

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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ANOTHER YEAR

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.
Another year in leaning
Upon Thy loving breast,
Of ever-deepening trustfulness,
Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness,
In the shining of Thy face.
Another year of progress,
Another year of praise;
Another year of proving
Thy presence "all the days."

Another year of service,
Of witness for Thy love;
Another year of training
For holier works above.
Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee!

—Frances R. Havergal.

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Has Your House Become Desolate?

I am thankful that the Lord loved me enough to seek me out and talk to me about my sins. He was merciful to a sinner once more. When I met the conditions, He took my sins all away, never to remember them against me any more. Now old things have passed away; behold all things have become new. (Last part of verse 17, 5th chapter of 2nd Cor.). I am now a new creature in Christ Jesus. Even my very mind is changed. Where once my mind was upon the world and things pertaining to the world, there is a different line of thought now. What a great miracle He has performed, and how great He is! I often compare the things we see and hear to spiritual things.

When the second World War ended in 1945, a part of the land in Camp Crowder, Mo. (Now Fort Crowder) located a few miles south of Neosho, Mo. and a few miles from the National Camp Ground at Monark Springs, was sold back to the previous owner, or a friend and sometimes to a stranger.

The family and I were driving along the divisional road (one side camp, the other side private) when the awfulness of it all—war—empty houses, decaying and ruining, made waste by war—struck me so forceably that for almost a week it bore heavily upon my mind. Where once had been life, love, happiness, and light was now a place that had been turned to sorrow.

This Scripture was brought to my mind: "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." Matt. 23:38. Christ was speaking to the Jews, telling them of His love for them. He was warning them, telling them that their house would be left desolate, but they were not listening.

I was born in one of these houses which in later years became government property—and now is left to fall and waste. I've seen this and know it to be true: these houses were not always the sad and hopeless things they have now become.

The point is, this is what we become (our hearts) when we leave God out of our lives—or lose Him out. He would be glad to stay if we would let Him. Where once we had light, peace, and happiness, everything now is hopeless and miserable.

Webster says that desolate means to lay waste, deprive of inhabitants, overwhelmed with sorrow, abandoned, and miserable—how could one be more so than when without God?

An empty house tells of desolation, emptiness, neglect. The fire is out, the lights are out, the lawn, fields and orchards are overgrown with weeds, briars, thistles, and sprouts. The life that should be there—gone.

A well cared for house or home tells a completely different story. It needs no television antenna to flash in the sunlight. The house is well kept, the foundation straight, the lawn and fields well kept. There is light, life and love in this house; also peace, joy, and singing. Everything that is promised to us who love God, abides in this house.

Where father, mother, and children are saved, love each other and love to follow Jesus each day, there is fire in this house—the windows are clean and shining and our lives shine through. There is a place at the closing of the day to gather the family for worship, to thank God for His goodness, and to ask His advice concerning all things.

We have the privilege of choosing which of the two illustrations we prefer.

The Lord dealt with me some time before I yielded. Before I yielded I was of all men, or women, most miserable. But He freely forgave me of all my sins, and my desolate house became a temple fit for God to dwell in. Praise the Lord forever!

Pray for me.

Mrs. Amos Porter.

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The Parable of the Prodigal Son

"My son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry" Luke 15:24.

This parable of our Lord was spoken for the special benefit of the sinner who has wandered far away from God and heaven. There are several fundamental features in this parable which we wish to especially point out to the sinner. They are: (1) The son went far away from home; (2) he wasted his substance—his inheritance; (3) he was in want, and then came to himself; (4) he purposed in his heart to return to his father's house, (5) He arose and went; (6) his father saw him afar and ran to meet him; and received him gladly; and (7) he was clothed with the best robe and in all respects honored as a son who had never gone astray.

God's Preparation To Welcome Sinners

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Christ Jesus is the mediator between God and the guilty sinner. His love for man is great. He is not willing that any should perish. In the face of all the circumstances, God wonders why man will not yield himself and be saved. So great a love has never been known as that manifested by Christ to save sinners. Every preparation on God's part has been made to welcome the poor prodigal home. Christ has suffered and died; a fire-baptized ministry has been commissioned to go into all the world carrying the tidings of salvation to every creature. The Holy Spirit is come to reprove the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; to deepen conviction, to drive the arrows of gospel truth home to every heart; to gently, yet firmly, warn all of the fiery judgments of God, which will be poured out unmixed upon the incorrigible wicked. The church of Christ is laboring, and praying and sacrificing, in order that all may hear the gospel. What more could God do or cause to be done that the sinner might come to him?

His invitation extends impartially to all, "without money and without price." Are you rich? Consecrate them to God, and come. Are you poor? There are no

gate-fees at the entrance into the kingdom. Are you high or low? God has a highway of holiness for all of whatever station or vocation in life. He has bountifully prepared to receive people of every tribe and kindred and nation and tongue.

The Sinner's Condition

The Saviour's description of the prodigal is a pen-portrait of every sinner and backslider. He is far away from home and true friends. He has wasted his heavenly Father's inheritance—good character, and good morals, which he once possessed. His substance is gone. He wasted it in "riotous living"—lawlessness before God and heaven.

Sinner, this means you. Your soul is starving for the heavenly manna—the "bread of life." Mighty famines always arise in the land where there is no God. You are a prodigal son today. Your condition is serious. Your spiritual, and perhaps much of your physical manhood and moral courage is gone. You have served sin, and divers lusts and pleasures until your strength has well nigh abated. You are doomed without Christ and grace. Joining yourself to the citizens about you will bring you no permanent relief. They are in the same general condition that you are in. It is not like being at Father's house in the midst of plenty with the feeling of welcome and security that characterizes the experience. You are the same as "dead," "lost" unless you return.

This was said of the prodigal in the parable. "Dead in trespasses and sins"; lost and strayed from home and heaven. What can you promise yourself as a sinner, destitute and despised; reproach and ruined by sin; in a land of famine with no inheritance—nothing to eat but husks that is fit for swine only? "The wages of sin is death." This is the reward of the wicked. Sin must be destroyed out of your life, or it will destroy you. The way to hell is a dark and slippery way, and you are on it. Sin is deceitful. The son who left home, laden with the things his father gave him, did not expect that things would turn out with him as they did. His own heart, through sin, deceived him. Life appeared bright and prosperous, but in spite of himself, he went to the bad. So with every sinner. When he leaves home, strong and manly in character; he is full of hope, and carries himself in an air of independence and self-esteem. But sin, if followed to its climax, will bring the mighty down to the level of the lowest debauchery and human shame; and its final reward is eternal death.

Awakened—The Turning Point

"When he came to himself, he said . . . I perish with hunger; I will arise and go to my father." It takes a firm decision to turn back after we have treated God so shamefully. But the sinner who becomes truly awakened—"comes to himself"—will make a powerful struggle for deliverance. You must consider as did the prodigal. "Again, when the wicked turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive." Because he considereth. This is just what the prodigal son did. He thought of his own perishing condition with hunger; and he re-

membered that at his father's house there was plenty of bread for all his servants and to spare. These facts took hold of his heart; and despite the fact that he had sinned against heaven and his father, he resolved to go home. "And he arose, and came to his father." It is not enough simply to make resolutions; we must ACT upon the knowledge we have and our convictions of right.

But take notice of his humble attitude at the time he reached his decision to forsake his waywardness and return. "I . . . will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants." This expresses the feelings of the truly penitent soul in his deep contrition before God. Sorry because of SIN, not because of WANT. The sinner sees his sins, his waywardness, the grief of God. This brings him down to the feet of Jesus. We find in the parable of the Prodigal Son, conviction that prompted to action, humble-mindedness to acknowledge his sin, and to be perfectly content as a servant, for he felt unworthy to be called a son any more.

