right of choice between good and evil, for God does not want to force man to serve him. He only wants love service, for he says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." St. John 14:15. But man fell from this state of holiness and plunged all into sin. We read in Gen. 5:3 where Adam begot a son after his likeness. So since man chose sin he took on a sinful nature and lost the likeness or nature of God. And every child that is born into this world has that nature in them. When one comes to the years of accountability, this nature branches out and partakes of sin, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

Sin always brings trouble, sorrow, restlessness, grief, a guilty conscience, and shame. But, thank God, there has been a way whereby man can come out of sin. This came about through the sacrifice of God's Son, who says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." When a sinner repents of his (or her) sins, God stands ready, waiting to forgive, as his Son pleads for the sinner.

Oh, what a wonderful, wonderful thing to have the load of sin lifted from us when our life has been so loaded down with the burden of sin. When the sinner pleads for forgiveness, Jesus then pleads to the Father, then God for Christ's sake forgives and the load of sin is taken away as far as the east is from the west. The kiss of pardon is placed upon the forgiven soul and the angels in heaven rejoice, the saints of earth rejoice, and the forgiven soul rejoices. The load of sin is gone. He (or she) loves everybody, for a divine love is felt in the soul and he is a child of God. Praise the Lord!

The old life (or practice of sin) is gone; but there needs to be a perfection. The soul has only come into the first glory. This glory is so great that one does not feel the need of anything more until he comes in contact with the trials of life. We read in Heb. 6:1, "Let us go on to perfection." This was addressed to saints, those that were born again, partakers of the heavenly calling. Perfection, Webster says, in part is the state of being perfect or complete. The first glory is justification; the second glory is sanctification. Each is a complete work, but salvation work is not complete in us until we partake of both. It takes the work of the Holy Ghost to complete the work of salvation. So many Scriptures point to this precious perfection or cleansing. We read in 2 Peter 1:4, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature." These exceeding great and precious promises were given by God—God speaking thru men as they were moved by the Holy Ghost even away back before Christ, all looking and pointing to the time of Christ when the plan of salvation would be

complete in our lives, bringing us back to the holy state man was in before he fell into sin. We read in Luke 1:70-76, Zacharias talking, "As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets which have been since the world began that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all that hate us: to perform the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant: the oath which he sware to our father Abraham that he would grant unto us that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear" —Oh, glory—"in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life." Praise God! Jesus our dear Savior promised the Holy Ghost, His sweet Spirit, to come into our hearts to live and reign. No wonder Paul said, "from glory to glory." Now Peter says "that ye might be partaker of the divine nature. Since we are to partake of the divine nature, there must be a removal of the sin nature or likeness of Adam. We read where Peter referred to the time when Cornelius' household was filled with the holy Ghost: Acts 15:9, "And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. When the Holy Spirit comes in our hearts, he will purify from the likeness of Adam. One who is justified is holy; one who is sanctified is perfected in holiness. A justified person is holy in practice. The old practice of sin is dead. One who is sanctified is holy in nature. Through the work of each the old life became completely dead, both in practice and nature. Then we partake of the divine nature and our life is hid with Christ in God. When we keep filled with the Holy Spirit, there will not be manifestations of jealousy, envy, strife, selfishness, division, such as the disciples had before they were sanctified. On one occasion (Mark 10:35) James and John desired a more prominent place than the rest. The other disciples manifested a jealous spirit. On one occasion they were reasoning among themselves as to who would be the greatest (Luke 9:46). Then on one occasion a desire for vengeance was manifested. Now such affections or desires are impure and such desires come from an unholy nature. The disciples were not aware of this nature. Jesus rebuked them and saw the need of their having the Holy Spirit, so he promised the Holy Spirit to them. And everyone that is justified and has not yet been sanctified needs the Holy Ghost. God will purge and clean the heart from this nature of sin, striking right at the root with the burning flames of the Holy Ghost, and will move into the heart to make His abode, praise the Lord. Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world.

The justified life is wonderful; the sanctified life is most wonderful. Thank the Lord. It is from glory to glory. I trust every soul that has not been sanctified will go on to perfection.

Oh, the need of the church being filled with the Holy Ghost! We must move on if we would keep the victory over all the power of the enemy. When we see so many laboring under such a strain, trying to keep victory and yet are making so many failures, we are impressed to encourage everyone to go on to the more abundant life.

May God bless everyone.

—Lottie Joiner

Are There Conditions to Salvation?

Truly there are conditions to salvation. If there were not, God would be a respecter of persons if He did not save all.

We read in Acts 10:34, 35, "God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." And in Eccl. 12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments for this is the whole duty of man."

God's salvation for every man is complete in Christ Jesus. "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

And we hear Jesus saying in Luke 9:23, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. And whosoever doth not bear his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:27. So to be a follower of Christ means a complete death to self and to sin. We must be willing to suffer anything according to his will. "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps." 1 Peter 2:21.

