

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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I Was A Prisoner

I was a prisoner, a girl of deep despair,
Tho' I traveled far, my prison was always there.
A captive of hatred and evil in darkest woe,
Satan and his ways were my soul's deadly foe.

To the shows I went, my flesh to please,
Jeweled with chains of gold to sit at ease;
Upon my heart a stone of guiltiness appeared with
care,
For fear the Lord would come and find me in despair.

Bobbed hair, powder, and paint were my pride,
A sacrifice—my life to give—I couldn't decide.
Until breaking up as a hard winter came:
Salvation loosed the cords of worldly fame.

Conviction from my depressed heart I would fight,
For amusements of earthly pleasures were my soul's
delight.
Yet, tears of heartaches and sadness would run;
But on with my worldly friends I'd make fun.

In Babylon, with an evil appetite I did fill,
Thinking I was building on God's Holy Hill.
Misery, doubts, and fears were an awful pain:
My religious profession I found was in vain.

With prayers and tears on my knees I did fall,
Repenting with godly sorrow not to miss my last call.
Tho' my many friends forsake me for my earnest heed,
I yield myself to Jesus, on Him I'll ever feed.

The Spirit of Truth came shining in my heart;
Making a decision: from God I'll never part,
For in His mansions of joy I shall forever roam,
Since I've gained my entrance to this heavenly home.

—Malinda Penner.

“Be of Good Cheer; It Is I; Be Not Afraid”

“Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.” Matt. 14:27. “O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?” Matt. 14: 31. These are the words that Jesus spoke to the fearful Peter the day he delivered him from the stormy waters. I have often heard

that the darkest hour is just before dawn, and I believe this is true. The Scripture says that “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.” Psa. 30:5. Dearly beloved, you have need of patience after you have done the will of God, that you might receive the promise, for if you are in manifold temptation, be strong, for the trial of your faith is more precious than fine gold, though it be tried with fire.

My Christian friend, are you in a ship that is tossed with a tempest? Does your battle with Satan seem almost in vain? Does your strength seem almost gone? Let me say to you: “Be of good cheer,” there is help headed your way. Trust in Jesus and hear Him say, “It is I; be not afraid.” Look for His loving face in your storm clouds. Look for His nail-pierced hand reaching now for you. If, seemingly, you are beginning to go down, he will catch you. He will hold you up by the power of His right hand. Lift up your eyes and look to Jesus, and you will find that there is nothing to fear. Jesus said, “Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27.

Jesus saw the ship in the sea, tossed to and fro; he saw the disciples laboring against the storm. He knows about your trials and troubles. He came down from the mountains and went to the disciples, walking on the storm-tossed sea. The waves could not get too high for Him to walk on. In your darkest hours, look for Jesus. You will feel Him coming with arms out, and you will hear His voice saying, “Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.” After the storm is over, and you look back at your fears, you will hear Him saying, “O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” Lean upon Jesus for He will carry you through; “Lean not unto your own understanding.” “Have faith in God.” “Rejoice evermore.” “Be of good cheer;” “be not afraid.”

—Clarence Lankford.

Blessed Are The Peacemakers

“Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God” Matt. 5:9. These words were spoken by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as He gave that powerful message known as the Sermon

on the Mount. Are you in the position to receive such a blessing? Search your heart. Is it void of this love? If so, ask the Lord to forgive you of your transgressions and put His spirit in your heart. "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law" Gal. 5:22, 23. If you can engage in strife and war, it is evidence that the spirit is lacking. "Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" Gal. 5:21.

Can not the church of God engage in war? Yes, we are told to "Fight the good fight of faith" I Tim. 6:12. The army of the Lord does not and can not engage in carnal war. "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds)" II Cor. 10:3, 4. Many claim to be followers of the Prince of Peace and use carnal weapons. Give heed to Paul who was moved by the Holy Ghost to write, "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness" Rom. 8:5-10.

It is far better today to lay aside your carnal weapons and put on the whole armor of God and walk in the Spirit. "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" Eph. 6:11, 12. Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight" John 18:36. To what kingdom do you belong? After Pentecost, the apostles did not use carnal weapons.