So you must humble yourself, dear sinner, before the heavenly Father. You must "awake to righteousness and sin not" (1 Cor. 15:34); you must get yourself away from the "citizens," and out of the "country" of prodigality, and come to God. Let today mark the turning point in your life. Waste no more of your time and strength and money and character in extravagance and sin.

The Paternal Reception

"But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." This is one part of the gospel story that many penitents find some difficulty in believing. It seems too good to be true. Will the heavenly Father thus welcome a poor sinner who turns? Yes. Nothing is said here about the son kissing the father, or that he was so anxious to get home that he "ran"; but the father ran to meet his returning son while he was "yet a great way off." Said James, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." He will run to meet you with a father's compassion and love.

The son had his confession all framed up what he was going to say to his father, but when they met, and he had made only a part of it, the father interrupted him by ordering the servants to bring forth the best robe and put it on him: a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and to kill the fatted calf so that they might eat, drink and be merry: "for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found!" What a royal reception he received! There was no mention of his past sins, his waywardness, his prodigality. All was swept away by a father's great and loving heart. How beautifully this parable teaches us of the willingness to receive, to forgive, to clothe with righteousness, with home blessings, to make merry.

"Forgiveness, like the sunlight, covers everything with its own glory." It leaves no room for question or doubt in the mind of its happy recipient. It

is a Father's love and a Father's forgiveness. The sinner returns and confesses, and there is naught else to do but to put on the best robe, and to eat and to drink at the Father's expense. Salvation is free. New garments are in readiness for those who will cast off their filthy rags. There are "fatted calves" ready for the banquet at the return of every prodigal. Will you not arise at this very moment and make your way back home?
—J. E. F.

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A Reserved Place In Heaven

We read in 1 Peter 1:4, 5 that there is a reserved place in heaven for all who are saved and kept by the power of God. Then the question arises: How may we obtain it? This little illustration came to me:

People buy tickets or reserved seats to entertainments and this assures them they will have a seat when they arrive there. When the time is at hand, they make preparation to go, by taking a bath and putting on their good clothes. Then they get in their car and start. They may be delayed by a flat tire or by running out of gas or by engine trouble; but they do not worry about not having a seat when they get there. It is sure, for they have it reserved.

Thus it is with anyone who wants to go to heaven. They need to have a place reserved for them. Jesus has purchased this reserved place for us by the shedding of His blood on the cross. Our part is to repent of our sins and have them washed away in the blood of Jesus, the lamb who was slain for the sins of the world. Then put on the robe of righteousness, which is our sanctification, brought about by the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus to cleanse us of the Adam nature and fill us with His Holy Spirit. Now we are ready for our journey, but we are sure to meet up with tests, trials, sorrows, disappointments, etc. We should not let these things hinder, for we are now ready to be revealed in that day when we shall enter that reserved place, prepared for them that are faithful to the end. Let us read the text over again that it may inspire our hearts to be faithful to the end. —F. Atha

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False Religion

A sin-you-must religion doesn't help anyone, and it pleases the devil more than no religion at all. And a religion that only deals with the committed sins doesn't much more than arouse the devil, for he knows many luke warm Christians are following in this way. But the Pure Religion that believes and teaches that the inherited sin that is in the hearts of all at birth, can and must be eradicated, cleansed out of the heart will stir the world and the devil. This is pure religion that will give the Christian standing grace and will defeat the devil on every hand. It deals him such a blow that he can never rise against. Let us never deny the power of Jesus to give us this victory. He, Jesus, suffered without the gate that all may have this.
—Charles H. Wulff.

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

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation 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 to Fred Pruitt 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.

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

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

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Editorials

The two-month's offer subscriptions for the "Faith and Victory" paper have been coming in quite freely, and there will be a large list of new subscriptions for this January issue of the paper. We are endeavoring to have some articles on salvation in each of the papers, which will point precious souls to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

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In John's gospel (7:3) Jesus says, "Ye must be born again." In the margin it says, "From above." Some are immersed in water baptism and call that being born again. It is a sad fact that because of wrong teaching on the subject, many today have been baptized in water who have never been born again, from above. In this way Satan has many precious souls deceived into thinking that they are ready for heaven.

In Romans 8:9, we read, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." Water baptism will not give one the Spirit of Christ. "Ye must be born from above." In 1 Peter 3:21, Peter tells us plainly what water baptism represents. Quote: "It is not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God." It is typical of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In other words, it is a sign to the world that one has passed from death to life, having had a spiritual resurrection, being born from above. Now you are to walk in newness of life.

Eph. 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God; [or Christ, which has come into your soul] not by works lest any man should boast." You are not saved by any work you can do nor what any man can do. Jesus says, "Ye must be born again"—from above. You are born again only when you have godly sorrow for your sins and repent and accept His covenant, which he has sealed with his blood sacrifice. If his life is not in your soul, you are none of his, no matter how many times you have been baptized in water. Water does not save; it is His blood that cleanses from all sin. Any one who continues to sin after he professes Christ is just a lost sinner in the sight of God and will never get to heaven; for he is climbing up some other way instead of the true Bible way.

The sacred Word of God teaches us (Titus 2:12) that we are to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and that we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world. In Hebrews 12:14 we are commanded to "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." False teachers will wrest these Scriptures from their true meaning and keep souls in sin. For an illustration, let us say that a young man gets saved, and through lack of knowledge he joins himself to one of the humanly organized churches that teaches a Christian will necessarily sin some along in life. This young man then goes to a meeting where the true holiness doctrine of the Bible is taught and becomes convicted that he ought to live that way. He goes to his preach-

er and asks him about this verse where we are commanded to "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." The preacher will invariably tell him that we are to strive to live that way, but will sin more or less along in life. It is likely that the young convert will be persuaded to believe the preacher (the false teacher) and will go on living in such a way that he will never see the Lord in peace. It is sad to think of the awful deceptive doctrines taught in the sect organized churches of today.

Please let me give you another illustration—an incident that took place, which proves the sad condition of many precious souls. I was sitting in the barber chair one day having my hair cut. I wanted to say something to the barber about his soul, and asked the Lord to give me something to say to him. The Lord impressed me to ask him if he was a Christian. I said, "Are you a Christian man?" He said, "Well, y-e-s, but I haven't put my letter in any church in Guthrie as yet." What a pity! The poor man did not know whether he was a Christian or not because he had not transferred his letter into some church. The sad part of it is that there are just thousands upon thousands of poor souls in that condition. They do not know what it means to be born again and have the Spirit of Christ in the soul. Paul tells us in Rom. 8:16, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." It is necessary for one to be born again and have the Spirit of Christ in the soul in order for the Spirit to bear witness with that one that he is a child of God.

I have a clipping taken from the writings of a leading preacher and editor in the Campbellite doctrines. Referring to Christians committing sin, he wrote in part: "This assertion that we do not sin, is not only untrue, but it makes God a liar; yet that is the sin of all holiness people." A false teacher like that is causing the destruction of a vast multitude of poor souls. He is a perverter of the sacred Scriptures, a tool in the hands of the enemy to land souls in hell with a mere head-profession of Christ. It is an insult to the divinely inspired Word of God and his holiness. Such teaching keeps souls in sin—the very thing that Jesus came to set us free from and make us holy children of God, fit for heaven. I say, shame on such false teachers that deny the true holiness doctrines of the Bible, who are ever learning and never able to come to the true knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. Ofttimes in the Scriptures there is this warning to us: "Let no man deceive you."

Any one, whether it be minister, editor, or lay member, that claims that a Christian has to sin along in life is crediting the devil with having more power than God has. God teaches us in His word not to sin; but according to their claim, Satan has so much more power than God that he makes us sin anyway. They see the true God to be so weak and with such little power that he cannot help himself and Satan makes his children sin in a "more or less" way. No wonder Jesus said, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Satan is the author of sin, and Christ is the author of holiness.