We find first of all that faith is a condition of salvation; for "he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6. And "by grace are ye saved through faith." Eph. 2:8a. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:15, 16. The preaching of the gospel is God's ordained means to save the world. And it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek." Romans 1:16b.

Repentance is a very important condition to salvation. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." Psalms 34:18. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God for he will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:7.

John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judaea; and saying, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matt. 3:1, 2. And we hear Jesus saying, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" Luke 9:32. And "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3, 5. "Be afflicted, mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and he shall lift you up." James 4:9, 10.

Jesus said, "Verily, verily I say unto you, Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. We must be translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of His dear Son (Col. 1:13), and this is what takes place when we hear and obey the gospel. By one spirit are we all baptized into one body, and have been all made to drink into one Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13).

Then having become a member in the body of Christ, the family of God, having been quickened together and raised up together, and made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, Let us heed the admonition of Paul the apostle, to the Hebrews, chapter 12:6b. Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. Let us go on to perfection. Heb. 6:1.

God does not force or compel anyone to serve him. We have free choice. We can deny ourselves of all ungodliness and worldliness and live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, or we can refuse his offered mercy and choose to serve sin and live like the world and be a friend of the world. But we are told in James 4:4, "If any man will be a friend of the world he is the enemy of God." We cannot serve God and mammon. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

"He that overcometh the same shall be clothed in white raiment and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of life; but I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels."

"Many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many, and because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold, but he that shall endure unto the end the same shall be saved."

As for me, I want to serve the Lord and patiently endure to the end.

Mrs. Cora Brant

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"He Answered Her Not A Word"

Have you been asking and asking of the heavenly Father to give unto you the greatest desire of your heart and the heavens seem as brass? Have you prayed for days, weeks, maybe years for some loved one, and outwardly they seem to become more and more unconcerned about their soul? Have you prayed for the healing of your body, earnestly for a long time, and you seem to be no better? Then I'm sure you can understand just how the Canaanite woman felt whom we read about in Matthew 15:22-28. She came to our Lord and Saviour and cried to him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. BUT HE ANSWERED HER NOT A WORD." She then turned to the disciples and plead with them to ask the Master to listen to her; but they would not even do that. They told the Lord to send her away because she troubled them.

Have you ever asked others to ask the Lord to give unto you the greatest desire of your heart, and they did not seem to understand to the fullest, your burden, and you went away feeling that you must again go to the Lord earnestly for yourself? Then

you understand just how this woman felt. But did she become discouraged? Did she quit praying? Did she lose faith? Oh, no! She knew from whence her help cometh. She knew Jesus could heal her daughter and give unto her the desire of her heart; so she came to him again, fell upon her knees, and worshiped him, crying, "Lord, help me."

Do you not see the humility, the confidence and faith? She did not doubt for one minute that he could help her, therefore she cried all the more. Can we not be like her in holding that steady faith?

In James 1:6, 7 it says, "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord." Let us not waver or let doubts come in just because God does not answer us immediately. Hold on, pray on! The answer will come when God sees best if our faith does not waver.

Jesus told the woman: "It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs." And she said, "Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table." How humble she was. She was not demanding Jesus to do anything. She was willing to take the place of a dog; only she knew that just one crumb of healing was all her daughter needed. She did not want to take from any one else their healing.

Are we to that place in humility? Are we still asking with faith? Listen to the words of Jesus when he felt she had been tested enough. "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour." Praise the dear Lord. Just so it will come to you and to me. But we must not doubt or waver.

Oh dear ones, I have proved the Lord in this manner, and I have found he never fails. Yet there is still some things I am holding before the Lord in faith, believing that He is going to give to me. I do not have one doubt. Praise the Lord! Be encouraged, we have a great and mighty God. —Marie Miles.

Repent

"What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

In their mad quest for riches, people today are giving their souls to the devil. But these riches will all pass away; for we came into this world with nothing, and it is certain that when we die, we shall take nothing with us.

However, there is one thing we can have now and forever; that is, eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins."

We may think living a good moral life will eventually get us to heaven. But, my friend, this is not so, for we are all under sin. "There is none righteous, no not one." And unless we repent and accept Christ as our Savior we shall die in our sins.

So, dear friend, repent and believe, "For if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and

shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:9.

"She Hath Done What She Could"

"She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying." These are the words of Jesus spoken to the disciples who were finding fault with a woman who had anointed Jesus' head and feet. They had murmured against her, saying that she should have sold the ointment and the money should have been given to the poor. How different were the words of Jesus! He answered, "Let her alone; why trouble ye her: she hath wrought a good work on me. For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always. She hath done what she could."

How sweet those words must have sounded to the woman. It may be that the disciples' words had made her feel bad. I'm sure the Master's words made her happy. He commended her so highly. He said, "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her." Mark 14:9.

Jesus knew the purpose of her heart. He knew what had prompted that action. Though others found fault, he appreciated her service. This can be an encouragement to us today. Every act, every deed, no matter how small that we perform for the Lord with a true purpose does not go unnoticed by our heavenly Father. Others may not appreciate us, they may judge harshly and criticize, but God can see the heart. Another time a woman came with tears and washed Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair and anointed them with ointment. Simon, the Pharisee, who had invited Jesus to eat with him, thought Jesus ought to know what kind of a woman she was. He did know, but he knew the purpose of her heart. He knew that though she was a sinner, she was repentant in heart. He also knew Simon's thoughts toward him.