After the day of the apostles, the early Christians followed the example of the Lord to walk in the way of love. Maximilian, when sent before the tribunal to be enrolled as a soldier said, "I am a Christian, and can not fight." He was immediately told that there was no alternative between bearing arms and being put to death. He answered, "I cannot fight, if I die." Marcellus, Justin Martyr, Tertullian, and others of the early church testified that the Christians walked in the way of peace. Jesus set the example. He wants to give you His Spirit of love. Let us walk in the light. "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered,

he threatened not" I Pet. 2:21-23. "But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also" Matt. 5:39. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" Heb. 12:14.

—E. W. BURFORD, New Wilmington, Pa.

A Letter to Young People

Dear Christian young people,

I write to you with a heart full of love and concern for your spiritual welfare. I want to see you grow in the Lord and understand the precious truths of the Word of God, because within a few years you are to fill the places of those whom the Lord is taking to Himself.

The burden of my heart today is that you choose the right person for your lifetime companion. This is so serious that oftentimes it determines whether you will make it into heaven or not. When you marry you are no longer twain but one flesh. When woman was created, God presented her to Adam. This was the first marriage. Adam said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh." Can you not see what a close tie this is and how much you affect each other?

It is so important that you marry a person that is saved. In fact, the Bible teaches you to do that. In I Cor. 7:39 it says you are to marry "only in the Lord." In II Cor. 6:14 the Bible says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness: and what communion hath light with darkness?" Can a person be yoked with another in a greater sense than in marriage? I'm sure you will agree with me that it is plain according to the Bible that saints are to marry saints. Many mistakes have been made in marriage, therefore much reaping has been done with tears and heartaches. After you are married you are bound by God's law to the one you marry as long as you both live. "The wife [or husband] is bound by the law [God's law] as long as her husband liveth, but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will, only in the Lord." I Cor. 7:39. (The same would apply to a man.) This is God's Word, not mine. There is no place in the Bible where it gives you permission to marry again as long as your husband or wife lives. We again say this marriage business is a serious business and our hearts are burdened for our young people, that they do not make a mistake.

In the light of what we have written we want to say that it is not good for you to keep company or go with those who are not saved. I feel that when a person goes with or keeps company with another of the opposite sex, the thought in mind should be to see if your ideas, make-up or desires blend or if a God given, pure love springs up in your heart enough for you to marry. Therefore you should not go with someone that you would not consider marrying. Since the Bible teaches we should marry only in the Lord,

then you should not go with someone who is not saved. If you do, you may fall in the snare of the devil. Never keep company with anyone whom you would not want to be the mother or father of your children if you should marry him or her.

I write these few lines with an understanding heart. I have taught this to young people down through the years and have seen it work for good. On the other hand those who have disregarded these instructions have reaped some heartaches.

I am praying the Lord to save more young people so that those who are saved will find companions in the Lord, as this is a natural instinct given of God and is honorable. You pray about this also, for God is able to save a companion for you, if it is His will for you to have one.

"Take fast hold of instruction, let her not go: for she is thy life." Prov. 4:13.

It is good that you marry someone who loves the Lord supremely and proves it to you.

I close with a prayer that you may be led by God's Spirit when you do make your choice of a lifetime companion.

Much Christian love,

Sister Marie Miles.

Church of God

The Church of God was bought with the blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28). In the Apostle Paul's writings we find many references to the church of God. He called the ones that were sanctified at Corinth the church of God (I Cor. 10:32) he exhorted the brethren to "Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God." Paul taught reverence and humbleness in the church of God and spoke of it as not being contentious (I Cor. 11:22, 16). He had great sorrow because he had before his conversion persecuted the church of God (I Cor. 15:9). In the first verse of his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul speaks of the church of God, then follows with many comforting words to the saints. He was in the Jew's religion when he persecuted the church of God (Gal. 1:13). In I Thess. 2:14 Paul speaks of the church of God suffering persecution. I Tim. 3:5, "For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?" I Tim. 3:15, "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." Since Paul taught so much about the church of God, he surely thought it was important to plant the name in the hearts of Christians.

The church of God that Jesus bought with his own blood, bears His Father's name, which is God (Col. 1:3; also Gal. 1:3 and other Scriptures). In Eph. 3:14, 15 it is written, "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." There is no Bible statement that any church was bought with the blood of Jesus excepting the church of God. The church of God is not a name that man

has given for the church, but a name that is taught in the Bible. It bears the name of the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ mentioned in Col. 1:2, 3 as "God." Gal. 1:1; 3:4 and Eph. 3:14, 15 also mention the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. God's people are well pleased to bear a name on earth that they will have in heaven—the Father's name, God.