Jesus says, "He that committeth sin is the servant of sin." The apostle John wrote: "He that committeth sin is of the devil." Anyone who commits sin all the time is not saved, is not ready to meet God in peace. David said, "Holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, forever." Ps. 93:5.

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Just recently the question was asked us if the "Faith and Victory" paper was the church paper. The answer was that we have not made any claim of it being the church paper, neither have we claimed that the Faith Publishing House is the headquarters of the church. The headquarters of the church is in heaven, composed of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost (or Spirit). This heavenly company gave us the call to print the paper and send forth the gospel by the printed page, and we look to them as headquarters the same as a Holy-Spirit-filled minister should do, getting instructions on how to carry on for the Godhead so the messages of truth can be printed and sent forth. We also look to God to supply the needs of the work so the unadulterated truth can keep going forth to the people of this sin-darkened and sin-cursed world.

Now, back to the subject of whether the "Faith and Victory" paper is the church paper or not. Thirty-four years ago this coming March the Lord put it upon us to print the paper and to flood the country with gospel tracts and booklets. We simply obeyed the voice of God and went at the job with a good supply of ignorance in stock as well as the zeal to do God's will. When the first issues were sent forth, we did not receive much encouragement from the church; but soon the saints began to realize that the paper contained the old time truth of the gospel and that we were reaching our hand in fellowship to all the truly blood-washed children of God and the response became greater among the true children of God. They began to support the truth and were anxious to receive it. They got others to subscribe for the paper, and the subscription list increased. This brought more burdens and greater responsibilities upon us. The Lord directed us to make it a work of faith, as the name implies, and send the gospel forth free to all. The small subscription fee charged is only a very small portion of what the actual cost is. The Post Office regulations are such that it is necessary to have a paid subscription list in order to get the second class postage rates, which is a big saving in cost of mailing the paper. The children of God scattered over the country began to send in their testimonies to be printed in the paper. They wrote articles for publication, also sent in meeting notices and reports, notices for the many camp meetings being held, obituaries to be printed, also reports of meetings being held and the results of the same, etc., until now it seems the holy operations from the headquarters in heaven have in spirit and truth made the "Faith and Victory" paper a servant of the church. While it is not humanly organized as the church paper, as sects do, yet through the operations of the Holy Spirit it is holding that

position. It is precious to work with God as a servant of the church.

Sometimes ministers who have no calling of God to print the gospel and do not understand that the paper goes to thousands, have ideas of how the paper should be run and what should be printed and what should not. We appreciate good upbuilding counsel and criticism that is given with love and a burden for souls, but we do know from long experience that if some of the ideas advanced were put into practice, they would be detrimental to the work, and we can see how easy it would be for the enemy to tear up the work if it were humanly organized. Or at least he would have us compromising with the worldly religions, which would in time bring the work into a desolate condition. We are determined, by God's grace and wisdom, not to make any peace with the devil, no matter if he does come against the work with his twenty thousands. This work of publishing and sending forth the gospel was given of God. We do mean and are determined by His help to keep it in His big hands where it will be safe and will continue right on doing good and exposing the workings of Satan and his religious hosts.

Faith Publishing House is incorporated under the laws of the State of Oklahoma for religious work and missionary work, both at home and in foreign lands. Just recently we printed and sent forth over forty thousand tracts in the African language, which went to South Africa. The expense was met by the "Free Missionary Fund." Many of the children of God have had a part in getting this truth to South Africa by the printed page. Many foreign countries are getting the Faith Publishing House literature and the demand is increasing. We have just printed more tracts in a foreign language to send off to needy souls. We are thankful to be a worker together with the Lord.

The By-laws governing the Incorporation calls for consecrated self-denying workers. No one connected with the work receives a salary, but all receive the actual needs of life, and if there is any surplus funds on hands they are to be used in the publishing work—for repairs or printing machinery needed to increase the spread of the gospel by the printed page. When one has his all consecrated into the hands of God, and is using his talent, time, and means fully in the gospel work, it brings a peace and a satisfaction that few can really comprehend.

Dear readers, we ask you to pray for us, as we mean by His grace to fight the good fight of faith and move on with Him in spite of the blocks the devil tries to roll in the way. As the song says (first stanza of No. 223 in Evening Light Songs):

"I mean to go right on until the crown is won;
I mean to fight the fight of faith till life on earth is done.
I'll never more turn back, defeat I shall not know,
For God will give me victory if onward I shall go."

Your Editor sends greetings of love and good-will to our subscribers; also to the ones who will receive the "Faith and Victory" for two months as a gift from a friend. We pray that God will cause you to enjoy reading the paper, and that you will want to renew your subscription after you receive the second copy.

God's Church Contrasted

There are prophets who profess alarm
At what they say has come to pass:
"The church and world walk arm in arm,"
And thus they cry, "Alas! alas!"

These babel prophets can't discern
That creeds of man and carnal flock
Is not the church of which we learn
That Christ established on the rock.

Why seek God's living church of old
Among the creeds of putrid dead?
She is not found in tombs so cold
But dwells in Christ her living head.

The church is holy undefiled,
Like a virgin chaste and pure;
She is her mother's only child,
With pearl-like neck, her eyes allure.

She courts no one but Christ her head;
The gates of hell she does not fear—
A multitude of quick and dead
Attest the truth presented here.

No man-made church can half compare,
She changes not as years roll by;
She's decked with graces rich and rare,
This blood-bought church enrolled on high.

God's church is not some mystic shrine,
But plain of view to human eye.
Upon her rolls from every clime
Are names of those prepared to die.

God's church contains all saved of earth,
As well as those of ages past;
No creed of man can boast such worth,
Although these creeds be great and vast.

The church of old was Spirit filled;
She tarried long for holy power;
Old carnal nature thus was killed—
She's just the same this very hour.

You cannot join God's church at will
For Christ is door with angel guards.
We enter by repentance still,
Not saw dust trails or signing cards.

This church's door no man can close,
A light she is in darkest spot;
The Church of God is home for those
Who buy the truth and sell it not.

Those in God's church themselves bestir,
They sing an everlasting song.
Salvation is God's gift to her
For walls and bulwarks strong.

Great light is shining bright today,
No home we need with creeds forlorn;
God's people are content to stay
In the home where they were born.

By Herbert O. Fain.

The Church of God

"The house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." 1 Timothy 3:15.

The day is come when we must know who are for the Lord and for His truth, and who are on the side of error. The time is now come when some men, once distinguished among us for the attractiveness of their preaching, must be ranked among those who are opponents of the truth. We did once imagine, in the blindness of our charity, that we all preached one gospel; but now the enmity of the carnal mind hath appeared. Carnal churches have chosen to themselves carnal teachers, who have begun to teach strange doctrines. The time is coming when it shall be openly proved who is on the Lord's side; at this very hour, separations are everywhere taking place. We desire that God may spare to us the men who are still faithful, and who will never cease, at the risk of being called bigots, to drag out to the light those who lie against God's gospel. May God give us courage to stand up for the right. Your great duty is to stand fast at your post for the truth of God, wherever you are, to maintain the right: "Be ye not carried about by every wind of doctrine"; give not heed to every schismatic who would lead you aside. Hold fast by the oracles of the Most High. You know what you have been taught, and whereunto you have been called; and you know the foundation whereupon you have been built up: "Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." Whatever may happen to denominations, whatever divisions we may live to see, let it be known still that for God and his truth we are prepared to hold our ground, at any expense or at any risk. There are not two churches any more than there are two Gods. There are not two Lords. There are not two faiths. There are not two baptisms. There is one church, holding the one Lord, the one faith, and the one baptism. If any hold not the truth, we cannot allow that they belong to "the church of the living God." If they are not one with Christ, if they are not washed with Jesus' blood, if they have not received His Spirit, if they have not been humbled to know and believe Him to be king in the midst of his own assemblies, if they have not put their trust under the shadow of his wings, whatever they may profess or believe or however they may stand before men, if they do not so stand before God, they do not belong to the one church. And not belonging to that, they cannot belong to Christ.