How careful we should be of our thoughts, for God knows every thought. Jesus said to the woman: "Thy sins are forgiven." He rewarded her act of showing she was sorry for her sins.

These women had true purposes and the Lord knew all about them and rewarded them. Sometimes people have evil purposes and God knows all about them. When Mary anointed Jesus, it tells in John that Judas spoke against the act, saying that it should have been sold and given to the poor. "This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief and had the bag." His words made it appear that he cared for the poor, but in reality he wanted some of the money. The Lord knows every evil purpose as well as every good purpose. We may deceive people sometimes, but never God. When Judas went to the garden of Gethsemane where Jesus was, he kissed him. Perhaps he wanted to cover up his real purpose in it, but Jesus knew all about it. He said,

"Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?"

Let us do what we can for the Lord with a good purpose in our hearts. —Fern Stubblefield.

Rejoice

REJOICE in the Lord ALWAYS: and again I say, REJOICE." Philippians 4:4. "REJOICE evermore" 1 Thessalonians 5:16. "Wherein ye greatly REJOICE though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations. That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 1:6, 7. "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But REJOICE inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." 1 Peter 4:12, 13.

"Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. REJOICE and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven." Matt. 5:12.

—E. S.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Mich.—To the saints scattered abroad:—Greetings of Love in Jesus' precious name. I promised the Lord to write my testimony, so with his help, I will do my best.

I would also like the saints to know how much we appreciated their prayers at the time we lost our two youngest sons in an automobile accident on their way to work January 27th, 1953. Truly God held us up in a wonderful way by his mighty hand in answer to prayer. And we appreciate the prayers of the saints when I broke my arm, then later burned it so terribly. God surely did perform some miracles in answer to prayer. Praise God!

I fell down our basement stairs and broke my right arm between the elbow and shoulder Nov. 10, 1953, and as I didn't see any wrong in going to a doctor to get it set and put in a cast, I went; but told him I wouldn't take any thing. He said he would respect my belief, but wanted to X-ray it first. It was so bad a break that he said the only successful thing to do would be for me to have an operation and a plate put in my arm. He said if I wouldn't consent to this he was afraid I would have to get another doctor, but he called in another doctor (to see what he had to say, I guess). This same doctor said that even if he did set my arm and put it in a cast he couldn't promise results, for there was likely to be a bunch grow on my arm. I told him to go ahead anyway, but when I refused anesthetic, he said, "Well then, I am afraid I can't do this for you, as I am not man enough to do the job, unless you take the anesthetic." So I came to the home of my daughter (Sister Aneita Corteway) without the arm being set, and gave my complete case over into the hands of Jesus the GREAT PHYSICIAN, who is "Just the same yesterday and today, and forever." My daughter put me to bed.

This was Nov. 10th, and on the 22nd of the same month God showed me to get up and go by faith. I was up around five hours that first time (this would have been dangerous if I hadn't put my case in the hands of God, as I didn't have any cast or any splints on my arm, but God was taking care of my case). God showed me that from that time forth I must get up some every day, so from then on I never missed a day to get up. And sometime in December I was staying up all day, fully dressed, outside of a very few exceptions.

Dear saints, I want you to know that God set my arm, not man; and this arm was never put in a cast, and I never wore splints on it. Oh! when I just think of what God has done for me, it thrills my heart. Oh, what a mighty God we serve!

God wants his children to trust him for everything. In Hebrews 11:6 God says, "but without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." When I was wondering just what to do regarding my arm, the dear Lord showed me how he suffered and died on that cruel cross, and he didn't take anything to ease his pain, and I knew I couldn't either. We are to follow the Lord in suffering if it comes to us. The Word says in Mark 13:13, "He that endures to the end shall be saved." Also in Rev. 7:14, "And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

It wasn't long after my arm was broken before I had terrific pain, but in answer to the saints' prayers it left me, praise God. Then I had another real bad attack of pain after this and God heard prayer again, and at another time it was quite severe, but lasted only a few minutes. After that I wasn't bothered much with pain and my arm never swelled like one would expect it to ordinarily from such a bad break. But when the devil saw I was gaining so much victory in my arm, he then tried to afflict my body and he really worked hard to try to take my life, but the saints were holding on in prayer for me, and God held me steady, and praise God, the victory came and God wonderfully healed me.