—Ora Futch

BE

"Be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Eph. 5:17.

"Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but Be filled with the Spirit." Eph. 5:18.

"... Be patient toward all men." I Thess. 5:14.

"Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:36.

"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners." I Cor. 15:33.

"... Be at peace among yourselves." I Thess. 5:13.

"Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." Rom. 12:16.

"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." Rom. 12:10.

"Be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men." I Cor. 14:20.

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matt. 5:48.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Heb. 13:2.

"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" II Cor. 6:14.

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." I Cor. 11:1.

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children." Eph. 5:1.

—Scripture selections by Mrs. Cora Brant.

The God I Know

The God I know is a God close by;
Not seated on throne, in far off sky,
But is here on this earth, reflected in trees,
In mountains, in flowers, in sweet summer breeze;
In oceans grandeur, in plains delight,
In noontide glare, and in chilly night;
In children's prattle, in manhood prime,
Since the birth of the world, until the end of time;
For the God I know with a thought that's free,
Is the God of LOVE found in you and me.

—Martha Campbell

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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.

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

To those who are on the list for the "Faith and Victory" paper for three months we are enclosing with your paper an "Expiration Blank" for your renewal for a year or better still for three years for \$1.00. We ask you to be prompt in renewing the paper so you will not miss a copy. Your three months will run out with this March issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper. We shall be so thankful to the Lord and to you if you will renew right soon, as it will make it very convenient for us here at the Print Shop Office. We thank you in advance.

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The Faith Publishing House is getting some precious encouraging letters from some of those who have been put on the list as three month's subscribers. The Lord is using the articles and testimonies as a source of wholesome soul food to them and they have been so built up by drinking of the living water that it flows out spontaneously and others are benefited thereby. One brother wondered who subscribed for him—he was so blessed with the truth in the paper that he wanted to be kept on the list. It surely does encourage us to know that we can be workers together with God in getting the truth of the LIVING WORD out to so many precious souls as the tracts, papers, and books are going out in a steady stream to all parts of the world. A lot of literature is going to Canada, the Cayman Islands, and to dark Africa, and some is scattered through the other foreign countries, besides to all the states in this needy country of ours.

The Lord is not only making the literature a force and a power for good around the globe and in the States but is also making it a blessing to many in the congregation of saints here at Guthrie. There are fifty saints or more in the congregation who are interested in helping the publishing work in various ways. Practically all of them read the paper; some show their interest by spending their full time working in the Lord's Print Shop, others get tracts, booklets, books or papers to read and pass on to others, some at times supply food for the family of workers in the Print Shop, while others give of their means to support the work. By this you may know we have joy in the fellowship of the saints with mutual benefits. At present two of the young ministers in the congregation with other young saints take papers and tracts and go to other cities and towns and scatter them by going from door to door and handing them to the occupants and sometimes have personal talks with them. This is a precious work for the Lord as many will not come to hear the gospel, but in this way one can take it directly to them.

Every soul that has been born again from above and retains that experience, is a member in the CHURCH OF GOD which is the PILLAR and ground of the truth, for when you are born again your name is written in the book of life in heaven. You should not be joined up with any earthly institution called a church for the Lord has only one bride which is the LAMB'S WIFE. If you recognize these earthly

organized churches to be His bride or wife, you, in that way make Him to be a polygamist, which is a big slander on the Lord Jesus Christ. There are some of God's dear children scattered around in the sects because of being taught wrong and are without knowledge of what really constitutes the true holiness church of God. The dear ones in those sectarian pens are being called out to abide alone in Him where they can each have the fresh water of life flowing directly from heaven into their individual souls. These earthly sect churches are practically all swallowed up with the world and its pride and they become formal, dead, and dry. Dry rot is an awful thing to be in any soul. They profess the Lord with their lips but the heart is far from him. These sect earthly churches with their many contrary doctrines are confusion and classed in the 17th chapter of Rev. and the 5th verse as, "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." In the 18th chapter and the 2nd verse, in referring to the beast, the Catholic Church, the mother of these sect churches, the harlots, and concerning an angel which came down from heaven and proclaimed the way of escape for all real children of God who have been caught in these earthly churches he said, "And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." What honest soul who desires cleanness would want to remain in such a dirty spiritual place?