—Selected by Harvey Johnson.

Which Church Saves?

Must we become Protestants in order to be saved? Not at all, my friend. I wouldn't waste any time trying to convert you to Protestantism.

But you do not believe that either the Roman or the Greek Catholic Church can save, do you?

Certainly not.

Well then, I am a Roman Catholic and my friend here is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church, neither of which you say can save. And you, you are a Protestant. Do you not want us also to turn Protestant?

I do not. I have never asked any Catholic, Greek or Roman, to turn Protestant.

You haven't! I don't understand. Do you not believe that Protestantism can save?

No, I do not.

You don't! I am amazed. What then—

Protestantism has no more power to save than has Catholicism, my friends.

What then! How can a man be saved? There are only the three great Christian Churches, are there not?

I repeat, my friends, that neither the Roman Catholic, the Greek Orthodox, nor the Protestant Church can in any way save your souls.

But, Sir—

Wait a minute. No Church can save, but—JESUS CHRIST can.

JESUS!

Yes, my friends, you are saved, not by the Church, either Catholic or Protestant, but through a Person, and that Person—the Lord Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son.

Can it be possible! And to think that we have never heard this before!

It would do you no good to become Protestants, for there are thousands of Protestants who are not saved, thousands who have embraced Christianity who have never accepted the Christ of Christianity.

Is that why we have not found peace? Is there no peace in Catholicism?

No, friend, and none in Protestantism either. Peace is only found in Jesus. Religion cannot save; Christ can.

But are you sure of this, Sir?

Neither is there salvation in any other (Protestant or Catholic). God says: "For there is none other name (Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic or Protestant) under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

"Thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall (not the Catholic priest nor the Protestant minister, but He—Jesus Christ) shall save His people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21).

What then, must we do?

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," for "as many as received HIM to them gave He power to become the sons of God" (Acts 16:31 and John 1:12).

And will He receive us?

"Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

He loves you. Yea, He died for you. Your sins He bore as He hung on Calvary. Then come, accept Him; trust His atoning death. Take Him now as your Saviour, for He will "have mercy" and "abundantly pardon."

We thought we were saved because we were good Catholics; but you have opened our eyes, and we know now that Jesus is the only Saviour, and the only One who can forgive sins." —Sel.

Divine Healing

As there are many things that are called divine healing, it will be necessary to explain what we mean when we say divine healing. God's power, given thru his Son Jesus Christ and made available thru the shed blood of God's only begotten Son, brought to mankind the great atoning plan for salvation, and included in it is healing for our bodies, also. Divine healing is offered to us with salvation. The Prophet Isaiah (Isa. 53:4) said, "Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted." And in verse five it is written: "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: The chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we are healed."

The great atonement plan included the ransom price for our sins, and not only for our sins but also for the healing of our bodies' afflictions. Oh, how thankful we should be to have such a great Saviour and Healer—a Saviour and Healer who is touched with the infirmities and afflictions which are common to man. We do not have to have our cases diagnosed, our pulsation checked, because He made man in the beginning (Gen. 1:27) and knows all about our frame (Psa. 103:14).

There are some requirements which we must meet in order to obtain healing for our bodies; namely, salvation and full trust for our bodies. In other words, just place our hands in His and let Him lead us.

I am going to take the position that Jesus has all power (Matt. 28:18-20), that man is the greatest of all his creation and he created us for his glory (Eph. 1:10) and that Jesus is ever looking out for the welfare of his children—in both soul and body. I do not believe we are serving a weak God who can not heal afflictions; neither do I believe that God needs any of man's help to heal our bodies.

It is true that medicines and the skill of man has attained to great things and much help has been obtained through medical science, and we as Christians do not put up a fight against our health authorities. We co-operate with them as far as we can to eliminate diseases, especially the contagious kind, and the prevention of these; but the Bible teaches divine healing for the bodies and we cannot co-operate beyond the bounds of Bible teaching. God's divine plan was to take care of his children in all needful ways for both soul and body. Provisions have been made by the God of heaven to care for all our needs (Phil. 4:19).

It is a fact that those who do not have light or are not in a position to trust God naturally will resort to their only source of relief. That would be through man's power and wisdom. But the child of God who has light on divine healing looks only to

God as his Physician, and he is willing to trust Him even to the end. You may say, "Saints die." Yes, that is true. God said in His Word (Heb. 9:27), "And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." When a person has come to this appointment, human skill cannot stay the chilly monster from carrying out his appointment. But we do have a record in God's Word of a case where God changed this appointment. Isa. 38:1, "In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amos came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die and not live." Verses 2-5: "Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed unto the Lord and said, Remember now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. Then came the word of the Lord to Isaiah saying, Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears, behold I will add unto thy days fifteen years."

This man had the death sentence passed upon him by the God of heaven, but God revoked his decree and added fifteen years to his life because of one thing—a perfect heart. This is out of man's power, but not so with God Almighty. I seem to realize as never before the unlimited power of God and his close relationship with his dear children.

I am also thinking of the Typhoid epidemic and how God proved himself strong throughout this affliction in healing so many who were very near death, caused by drinking polluted water at the Monark Springs camp ground in Missouri. This epidemic has proved a blessing to all who were afflicted by this dread disease. First, it proved that God had a people who would trust Him even unto the end of life and do just what the Bible says to do. Second, it proved that God has a church here on the earth that will live so they can be healed by divine power and face death, saying amen to all of God's will. Third, it caused our medical doctors to see something about divine healing that they would not have seen without this. This disease has been reported by all means: press, telephone, radio, and television. While it was being reported abroad, there were also reports of a people who would trust God. I believe that the doctors have been made to see some things about trusting God and his healing power. While the afflictions among us have been severe and our sympathy has been made to go deeper toward the sick and suffering, we have learned many lessons which we never would have learned without the suffering. Our hearts have been made tender because of afflictions and we have been drawn much nearer than we would have without the afflictions. Our love toward each other has increased because of the sufferings of each member of the family. And this epidemic has made us to realize how much we need each other: in sympathy, in prayer, and in helping each other on all lines, financially as well. Jesus learned obedience through the things which he suffered, and we also learn obedience through

the things which we suffer. These afflictions have increased our unity. As we seek a closer walk with God, we naturally draw closer to each other.

It has been said that there were sixteen states represented at the Monark Springs Campmeeting, and these sixteen states have scattered the news that God's church exists here on earth, carrying out God's plan in salvation, holy living, and in divine healing—trusting God for healing according to James 5:14-17.

—E. M. Zinn.

Obituaries

Sister Edith Kerns was born October 15th, 1905 and departed this life November 7th, 1956 at the age of 51 years and one month. She was married in holy matrimony to Brother Herbert Kerns, August 24, 1953 by Bro. George Peek.

She was saved under the preaching of Brother E. D. Johnson in the year of 1933. A short time after this she heard more truth and embraced it as her standard of life. She was an earnest and sincere Christian, working in the church at Richwood, teaching a Sunday School Class. She had a burden for the Lord's work. She always had a warm welcome in her home for the saints. Bro. and Sis. Abbott and Bro. Ray Key stayed in her home while holding meetings at the Chapel.

She was not well for over a year. The Lord wonderfully touched her body at different times and she would walk a mile to the Chapel. She bore her illness with patience. She was a source of encouragement to her family and the ones that visited her. She said she was ready to go.