It seems the devil has worked real hard to get this right arm off in some way. About the first part of Jan. the storm door came back and hit it so hard it left a black and blue spot, but, praise God, he didn't let my arm break over again. Then I think about a week and a half later, Jan. 27th, I was getting dinner ready when I slipped and fell flat on the kitchen floor in front of my stove. It was surely a miracle that the arm didn't break again. When I fell I must have pulled the boiling hot potato water over my back. For just a few minutes I felt quite discouraged and said, "Lord, I just can't understand why so much happens to me." The dear Lord brought this Scripture to me: "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them ALL." With this Scripture came wonderful encouragement. When I saw my arm wasn't broken I began to think of my back. I had expected second and third degree burns at first; but the Lord had protected with a miracle, for my clothes were so wet from this boiling water they had to be dried on the furnace register. My back had one good sized blister and maybe two or three small ones, but from the time I was anointed and prayed for I would hardly have realized my back had been burned if I hadn't known it. But the arm that had been broken was terribly burned. It must have laid in the hot potatoes. I am about sure it was third degree burns and were very painful until two sisters of the church came out, anointed and prayed for my healing, then the pain went away and

it was just a very little sore, hardly enough to speak of. Space will not permit me to go into detail about these awful burns that were on my arm, but the sister who saw them soon after the blisters broke, said she thought they were third degree burns, they looked terrible. But we are not to go by looks and feelings in our Christian experience. The sores were completely healed in about three weeks. There is a bad scar on my arm, but I believe God left that there, as perhaps people might not believe it had been burned so deep if they didn't see this, for it never caused me much trouble. This is such a miracle. Also when I fell I hurt my foot in some way, but soon after prayer was offered it felt like something went in place in my foot two different times I believe, and God healed that too. Praise His dear name!

I would also like to say this, that they didn't X-ray only a part of my arm that showed the break between the elbow and shoulder, and if I had been trusting man instead of God I probably would have had to go back again for more work on my arm. I believe my wrist was broken and my shoulder either fractured, cracked, or broken. It felt that way to me and a sister said she thought it was. But our Almighty God healed everything. Oh! it almost overwhelms me to think of it all sometimes. God has done so much for me! And He is no respecter of persons. He will do for all what he has done for me if they'll trust Him.

I can do my own housework now, also my washing and ironing, can hang my clothes on the line, lift heavy baskets of wet clothes and mop my floors. I went to the grocery store with an elderly sister and carried her big heavy sack of groceries to the car, which was quite a distance. Afterwards I said to her, "Isn't it wonderful what God has done for me?" She said she had forgotten that my arm had been broken before I mentioned it, and she was really joyous over it. Also I stayed with my five grandchildren, the baby only four months old at the time while my daughter and son-in-law went to a funeral in Wisconsin. I couldn't have done it if the dear Lord hadn't healed my arm so wonderfully.

A neighbor girl who has been working at the Bronson Hospital testified about how wonderfully God had healed my broken arm to a doctor she knew. She told him how I was doing my own housework now. He acted surprised. Another doctor heard it (she didn't know him but I believe he was the one I had gone to see), and he said to her, "I had a woman come to me to get her arm set, but she wouldn't take anything, so she went home without it being set, and she never came back." Praise God, I think he was looking for me to come back again, but he didn't know the power of our Almighty God!

Pray for me that I always prove faithful. I hope this testimony will be a help to someone to strengthen their faith to trust God for their complete healing. It doesn't matter to God whether we have cancer, T. B., heart trouble, or whatever it may be. He made us in the first place and he can put us back together again if anything goes wrong with us. If anything goes wrong with our car we get someone who knows how to fix it. So let us go to the Great Physician when there is something wrong with us, the One who knows our case from the beginning to the end.

Sister Eva Wilkins.

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Ohio—Dear saints of God everywhere,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. This leaves me still saved and with a settled decision to press forward for the Lord. I am thankful the Lord saved my soul from sin. This earth holds no pleasure that I would accept in exchange for salvation.

Won't you put your soul in the hands of the Master who can save you from your sins? Oh, do not put off salvation too long. I know He lives, He lives in my heart.

May God bless each and every one of you dear saints. I would like to hear from anyone that would write to me. This is my address: Ethel Mohr, Van Wert, Ohio.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints of God,—I am thanking God for his great love that He has bestowed upon us, how He reached down and lifted us out of the miry clay and set our feet on the solid rock. Who am I, that I was worthy of such great love? I love each of God's children, they are very precious to me, I have found no other family so dear unto my soul.

How thankful I am for God's faithful servants that have given their years to his service. If it hadn't been that they were faithful and obedient you nor I might not have been saved. I thank God that he reached down and got hold of my heart under his anointed word and saved my soul about six and a half years ago, and sanctified my nature shortly after. I am thanking God for that great love that he has bestowed upon my family and me. We have gone through many trials, afflictions, persecutions, and have carried many burdens but God has brought us through them all victoriously and has given us a greater hope and deeper faith than ever before.