In the 4th verse another VOICE from heaven tells the clean just what to do. Here it is, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." James says in 4:4, "Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?" And John says in I John 2:15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." The wearing of gold, pearls, and costly array, and dressing in the vulgar fashions of the world is showing friendship with the world. You can read about this in I Peter 3:3 and again in I Tim. 2:9. How plain these scriptures are, and yet we find nearly all sect people giving no heed to them and thus are showing their friendship with the world, who, according to the sacred Scriptures are the enemies of God. "COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE."

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In the 46th chapter of Psalms and the 4th verse we read, "There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God [the church of God], the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High." God's children are all holy, made so by the blood sacrifice of Christ. The next verse reads thus, "God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early [or soon as called upon]." In order to receive more light on his tabernacle or sanctuary, let us turn and read a few verses from the

2nd chapter of Eph. In speaking of saved souls he says, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone [the foundation of the apostles and the prophets was Jesus Christ himself]; in whom all the building [Spiritual House, I Pet. 2:5] fitly framed together [not apart] groweth unto an HOLY temple [tabernacle or sanctuary] in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Christ is that river of water of life that makes glad the city of God or His church which is builded together as an habitation of God through the Spirit. The Lord built the church, His church, and He is the governor and ruler of every member attached to the VINE, which is Christ, and He is as a well or river of water which issues from the throne of God and waters His children with clean refreshing water from heaven. He also feeds them on good spiritual food so they grow up as calves of the stall and become fat and flourishing in the courts of our God.

In the 12th chapter of Isaiah more is written concerning this water of life and the joy we get by drawing water out of the wells of salvation. Every one that is a possessor of Christ in the soul has a well of living water in his soul, and he can be instrumental in giving out the water of life to other souls and bringing joy to a brother or sister or some hungry soul that is hungering and thirsting after righteousness. That well of water in your soul will cause you to "PRAISE the LORD" and you will call upon God and declare his doings among the people. It will put a new song in your mouth and you will know that He has done excellent things. The last verse says, "Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee." Truly, the water of life from heaven causes the possessed soul to rejoice and exalt the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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When Jesus explained to the woman at the well that he had living water to give her she could not understand such talk; but finally she perceived that he was a prophet. Later on she said, "I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ; when he is come, he will tell us all things." Jesus informed her at once that he was the Christ that was speaking to her. She was beginning to drink of that well of water that would quench the thirsty soul and she became so taken up with this new-found friend who possessed living water that she left her watering pot and went away into the city to tell others. In doing this she began to let some of the water of life flow out to others. In the 7th chapter of John and the 37th and 38th verses we read what Jesus said, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly [or inmost being] shall flow rivers of living water." In Prov. 18:4, we have a prophecy of this and it reads thus, "The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters,

and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook." In Isa. the 44th chapter and the 3rd and 4th verses we have another prophecy of this work of Christ in his day. "For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground [dry hearts]: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring. And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses." John the Revelator saw this pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. Rev. 22:1.

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From the many reports of our readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper the Lord is making its contents as a pure river of the water of life flowing to thousands of hungry and thirsting souls all over the land and in many foreign countries. We surely do give God all the praise and honor for this great work of watering and feeding so many precious souls. As time goes on it is reaching more and more hungry souls and the church of God is growing and increasing in strength and power and many are being reconciled unto the Lord and his meek and lowly ways.

The book that the Lord anointed us to write entitled, "The New Testament Church and Its Symbols, Metaphors, and Analogies" has been revised and enlarged and it is as a fountain of living water to thirsty souls that love the truth and are sick of sectism and worldly religion. This book contains 159 pages and we send it out to any address with postage paid by us for fifty cents each or five books for \$2.00. You should get some of these books and pass them on to your religious associates. Some have gotten these books and supplied one to every minister in their city. God wants these sect ministers to have the truth whether they receive it or not for it makes them accountable. A lot of good is being done in this way and ministers are receiving light and knowledge on the true Church, the sanctuary of God, the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched and not man.

According to history, the church, immediately following the Lord's ascension was merely a community of brethren. All its members were taught of God and each possessed the liberty of drawing for himself from the Divine fountain of life. The epistles which then settled the great question of doctrine, did not bear the pompous title of a pope or Reverend, but all was in simplicity and there were no big "I's" or little "You's" but all worked together in harmony, for they were not making sects but all worked to the end that Christ and God be glorified.

I wish to quote a little of D. S. Warner's writing on this subject found in the book entitled, "The Cleansing of the Sanctuary" on page 234.