Sister Kerns leaves behind, her husband, Mr. Herbert Kerns; her mother, Mrs. Annie Roberts of Richwood; one brother, Burl Roberts also of Richwood; three sisters, Mrs. Mamie Bennett of Richwood, Mrs. Lay Coffman of Akron, Ohio, and Mrs. Viva Lewis of Renick, W. Va.; and many other relatives, friends, and saints to mourn their loss. We feel it is heaven's gain.

Funeral services conducted by Bro. William J. Preston, assisted by Bro. L. F. Thornton.

—o0o—

Brother Andrew Jackson Ligons the son of Mr. Albert Ligons and Mrs. Julia Baskin was born May 2, 1887 in Perkins County, Alabama and departed this life at his home Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock at the age of 69 years, 6 months and 25 days. He was united in holy matrimony to Miss Eliza Murdock in 1909. To this union eleven children were born.

They moved to Boley, Okla. in 1912. His wife, Mrs. Eliza M. Ligons, and two daughters preceded him in death.

Brother Ligons was born into the Church of God. He was truly a devoted Christian, husband, father, and a friend. We know he loved the Lord and enjoyed nothing more than God's service and God's Word. To the end he was praising God. His last comforting words were, "I am ready if God is ready."

He was united in holy matrimony to Sis. Mattie Celestine on September 11, 1949.

He is survived by a wife, Mrs. Mattie Ligons; four sons, James Ligons of Hoffman, Okla., Jessie Ligons of Grayson, Okla., Andrew Ligons Jr. of Wichita, Kansas, John Ligons of Oklahoma City, Okla.; five daughters, Mrs. Ozena Zachry, Mrs. Laura Alexander, Mrs. Lorene Payne and Mrs. Gustava Anderson all of Hoffman, Okla., Mrs. Odever Kelley of Wichita, Kansas; fifty grand-

children; thirteen great-grandchildren; three brothers, Mr. Ward Ligons, Mr. Sylvester Ligons, and Mr. Quincy Ligons; six sisters, Miss Juanita Ligons, Miss Bennie Mae Ligons, Mrs. Suda Johnson, Mrs. Willie Mallard, Mrs. Georgia Williams, and Mrs. Zuma Curl; and host of other relatives and friends. Five brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

Funeral services conducted by W. W. Crawly assisted by Bro. Manly Spears.

Sun set and evening star, And one clear call for me
May there be no mourning at the bar, When I set
out to sea.

Notices

Bro. Manly Jones wishes to write to shut-ins that would write to him. His address is Bro. Manly L. Jones, Florence, Colorado.

Report of Revival Meeting Near Mound City, Mo.

We feel the Lord would be pleased for us to send in a report of our revival meeting here Nov. 4-18th. The meeting was held six miles southeast of Mound City, Mo. There was very good attendance, and the Lord blessed in preaching the Word. Bro. Foster from Bristow, Okla. was with us. The Lord blessed in sending the Truth home to the needy souls.

Five precious souls were saved during the meeting. They are still rejoicing in this great salvation. They followed the Lord in baptism Sunday afternoon Nov. 18th. Bro. Edd Whipple baptized those dear ones who were happy in obeying the word. We thank the dear Lord for His many blessings to us. Pray for us.

Yours in Him, —Bro. and Sis. Edd. Whipple.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Will every saint pray the Lord to help me to be sure to do my part in all righteousness. Please pray the Lord to give me entire, complete victory and success over all opposition of the enemy. Also pray earnestly for the Lord to bestow His special favors to me in a problem which He alone can manage.

—A sister in Christ.

Dear Saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name.— I am still encouraged to press on for the dear Lord. I have some awful hard battles with the devil. I just ask the dear Lord to see me through all of it and give me strength to stand.

Please pray for husband and me. We really need prayer. My husband complains of being awfully weak in his body all the time. My feet bother me so much. Saints everywhere, pray for us for the healing of our bodies. We know the Lord can heal, but we don't know why he hasn't healed us this time. Maybe it is not for us to know just now. He has healed us before.

With Christian love, your sister, Mrs. Iva Boling

—o0o—

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

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

Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies.

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"FAITH AND VICTORY" BOOKS

The 1956 "Faith and Victory" papers are now bound together in book form, covered with a good paper binding. Price each 60 cents. There are yet a few of the 1955 "Faith and Victory" books in stock, which we will now sell for fifty cents each. Or if you desire both, you may have a 1955 book and a 1956 book both for a dollar. Post Paid.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Mo.—Dear Saints, Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus.—This finds me much encouraged to ever be His faithful child. My aim in life is to go all the way with my Lord and to let Him ever direct my pathway. My faith is in Jesus and I am living by that faith. It is truly a wonderful peace to know that you are safe in the arms of Jesus and not a worry, doubt, or fear since Jesus is near. Praise the Lord! I am so thankful I do have that sweet peace reigning within my soul and though the hosts of hell appear I shall never, never fear for I know my God is with me always, even unto the end. I am on the side of the undefeatable. One that has never been defeated by Satan and never will be. Praise God! My cup overfloweth with His goodness and grace. With each day's passing by I am getting nearer to that crown that is awaiting me on that heavenly shore.

I feel like testifying as to how the Lord so wonderfully healed a sore on my leg. This fall, I was picking up corn as the mechanical corn pickers leave some in the fields. On October 29th, I scratched my leg, just above my ankle, quite badly. In one place I had to pull part of the cornstalk out as it had cut in fairly deep. I never thought very much about it at that time because I thought I had gotten all of it out. About the 12th of November, I noticed that it was a little sore. I opened the spot and got a sliver of cornstalk out. It was almost a half an inch long. On November 27th it had gotten sore again and felt hard. It had been hurting some. This time when I opened it, I got another piece out one half inch long. I had quite a time getting it as the piece was so deep. "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." This is true as I do know that nothing is impossible with God. My trust was in the Lord. Praise His name! It is healed now completely and to God I give the glory.

Please remember me as I need each and everyone's prayers that I might be true to Him and be ready and willing to do whatever He would have me to do.

A sister in Christ,

Mary Evelyn Whipple.

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Mo.—Dear Saints, Greetings to all the saints in Jesus' name.—This finds me still encouraged to live for the Lord and trust Him for the healing of the body. I became ill about Aug. 7 with typhoid fever. Through the prayers of the saints, in about two weeks I was up feeling pretty good. I was continually gaining strength and was doing a little light work. Then I took a back set. I suffered much more this time and was uncon-

scious about ten days. When the fever left, it left me with a head ache that bothered me four or five days. The Lord is giving me strength and weight back.

In my sickness there was a Scripture the Lord gave me to think and meditate about in 1 Peter 5:10, "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." I thank the Lord for answering the saints' prayers.

Your brother in Christ, Ovie L. Cambell.

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Kans.—Greetings of love in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour. I am still saved and encouraged to press on for the Lord. Surely it is wonderful to serve the Lord and enjoy the many blessings He bestows upon His trusting children. The Lord has been so good to me I could never thank and praise Him enough.

I'm so thankful that I'm free from all sin and living a clean, pure, and holy life before the Lord. I thank the Lord for giving me a tender heart and saving me when I was only eleven years old. This has saved me from a lot of trouble that I no doubt would have taken part in if I'd gone on in sin.

The way of the Lord gets sweeter to my soul and more precious to my heart all the time. How wonderful salvation is! I truly thank the Lord for giving me saved parents that have taught and instructed me in the strait and narrow way.

It's my heart's desire to continue in His love and live a more consecrated life. I desire your prayers that I'll ever be true and faithful before the Lord.

Christian love, —Joe E. Sorrell.

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Mo.—Dear Saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper.—I am so thankful today for salvation and I am encouraged to go all the way with Jesus. He has been so very good to me. I promised the Lord if He would come to my rescue when I was suffering so, I would try and write some for the paper and tell of His wonderful love to me.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the saints for their prayers at this great time of need. I am thinking how the saints are so good to get up at all hours of the night to pray for those in need for soul or body. Thank God for His true church. There is no one in the world like the true saints, which is the church.