I have had such a heavy burden this spring. Things seemed so dark for a while, and there seemed to be no way out. But that song kept coming to my mind, "We are sure the sun is shining just behind the cloud." I got lots of encouragement from it. The Lord spoke to me one night when I was burdened the heaviest and said, "Haven't I brought you this far through faith, over six years, and haven't you gone to work many a morning through faith when you didn't feel like going?" and I said "Yes, Lord," and He said by faith He would carry us through this thing that burdened me so. Oh! how I thank God that He is always ready to help us in time of trouble or sorrow, or what ever the need may be. What a mighty God we serve. I only pray that I might be worthy of his wonderful love and goodness that he bestows upon me from day to day. It makes me feel my littleness before him. My prayer and greatest desire is that I might walk always before him with all pureness of heart, soul, mind, and body that his approval might rest upon me, and that his image might shine forth through me. My prayer each day is that the Lord might purify, cleanse, and sanctify my soul each day and cleanse out all the dross that might be there. I desire to be at all times, that vessel that is pure, clean, and holy, that God might work through to do his will. I have consecrated my life into the hands of God that he might use me where he desires. My whole life and heart's desire is to please him and do his will. I know that I would not have peace of soul doing what self would like to do in this life. So there was a dying of self that had to be done. Oh, how I thank and praise God for that sweet peace flowing in my soul.

Dear saints, I desire the prayers of all, that God will give me the strength and grace to do his will in this life. When God saves and sanctifies a soul, I feel he has a work for that soul to do. I feel he has a great need of laborers in his vineyard or harvest. Oh! I would that souls would yield their service unto the Lord that he might lead them into his work. I can see talents that God has given some of his children just being wasted because they will not yield unto his service. God could be using them

to his glory if they would just consecrate their all into his hands.

My soul has been burdened for some time to see more young people given over to the Lord's service. Is God calling after souls for laborers or workers? Or is there a shrinking back from his calling? Children stop, listen, is God calling after you? Older servants are passing on to their reward. Who is going to take their places in carrying the gospel?

We truly want to see the truth carried on in all its fullness and the standards held high. We see the church as being pure, clean, spotless, and holy, with her standards high. I heard a sister say, one day that she had the standard set so high that it kept her busy every day, climbing, just trying to reach that standard. My prayer will continue to be that God will bless and call after souls and prepare them for his laborers. That his precious truth might be carried on in its fullness.

I thank God for the way he blessed in our home the last two days and nights. My youngest child is seven years old and he had an awful high fever Saturday night and I prayed for him before going to bed, and by morning the Lord had taken it all away. But the following night it came up again and the next morning he woke up crying and said he was sick. For about two hours he cried most of the time with his ear hurting real bad and a high fever. I would pray and he would be relieved just a few minutes from the pain. Then it would start again. Finally, I stayed on my knees until we gained victory over the thing, and the hurting left, but the fever lingered for an hour or two longer. It left just a little at a time. I thank God that he heard and answered prayer again in our time of need.

The Lord healed my youngest child of impetigo this winter. He caught it at school and the Lord healed it in three or four days and I had a bad sore on the corner of my mouth about the same time and the Lord healed it. I told the Lord if he healed my little boy that I would put the testimony in the paper. I thank the Lord that he didn't even have to miss any school. My two oldest children missed a year of school before, when they had the itch and impetigo. I asked the Lord to not let this child have to miss any school and He certainly did bless and the about a dozen little warts on the back of his hand, we impetigo all dried up and disappeared. He also had prayed for them and we didn't even know when they left. In a few days after that, I was washing his hand and noticed they were gone. Praise God. The Lord has healed us of so many things, I couldn't name them all.

I feel that God wants us to bring the little things before him the same as the big things. I realize through answering our prayer in the little trials that it builds up our faith so we can go through the bigger trials with greater victories.

I feel so unworthy of all his goodness and love, but I am such a dependent creature upon him. Pray for me that I'll not fail him in any way. I have chosen to follow him and intend to go all the way with the Lord's help.

Your sister in the Lord, Imogene Taylor.

o-o-o-o-o

Dear saints and readers of our precious little paper, "Faith and Victory." It has been a long time since I have testified through the "Faith and Victory, so I feel like sending in my testimony. I am so glad that I can report victory in my soul today. I am happy, free, and redeemed. For I am saved, sanctified, healed, and kept

by the mighty power of God. The Lord helps me to send out more than three hundred encouraging letters each year. The Lord blesses me so much for distributing the good clean tracts and papers from the Lord's Print Shop. Brother and Sister Pruitt and all the workers there in the print shop are doing a good work that is owned and richly blessed of God. For a long time I have been putting out a hundred of the "Faith and Victory" papers each month, and lots of the tracts.

I am seventy-six years old now, and in perfect health. Please remember me in your prayers.

Brother George W. Stephenson.