I feel the Lord has healed me completely of the trouble which caused my suffering. I am sure a doctor would have operated. I am thankful to know God can operate if necessary. There is nothing too hard for God to do as He has been my doctor for over 35 years and has healed me many times. He has healed my children, my neighbors, and friends.

Jesus loves everybody. He suffered and died on the cross for the sins of the world and is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to Him and get saved. Whosoever will may come. I heard a wonderful message on this line last Sunday. The minister said God wouldn't work against our will. We have to have a will in our hearts to be saved. God has already done His part. Do yours and you will be saved.

I feel it would please the Lord for me to tell about going with some more of the saints to see a young woman last spring. The doctor said she was 75 per cent cancer and couldn't live over 6 months. The doctors had operated. It seemed as if they had done all they could

for her and had given her up. But we had a burden for this woman and knew the Lord could raise her up. We asked her if she would like for us to have prayer for her and she said yes. We prayed. Now the doctors are astonished about her. She feels fine and is gaining weight.

I am so glad to know God has all power in heaven and earth. I could go on and tell of healings the Lord has done in answer to prayer, but it would take up too much space. My prayer is that the dear saints will keep their trust in the Lord. "God's way is best, I will not murmur, although the end I may not see; where'er he leads I'll meekly follow—God's way is best, is best for me." Pray for me.

Your Sister in Christ, —Katie Marler.

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La.—To the dear saints scattered abroad, Greetings to all in the name of our dear Saviour.—We are so thankful we can report victory in our souls over all the works of darkness: The Lord is so precious, and He has especially been to us through His dear saints. We feel indebted to all who so cheerfully responded with their words of encouragement and their means during my long illness; also my birthday. I fail to find words to express our appreciation and thankfulness to the dear Lord and you. It was such a help to bring us through this dark hour of affliction.

I was struck down suddenly after coming to Bro. Baumgartner's home here at Hammond Aug. 16. I seemed to be well that morning but by evening I was quite sick. She with others cared for me all through this affliction with all tenderness and love. God will reward them. Bro. Key was gone out into the gospel work but was soon called back. I got real low, near death, but He in His tender mercy saw best to raise me up, only to labor for Him. The Lord was my Great Physician, praise His dear name! He also sent several out-of-town ministers this way to pray for me.

I had some back sets but feel now I am well on the road to recovery. I am quite weak yet but can walk about over the house and in the yard some. Jesus said, "My time is not yet come, but your time is always ready." So let us stay ready for the summons. We love God's cause which is our greatest interest and can still say we love the Lord. Continue to pray for us.

Christian love, —Sis. Katherine Key.

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Calif.—Dear Saints of God,—I am truly glad that I found complete happiness in the Lord. The Lord has been carrying my mind back over the past and some of my experiences and has impressed me to try and get some of it on paper that others may read it. Maybe it will help someone else.

I was brought up in a saved home and was saved while in my teens. So much has happened between that time and this Feb., 1956. I married in sin and separated from my husband in 1950. I believe that is when the devil really took over. I was restless and began to hate people. I had been drinking all along but decided to get smart and drink some every day all during the day. Then I was ready for any group at any time. It answered the purpose at the time. I started with what we would call the high class. It was fun for a while. I went from group to group. Finally in 1953, I decided I wanted to try the cigarette (dope). I had never had the nerve before. I knew where to get it. I did, and was told how to use it for results. Oh, dear Lord! three puffs is what it took. I can never

really put into words what it did to me. Oh! but it made me so sick, I thought for sure I would die. While in this condition I prayed and asked the Lord to help me and to forgive me; to give me a chance to get right. It took me all night and a half day to get over that. It worked on my own heart. Well, that was enough of that. I went on in sin. I was continually looking for something else. One of my sisters asked me once, "Arceal, what do you want of life?" She told me I should decide what I wanted and settle for nothing less. Saints, to my surprise I didn't know what I wanted. I had never asked myself that question. She looked at me with such pity; even she felt sorry for me. That really put me on the right track. Without realizing that I was praying, I began to say, "Lord, what do I want?" but still going on in sin. One Sunday I went to a bar with a girl friend and was shot at by a woman who thought I was after her husband. I didn't even know his name nor was I interested in him. Oh! that hurt me so. I said, "Lord why did that happen to me." I have done things and been in places that I might expect such things, but this I was innocent of. The Lord made me to know these were the things I should and could expect living in sin. This slowed me up a little while. I still would pray but never prayed through. Following that I had a very bad sick spell. While sick, the Lord really talked to my heart. I told him with all my heart I wanted to be saved. I didn't want to be scared into it, claiming to be saved without really being saved. I didn't know what to ask for, but after a while the fear would leave. I was in such a sinful condition until I could go to church and feel nothing. As far as I was concerned the church was right, but that was how blind I was. I thank and praise the dear Lord! one of his saints had the "Faith and Victory" sent to me. In the Feb. 1956 "Faith and Victory" paper I think it was, there was an article about if Jesus came to visit you what would you do? Oh, dear ones I read that and something happened. I found myself keeping the ash tray emptied just trying to get the house in order. At that time I had a friend. I insisted that he read it. He did. When I asked him what he would do he just laughed. He said, "Oh, I wouldn't even know him if he did come."

I don't think I had any more rest until the Lord came into my heart the 14th of the same month. I was glad to give up the world. When Jesus came into my heart he brought peace, joy, happiness, assurance, and love. Today I can truly tell my sister and the whole world that now I know what I want in this life and the life to come. I want Jesus Christ the Lord. I want to learn more about him and grow closer to him. I love the saints. I love going to services. I have found true happiness in the Lord.

Please pray for me. I want to stay humble before the Lord and always thank Him for His mercy to me.

Yours in Christ,

Sis. Arceal Johnson.

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Ohio—Dear Saints,—Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour.—After reading some of the testimonies and thinking of what a wonderful God we are serving, and the many ways he has blessed me, I too thought I would write my testimony. The Lord has really been good to me. I do give Him all the thanks and praise for saving me when He did. The Lord comes to my rescue at all times.

Truly I'm serving a mighty God; one who is able to heal all sicknesses and diseases and solves all problems, whether they be large or small. I'm thinking of how the Lord answered the prayers of the saints by healing some

sores I had in both of my nostrils—sores that had stayed there all year and were getting worse. At times they would pain and bleed some; they didn't seem to heal. I had been praying, but I was led to ask Sister Hudson and the rest of the saints here to pray with me. The Lord did come to my rescue and healed me. I believe these sores would have turned into cancer had not the Lord healed me. Oh, I do give thanks and praise to God.

I also think of how the Lord answered prayer in behalf of my small daughter. She and her brother were playing. Somehow he scratched her in her eye. One could see where he had scraped a part of her eye ball out. Oh, how painful it was! I thought about calling Sis. Hudson and the saints to pray for her, but the Lord let me know I should pray myself right away. One now can't tell it had ever been hurt. I'm serving a God that is able, and I do thank Him for this privilege. This same little girl seemed to be getting polio and the Lord healed her of this. I do thank the saints for their prayers. Above all I do thank, praise, honor the Lord for healing her.

Again I'm thanking the Lord for the car he gave me. There are no strings attached, no payments to make; another one of the many, many wonderful blessings our God is able to give. I ask the prayers of all the saints, that I live worthy to be of some service to him, also that I may help someone else find the Lord. I ask also that you all pray earnestly for my unsaved husband, that the Lord have mercy on him and save him before it is too late. Pray for me that the Lord may use this earthen vessel as he chooses.

Your sister in Christ,

LaDolia Fuller.

o-o-o-o-o

Pa.—Dear Ones in Christ,—I received the calendar, card, and tracts. Thank you; we surely enjoy reading them and will give them out.