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear saints,—As I lay on my bed last night thinking of the good prayer meeting we had, and of how good the Lord has been to me, the Lord impressed me to write my testimony of how he so wonderfully healed me of gall bladder trouble. Perhaps it will be of some help to someone. I had these attacks for about five years. As time went on, they became more frequent and more severe. The night of December 26, 1952 I had a severe attack. I had had so many that it affected my heart. My folks and the saints prayed so earnestly for me during my sickness which lasted about two and a half months. During this time I had three gall bladder attacks, the flu, and other complications. Before I would recover from one attack I would have another. It looked like I couldn't get well. There were letters written and telephone calls made to saints at different places and all got under the burden for me. I would have such vomiting spells and as I wasn't able to eat but very little, sometimes I would go for days with hardly a bite. I got very weak. I couldn't lie down so had to be propped up using as many as six pillows sometimes. As I improved they would remove the pillows one at the time. God only knows the pain and agony I went through. Someone had to be right with me day and night. But through it all I stood true to God. Many people no doubt thought me very foolish for not turning to the hand of flesh for relief, but my trust was in God and Him alone. I'm so thankful I stood true through it all. I had many suggestions of what others had done and what great relief they would get. Then the devil tempted me a few times, but thank God. I didn't yield to any of them. Of course, I realized my friends were only interested in me and wanted to see me get relief. They just didn't know how to trust God, themselves, so I don't blame them at all. I got many lessons from my long affliction. And when He saw it was enough he healed me. It looked for awhile the Lord might take me. I am so thankful he saw fit to leave me with my family. We have two small children. I was so bad that I couldn't stand to have my children at home, as any noise bothered me. I couldn't stand for anyone to touch my bed. But since the Lord so completely healed me, I haven't had a single attack. What a wonderful God we serve. I'm encouraged to press on and do more for the Lord. I still have an affliction I'm looking to God to heal. I would be glad for all of you to remember me in your prayers.

I ask you saints to remember me in your prayers that I would be true and faithful to Him.

With Christian love,

Pauline Lowe.

o-o-o-o-o

Ore.—Dear saints abroad,—This evening finds me pressing on for the Lord. He has been so good to me since I last wrote. There have been sunshine and shad-

ows; trials and victories, but one thing I can truly say is that God has sent these trials to bring me closer to him, and they surely have.

Just before our Assembly last fall, I was earnestly looking to God to provide a way that I could attend the meeting, that He would help me get work where I would have a week's vacation. God knew how to provide the way in which I might be most benefited. What happened? I got my foot almost cut off! I couldn't do much work then, and had lots of time to read and pray. I was working at the time, and of course, the first thing they did was to rush me to a hospital. On the way there, God said, "Weren't you praying to go to the meeting?" Through a mist of tears I answered, "Yes, Lord, now I can go." I went too, with my heart prepared to get a lot of good things.

I stayed at the hospital about a day and a half. Let us all stand by anyone who is in a place where they can't help themselves. What would I have done if some of God's dear saints, my family and others, hadn't come and helped me out of that place? I didn't want to be there nor take those shots, but I was helpless. Saints, young and old, let's be at our post helping others. When I left, the doctor said I would probably lose my foot, and maybe my life because of blood poison. That was my first experience like that and I learned a lot! I still have my foot, and it's a good one, too. The doctors and nurses that handled my case saw an example of DIVINE HEALING, without any help. When Bro. and Sis. Olson came to take me out of the hospital they explained our faith in God as a complete healer. When I went back to see the doctor he was really surprised! I was walking and back at work in a shorter time than he expected even if I had taken his medicine.

God has blessed us this winter to go to the Louisiana Assembly. We had been praying several years to be able to attend some of those good meetings. He answered our prayers!!

We were also privileged to attend several revival meetings in California about a month ago. After seeing God do so much it stirs my heart to get more and more of God. The more of God we get the more blessings we get! God sent many heart-searching messages that put us to digging for ourselves lest we be left out. God showed his power in controlling evil spirits. Something I personally had not seen; also some marvelous cases of healing, some which looked almost hopeless!

We are at home again, now, but not at the same place spiritually as we were before we left. Thank the Lord! I'm finding out that there are real blessings in serving the Lord, real blessings for us!! Not just blessings we hear others testify of receiving. There are blessings of us being close enough to God that he can burden us for others that we do not know of needing prayer; blessings of boldness and wisdom that we can explain to other interested souls; blessings of being led by His spirit in temporal moves as well as spiritual; blessings on every hand, we can't name them all.

All of you saints pray for me. If you would like to write, my address is Marion, Oregon. I love to receive encouraging letters from the saints, both young and old.

Christian love,

Charlotte Hightower.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the name of our Lord. We are thankful for what the Lord has done for us. He gave us a home and a family, and is our helper in

time of need as we have faith in him. The Holy Bible says that without Him we couldn't do anything.

We need your prayers in this wicked old world that we have to live in. Your brother and family, in the one body.

Charles W. Mason.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. We are thankful to report victory in the Lord over sin. We realize this is a pressing way. Paul said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:14.

There are many things that would hinder and slow us down, but the grace of God and the decision the Lord gives us causes us to triumph over all. The closer we get to the Lord, the more trials and temptations we have, but we find his grace is sufficient. I get so much encouragement out of the testimonies. They surely prove a blessing.

Sometimes when we are going through a trial and want things to work out speedily, the Lord would have us to trust and quietly wait. Real trust in the Lord will cause us to quietly wait. I desire to move when the Lord would have me and wait when he wants me to. Pray for me and my family that we will be all he demands of us.

Yours for Him,

Edward V. Davenport.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Pa.—Dear saints:—Greetings in the name of Jesus.

I thank the Lord for His great love to us. I told the Lord if he would stop a hurting in my arm I would tell it. I have had pains in my right arm for quite some time, off and on, and at times very sharp, so it was hurting continuously this one day, so I promised the Lord if he would stop the hurting I would testify to it. He stopped it right away, and I thank Him for it. God is surely good to us all. People do not realize and appreciate God's mercy and goodness to them—that is, the sinner. God is long suffering, not willing that any should perish.

I ask the saints to pray that my arm will be completely healed of whatever is causing the pains. I have had the hurting some since that day, not much, though.

Please pray for my other condition, too, that I will be delivered completely of the afflictions and weakness of this body for Jesus' sake. Christian love, Avis Tinsley

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear saints at the print shop and abroad:—

Greetings in Jesus' holy name. I trust everyone is encouraged to press the battle on. Surely I'm thankful for salvation and to know we are in the truth. I surely want to stay in this truth, as it's the only way to heaven.

I am thankful for what the dear Lord has done and is doing for us here at Senath, providing a meeting house.

We are looking forward to a revival meeting in April. We are burdened for a family here that seems to be interested. Pray that they will come to meeting and accept the truth.

The dear Lord is so good to me, and I want to live to please Him in every way. Pray for me. Cassie Irvin.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ind.—Dear saints:—Last summer my wife had gall bladder trouble and they took her to the doctor, who said she must have an operation. She said, "I can't go, I must stay at home." So she wrote to me and asked me to pray for her. Several of the brethren and I here agreed and prayed, and thank God, He answered prayer and she was healed. Then I had a growth on my forehead. Those who saw it said it was a cancer. It stayed sore and gave me much trouble. I began to talk to Jesus about it. He told me to anoint it and pray, and do it three times. I did, and the third time it fell off in my hand. I do thank the Lord for answering prayer. Your brother, George Herron

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JUDGMENT ON JEROBOAM

May 2, 1954

Printed Portion:.....1 Kings 14:5-10a, 12-16.

1 Kings 14:5. And the Lord said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be another woman.

6. And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to thee with heavy tidings.

7. Go, tell Jeroboam Thus saith the LORD God of Israel Forasmuch as I exalted thee from among the people, and made thee prince over my people Israel,

8. And rent the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it thee: and yet thou hast not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments, and who followed me with all his heart, to do that only which was right in mine eyes;

9. But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back;

10. Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam.

1 Kings 14:12. Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: and when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die.

13. And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the Lord God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam.

14. Moreover the LORD shall raise him up a king over Israel, who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam that day: but what? even now.

15. For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the LORD to anger.

16. And he shall give Israel up because of the sins of

Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel to sin.

Memory Verse: Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments. Deuteronomy 8:11.

Practical Truth: It never pays to disobey God for the sake of some seeming temporary advantage.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"And hast cast me behind thy back," verse 9. Surely God could do nothing else with Jeroboam but to pass judgment upon him and his posterity. Many times after this we find God referring to him, "In the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin." Sin pays wages as well as righteousness. Jeroboam set up "two calves of gold" (12:28) to be worshipped instead of God, then it was that God commenced to deal with him through taking his son by death. Although the prophet, Ahijah could not see, (14:4) yet God told him that the wife of Jeroboam was in disguise. No one can deceive God. The scripture is certainly true, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7). God had done well by Jeroboam and exalted him, making him a prince in Israel and prospering him, but his being taken up with his own interests he forgot the lowly place from which God had taken him and his heart became lifted up. This seed of evil that was sown was from forefathers and came down through David and Solomon but God was giving Israel another opportunity to do as Joshua said, "Incline your heart unto the Lord" (Josh. 24:23). This is the main message that God had for his people all the way through. How different it would be to obey God.

—oO—

ELIJAH CHALLENGES BAAL WORSHIP

May 9, 1954

Printed Portion:1 Kings 17:1; 18:17-24; 37-39

1 Kings 17:1. And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

1 Kings 18:17. And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

18. And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

19. Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel, unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.

20. So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.

21. And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

22. Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

23. Let them therefore give us two bullocks: and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

24. And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD, and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

1 Kings 18:37. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

38. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39. And when all the people saw it they fell on their faces: and they said the Lord, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.

Memory Verses: How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. 1 Kings 18:21.

Practical Truth: We should have courage and faith in standing for true religion, no matter what opposition may exist.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God is still dealing with his people and sends another prophet with such a message to them and demonstrated with fire from heaven that surely they will consider their ways. Here was Elijah standing out against all the wickedness of Baal worship and the attending sins that went along with it.

Notice how Ahab had taken a wife from another nation who could and did help him to grow wickedly. Marriage is a good institution when under the direction of God who made it possible, but Ahab was the worse for having a heathen wife. When Elijah made his declaration, "As the Lord God liveth before whom I stand" he showed that he was in touch with a supreme being that was alive and had power. The dumb idols that Israel was worshipping was not able to do one thing. Ahab tries to put the burden of trouble maker on Elijah who in turn told Ahab that he was the one that had forsaken "the commandments of the Lord," verse 18. Such is the way of the world. The godly have much come their way that is not true of them at all but God knows the heart and he is the Judge.