The debate on the "New Bible Versus the Old Fashioned Bible" explains just why I and others did not care for the so called "New Bible." I never could feel it was inspired of God. Although I know there are portions omitted, and different changes made, I still did not know it was as this tract explains. I do want others who are and will be using it to know the spirit back of it.

I know God says His Word will never pass away. He'll see to that; but think of the many souls that are being misled and caused to be eternally lost. Instead of modernizing another version, why not pray and have God to help us understand what He already has inspired.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Mrs. Paul Pentz.

o-o-o-o-o

Cuba—To all the dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory,"—Greetings in the precious name of my dear Lord who has done so much for me. I praise Him for His saving, sanctifying, keeping, and healing power. Each day I prove His goodness to me. My daily prayer is: "Lord, draw me closer still to Thee." How I do thank Him for saving me. His Holy Spirit keeps me with the victory in my soul, so that with the writer of that song I can sing: "He lifted me out of the deep miry clay; He settled my feet in the strait, narrow way; He lifted me up to a heavenly place, And floodeth my soul each day with His grace." Praise the Lord. I would not exchange this wonderful experience of His love in my soul for all the riches of this world; and to think this is only a little foretaste, if we keep

faithful. When we get over to the other side, what will it be to be where Jesus is forever?

Beloved brethren, let us keep faithful as it pays to serve the Lord. He is able to keep us if we trust Him fully, for He is almighty. I am so glad I found such a Friend as Jesus. He will never turn away from us when we go to Him with our troubles. He just loves to see us come to Him. Then sinner friend, why not come and try His love? Maybe you have been slighted and neglected by friends of this world, but here is one Friend I can recommend to you. I have known Him for more than fifty years and have not found Him to fail me yet. If your heart is sick and burdened, He is the One to help you. May He bless these lines to all who read them. This is the sincere prayer of one who loves this clean Bible way.

—Sis. Rose Maxam.

o-o-o-o-o

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the Saints everywhere, I send you all greetings in our dear Saviour's name.—I hope this finds everyone well in body and enjoying rich spiritual blessings. I am not well in body. I can't get around much, but when I have a chance to go to some town, I give out the paper and tracts.

I have been thinking so much lately how I would love to have a good tape recorder and have the saints everywhere to record good sermons and a lot of songs. I could let the people hear the good truth that way in different places. I live in a small town that needs to hear the truth. So I am asking all the saints to pray that the Lord will help me get a recorder and reproducer in His own way. I will do my best to get as much truth to the people as possible. I ask all who read this to pray for my healing as I suffer very much.

Your brother in the Lord, J. B. Trinkle.

o-o-o-o-o

Pa.—Dear saints, Greetings in the name of our dear Lord and Saviour.—I got the "Faith and Victory" paper in my mail this a. m. I have not been so well in health the past months, but I have praises to God and my Saviour. My daughter's doctor said I have sugar diabetes. He wanted me to take insulin. I said, "No, I am taking it in faith believing according to Hebrews the 11th chapter." I took it to God and left it there. I do really believe I am healed. I believe I was healed of high blood pressure four years ago. I am 71 years old. Please remember me in prayer.

A saved friend and brother in Christ, W. J. Blick.

o-o-o-o-o

Pa.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt,—I wish to add my testimony to the many others. On Nov. 8th my right eye went almost blind. I was greatly alarmed as my eyes are so bad that I can not be fitted with glasses anymore. I called on God but black clouds just kept moving down over my eye. Finally I called long distance to Hammond, La. for prayer (I am an isolated saint). The Hammond saints sent me an anointed handkerchief. I applied it to my eye, and it began to mend from that hour. The black is gone. I ask an interest in your prayers that God will make my eyes strong and heal me of sugar diabetes.

Yours in Christ, J. Ivy Hiwiler.

o-o-o-o-o

Ind.—Dear Ones in Christ Jesus.—I am thanking God for you all and for your wonderful word and work in the Lord. May He bless you abundantly, with a double portion of his spirit and joy unspeakable and and full of glory. I want to thank you especially for

the prayers of all the ministers and the church there, in behalf of my brothers, George and Grover Martin. They are both feeble and Grover was very low. They took him to the hospital for about 2 weeks. An X-ray found a lump by his appendix and the doctor wanted to operate, but Grover said, "No." Now he is at home improving slowly by the help of the Lord. Praise his name. George is improving but still helpless. Please continue to pray for them, and please pray for me. I am still bothered with many afflictions but thank God I am still able to go and work some.

I am very grateful for the love and prayers of the saints and ministry. I need much help in body and soul, so pray for me. Praise God for his mercy and goodness to me!

Yours in Christ Jesus, —Mrs. Rosa E. Smith.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear Saints, Greetings in Jesus' dear name.—For some time I have felt impressed to write in and tell others of the goodness of the Lord. I am so thankful for what He is to me, and how He dealt with me recently. I had a hurting just below my temple very close to my ear. It was giving me much misery. One Sunday while at meeting I was anointed and prayed for. The Lord healed me right away. I want to testify to the goodness and wonderful love of my dear Saviour. He has been and is such a present help and comfort to me. I thank him for all the blessings he bestows upon me.

He also healed me of a light stroke about five years ago. It made me very weak. I had little strength to do my house work. I prayed to God to heal me. I was standing on his promises. The other saints were also praying for me. Ministers anointed and prayed for me. The Lord heard and answered prayer. Now I'm beginning to gain my strength back and have also gained in weight.

Truly I thank the Lord for His healing power. I want to thank all of you saints for standing by me with your prayers. I desire to sink deeper and grow stronger in the Lord. Pray that I'll keep true and be all in this life that the Lord will have me to be.

With Christian love, —Sis. Tempie Crisp.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Greeting to all the precious saints in Jesus' dear name.—We are nearing the close of 1956. I feel impressed to send a testimony for 1957. It will be something like a double witness. I am a home-maker for my very aged mother of 92 years old. I have been taking care of her for three years. We are out here in the Okeene Rural Community of saints. It's been a pleasant task.

She was saved in this blessed evening light in 1915. She has lived a very faithful life. Now she is on the decline in every way. She still prays a great deal both to herself, and at times with others. She is much like a child of about two years old. She can't get her testimony together any more. One has to know what it is by the way she has lived. She can't pray for her self when sick, but rejoices when others pray for her, and seems to exercise good faith in their prayers. As I daily behold her plight, I better understand that Scripture, "Except ye be converted and become as little children. . ."

For 40 years she has been faithful in church attendance. It came to an end the first of this year. Consequently I scarcely get to go to service. That is part of my lot. I have learned some real precious lessons

in contentment and consecration. I can say of a truth I am glad my pathway goes down through this valley. My rejoicing is in the God of my salvation. Truly God is revealing to us His Son Jesus, "That loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood." No higher honor does man need to attain.

The song writer said, "My soul is satisfied." That is mother's favorite song. I too can say "My soul is satisfied." So dear brethren and sisters everywhere in the Lord, please pray much for us.

Your shut-in sisters in the Lord,—Dear aged Mother Annie Lee and her oldest daughter, Ethel K. Miles.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Saints, Greetings in the name of our precious Saviour.—I can't praise Jesus enough for what He has done for me. He keeps me from day to day, gives me strength, and puts a desire in my heart to go on. There's nothing in this old wicked world to turn back to. I thank God for a religion we can live every day. I want to be humble and obedient at all times. If we profess to be Christians let us dress modest and look like Christians. God knows our hearts; we can't fool Him.

I am taking care of my blind mother who is 88 years old and helpless. God has a work for each of us to do. It seems this is my job. I am 66 years old. I feel sometimes we are both shut-ins, but praise God I don't want to be shut out. He promised never to leave nor forsake us. He is coming again and I am looking for him. My desire is to not fail my Saviour so He won't fail me. I need your prayers at all times. May God bless you all.