The people are brought to the place where they are convinced that, "The Lord, he is God; the Lord, he is God." They knew that before, but sin is deception.

ELIJAH REBUKES AHAB

May 16, 1954

Printed Portion:..... 1 Kings 21:1-4, 16-20.

1 Kings 21:1. And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

2. And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money.

3. And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee.

4. And Ahab came into the house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his

bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.

1 Kings 21:16. And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

17. And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18. Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria; behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth; whither he is gone down to possess it.

19. And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.

20. And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not covet. Exodus 20:17.

Practical Truth: Earthly gains, acquired unjustly, will in the end be liabilities instead.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

At the close of last lesson there was a great exclamation extolling "The Lord he is God" but Ahab nor his wife were in position to profit by what was learned for they loved darkness rather than light for their deeds were evil. Greed is so manifest in this talk with Naboth although he tried to cover his covetousness by the way he talked. His later accepting the way his wife got the property for him shows that he had wickedness in his heart and all it needed was the help of his wife and it showed just what he was. His conscience did not seem to bother him for he was quite ready to occupy the property.

God knew what was going on and told Elijah just at the right time when to find Ahab taking possession of his coveted property. He told him to speak to Ahab "Hast thou killed, and also taken possession?" Then he is told what his punishment will be. Ahab's question brings out the fact that Elijah was an enemy to unrighteousness. Did Ahab think he was going to enjoy his possession after it had cost murder to obtain it? Just because he was king did not make it for him that he had any right to commit murder in order to obtain his desires. "Be sure your sins will find you out." (Num. 32:23) "The wages of sin is death." Rom. 6:23.

MICAHIAH WITHSTANDS FALSE PROPHETS

May 23, 1954

Printed Portion:..... 1 Kings 22:5-8, 18-18, 26-28.

1 Kings 22:5. And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day.

6. Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

7. And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him?

8. And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imiah, by whom we

may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

1 Kings 22:13. And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of them, and speak that which is good.

14. And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.

15. So he came to the king. And the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

16. And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?

17. And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master: let them return every man to his house in peace.

18. And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil?

1 Kings 22:26. And the king of Israel said take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son;

27. And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I come in peace.

28. And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, O people, every one of you.

Memory Verse: As the Lord liveth, what the Lord saith unto me that will I speak. 1 Kings 22:14.

Practical Truth: We should tell the truth even though it may take courage to do so.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jehoshaphat was a good king and one who feared God and "sought the Lord God of his father" (2 Chron. 17:4). But he "Joined affinity with Ahab" (18:1). What compromise is here? One who is approved of God to say to Ahab "I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses." It never pays to compromise. Before the battle was over Jehoshaphat had a chance of losing his life. Micaiah was one whom God could trust and evidently was before Ahab at other times for Ahab said "But I hate him." So he must have withstood Ahab at times before this. The child of God is having the same battle with compromise in these days. The world wants us to speak well of them and as the saying is "pet them on the back," but the word of God will have us speak plain and rebuke the unfruitful works of darkness (Eph. 5:11) and not be "one of the crowd" or "do as others do." Character is always tested by temptation but the power of an almighty God is with the Christian to uphold him through the trials. Micaiah stood alone in this conflict but was not alone; for the Lord was with him and his bread and water diet was sweet to him since he had obeyed God. In the hour of our testing God will always stand by his own. "The Lord stood with me." (2 Tim. 4:17).

ELISHA REVEALS SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

May 30, 1954

Printed Portion:.....2 Kings 6:8-17.

2 Kings 6:8. Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp.

9. And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.

10. And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice.

11. Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel?

12. And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.

13. And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.

16. Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host; and they came by night, and compassed the city about.

15. And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots, And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

16. And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

17. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Memory Verse: If God be for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31.

Practical Truth: Spiritual resources are available to those who live close to God and trust in him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The spiritual resources of the man who is under the care of Almighty God are not seen by the world who can not see God for they know nothing of how pray. "The heart of the king of Syria was troubled for this thing." All of his efforts failed because God had a prophet in Israel who he instructed as to the movements of the Syrian army and that information was sent to the king of Israel.

When the king of Syria was informed about Elisha telling the king of Israel what the king of Syria spoke in his bedchamber, he thought to send a great host to take the prophet, Elisha, but he did not know the power of God. Also, the soul of the Christian undergoes many trials from the world but they do not know of the power of God protects those who are his children. As the Christian looks back, he can see the outworking of divine providence.

When the great host encompassed Elisha and his servant, the servant said "Alas my master! how shall we do?" He had not yet learned Elisha's God as he knew him. Some do not learn to know God and his almighty power as quickly as others. Elisha prayed that the young man's eyes should be opened. When they were opened he saw protection all around. The eyes of our understanding can be opened that we may see. (Eph. 1:18)