Your sister in Christ, —Martha Campbell.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Christian friends, Greetings in the name of Jesus.—Today finds me saved and living the best I know how. I thank the dear Lord for his blessings and for keeping us each day. I thank Him for health and strength.

One day I had a cold and sore throat. I prayed and believed that the Lord would stop the cold and heal my throat, and I am much better, thank the Lord. Pray that he will completely heal me.

My desire is to live so God can use me in any way that pleases Him. Pray for me and my family. May the good Lord bless and keep you all in the center of his will.

A sister in the Lord, —Ethel Hill.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I want to tell you and the readers a true story about God's power.

My brother was not a Christian, yet he was a good brother. Since his father and mother passed on when he was a boy of about 6 years old, he had only attended meeting a few times. He was on his death bed about 40 days before passing away. However before he died he was saved.

The last four days and nights of his life were terrible for he suffered so much. He was out of his mind and knew nothing. We three brothers sent for a preacher to talk to him. Several of us went into the room when he came. The preacher took my brother by the hand and spoke to him, "Just came to have a talk with you." My brother said he always did like to hear a preacher talk, but he never did know what they meant. So the preacher talked to him a while, then had prayer. My brother said to go slow so he could understand. When he got through I walked over to him and said, "How do you feel?" He patted his chest and said, "I never felt better in all my life,

but almost waited too long. He said he did not mind going on but only he hated to leave us brothers. In about 15 minutes he passed away in peace—the sweetest death. He did not suffer one second after the preacher came into his room. It seemed like his mind was clear up to death. Doesn't this prove the great power of God?

Yours in Christ, —John B. Gregory.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear brothers and sisters,—I will write a few lines if I can see. I have cataracts on my eyes and am about blind, also deaf.

I read the testimony of Sister Susie Jones in the October paper. I was sanctified in a meeting at Emmett, Mo. forty-one years ago, held by Susie Jones and Bro. Owens; and would like to know if this is the same one. I would like to meet her and her husband, Andy, again.

I am walking the way of holiness, praise God; and have old time salvation. I was 90 years old the 10th of Oct., and I mean to walk with God the rest of my life. Many holiness people are letting the world creep in.

I would be glad to hear from anyone who wants to write to me. I get lonely sometimes.

Lizzie Redfearn, Rt. 1, Billings, Mo.

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"Do all the good you can,
In all the ways you can,
To all the people you can,
Just as long as you can."

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BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll will be \$1.50; cards 10 cents per set.

WISE MEN SEEK JESUS

January 6, 1957

Printed Portion:Matthew 2:1-12.

Matt. 2:1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6. And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9. When they had heard of the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return unto Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Memory Verse: They . . . fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. Matt. 2:11.

Practical Truth: All men should seek and find Jesus in a spiritual sense.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There is a star of hope for everyone of us. Jesus did not leave us comfortless in this world. He sent us a Comforter, the Holy Spirit to guide us to heaven. All children of God remember when Holy Ghost conviction seized upon them, convicting them of their sins and pointing them the way to the cross where Jesus died. If each one would follow that conviction, just as the Wise men followed the Star that appeared in the east, it would lead him to Jesus.

We too, can give gifts to Jesus that are precious. First we want to give Him gold, which stands for our Self. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and all thy mind" (Luke 10:27). We can give Him frankincense which is a sweet-smelling spice. In Rev. 5:8 we read, "Golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of the saints." Also our praise is sweet to the Lord. "Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name" (Heb. 13:15). Myrrh is a bitter spice. How wonderful it is that we can cast all of our burdens, cares, and troubles upon the Lord. Jesus wants them and will bear them for us. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). "Casting all your care upon him for he careth for you" (1 Pet. 5:7). Are we withholding any gift from Jesus? Let us start the New Year with renewed courage.

JESUS BAPTIZED AND TEMPTED

January 13, 1957

Printed Portion:Matthew 3:16-17; 4:1-11.

Matt. 3:16. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17. And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Matt. 4:1. Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

3. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

4. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall

not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

5. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

6. And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

7. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

8. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9. And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

11. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Matt. 4:10.

Practical Truth: With God's help it is possible for us to resist temptation.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Sin closed the heavens to mankind. God could not commune with man with pleasure as he did with Adam before he sinned. The flaming sword turning both ways at the gate of Eden was a guard, keeping man from entering into that blessed place. But, praise the Lord! when Jesus was baptized and started on His ministry it says, "Lo, the heavens were opened." The astonished people around saw the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descend and sit upon Jesus and heard God speak, saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Again the Trinity is seen and felt in the world and access was made through Jesus by His death and resurrection to Heaven. Praise the Lord!

The Bible tells us that Jesus was led up into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted of the devil. God is going to have a tried people. Many times by our standing true in temptations we are able to lead others to God. Honesty in money matters always impresses others, yet could be a temptation to some if they do not watch and pray.

Jesus was tempted as Eve was through the lust of the flesh, lust of the eye and the pride of life, as John tells us is of the world (1 John 2:12-16). When we resist temptations, we too will be comforted as Jesus was. It says the angels came and ministered unto Him.

GOSPEL RIGHTEOUSNESS

January 20, 1957

Printed Portion:Matthew 5:13-20, 43-48.

Matt. 5:13. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is henceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under

a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

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

17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

19. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

20. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 5:41. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47. And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48. Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Memory Verse: I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. Matt. 5:20.

Practical Truth: Christ requires of us a life of rectitude and a heart of love.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson is part of the great Sermon on the Mount that Jesus gave. It is written in simple, plain words that even a child can understand. We are told, that from the small knoll on which Jesus delivered His message, a little town can be seen on a hill. It is seen far and near. Jesus used things around Him to bring out many precious truths. He no doubt pointed to the city on this hill and brought out these truths. He wants us to be up above the spirit of the world in thoughts, deeds and actions. Let honesty shine out amidst dishonesty. Let complete trust and faith in God for both soul and body shine out in a world full of distrust and lack of faith. Thereby we can be "a city that is set on a hill." We can be the salt of the earth—being filled with the Holy Spirit—and our praises and deeds can be enacted through His anointing.

The professed religious people of the world today have a code to go by and thereby feel they are righteous, just as the Pharisees and scribes of the day Jesus lived in. Jesus wants us to be filled with the righteousness that comes down from God and it must and will exceed the professed righteousness of people today.

"Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord" (Rom. 12:19). We will be able to keep sweet toward those who despitefully use us if we pray for them; God's rule will work if we will follow it.

NEEDS THAT JESUS MEETS

January 27, 1957

Printed Portion:Matthew 9:1-13.

Matt. 9:1. And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

2. And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

3. And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

4. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

5. For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

6. But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy), Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

7. And he arose, and departed to his house.

8. But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

9. And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

10. And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans, and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.

11. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?

12. But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

13. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Memory Verse: Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. Matthew 9:2.

Practical Truth: Christ is still the Great Physician who can cure even derelicts who trust in Him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson today has many deep truths in it that I trust the Holy Spirit will bring to your mind as you study it, as our space does not allow us to go into much detail. The first precious truth is in the second verse, "they brought to him a man." Today we can bring men, women, boys and girls to Jesus in prayer with the same confidence those four men had. Mark 2:1-12 gives more details. "Jesus seeing their faith" was touched with compassion, and so He will be today.

Another precious thought is the power that Jesus showed right then to forgive sins while He was on earth, even before He was crucified. Read John 1:12-13 and notice these words in the verses, "Gave he power to become the sons of God. . . which were born. . . of God." So everyone that received Him while here on earth was born again.

Another precious thought is where Jesus called Matthew to follow Him and that he immediately "arose and followed him." Obedience brings blessings to our lives and the lives of others.

Mrs. Marie Miles.