Quote: Her walls are salvation. Isa. 26:1; 60:18. "Behold, God is my salvation." Isa. 12:2. Therefore her walls are also divine. She has a divine door, even Jesus Christ himself. John 10:7, 9.

Having been purchased, founded and built of God, he claims in her the exclusive right of proprietorship. She is not "our church," but "God's building," divinely owned, and his glory he will not give to another.

Her members are all the sons of God and bear his holy image.

The Lord is her everlasting light, and God himself the glory in the midst of her.

She is even divinely named: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." Eph. 3:14, 15. And let not men or devils presume to characterize her by names of blasphemy which they invent. Behold, she is all divine.

End Quote.

I herewith wish to quote to you what Josephus the Jewish Historian had to say about Jesus. "Now, there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as received the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him, and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day." The crucifixion was on April 3rd A.D. and the resurrection on April 5th.

You will notice that he was a teacher of those men who received the truth with pleasure. I do pray that the contents of this paper will find men who will receive the truth with pleasure. It is said of Zacchaeus when he came down from the tree that he received the Lord joyfully. Many who profess Christ today are in lofty places and need to come down and take the spoiling of their goods joyfully.

PRAYER REQUESTS

I have an unsaved husband and son that drink so much. It makes their disposition so disagreeable. They need the Lord so much. I have temporal burdens but my spiritual burdens are heavier. It seems more than I can bear at times. There is another daughter and husband and two small children and are almost to separate. They need the Lord. Please pray earnestly with me for these dear ones.

Henry Hall of Virginia desires special prayer from all the saints in evening light. He desires to be remembered before God that he will be able to keep saved and overcome all temptation and live faithful to the Lord. A request is made for prayer for healing of the body of his father.

Alvarco Alcorta has been sentenced several times to die for the murder of his wife but God has intervened since he has been saved. Pray that God will deliver him.

I desire the earnest prayers of the saints that God will, through His grace, heal my body of TB and bronchial trouble. The Bible says that the prayers of the righteous people availeth much. I am a born again Christian, and know that God has all power.

F. P. Ramey

NOTICE

All saints are welcome to stop at our house for meals and lodging when passing through Alabama. —Bro. and Sis. John H. Cain, 1613 Long 16th St., Bessemer, Ala.

Obituaries

Mollie Jane Perry Clark, daughter of Harold and Mollie Perry, was born January 1, 1868 and passed to her heavenly home January 27, 1958 at the age of 90 years and 26 days. At the age of 19 years she married George Clark. To this union fourteen children were born, seven of which preceded her in death. Her husband also preceded her in death 26 years ago.

In late years she was united with the Church of God. She was a loving mother and grandmother.

Those that survive her passing are three sons: Woodard Clark, Porter, Okla., Tillman Clark, Tullahassee, Okla., Tommie Clark, Tulsa, Okla.; four daughters: Arrah, and Selman of Richmond, Calif., Eurie Davis, of Porter, Okla., Bernice Howell of Tullahassee, Okla.; one sister and one brother and a host of relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services by Bros. Sam Barton and Leron West. Texts: Psalms 90:1, 2; Heb. 9:27; Rom. 6:23.

o-o-o-o-o

Hazel Smith Gilbirds was born April 27, 1893 and passed to her reward January 2, 1958 at the age of 64 years, 6 months and 7 days. She was united in marriage to John Gilbirds on June 21, 1920. To this union were born two children. Her husband preceded her in death.

Sister Gilbirds gave her heart and life to the Lord at the age of 32 years. Since that time she has remained faithful to the Lord and the truth of His written Word. She labored faithfully with the saints in God's kingdom unto the end. Surely we all miss her presence and activities in our midst.

She leaves to mourn her passing one son: Ralph; one daughter: Gladys; one brother: Harry Smith of Calif.; two sisters: Beulah Wilson and Margaret Travis of Jefferson, Oregon, and other relatives, saints and friends.

Funeral services conducted by Bros. Albert Nielsen and Vearl Kliever. Texts: Luke 13:1-5; 1 Thess. 4:13-18. Interment at the Jefferson Cemetery, Jefferson, Oregon.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER GILBIRDS

A precious one from us has gone,
A lovely voice is still;
And tho' our hearts are filled with grief,
We bow unto His will.

Her deeds of love and kindness
Spread sunshine everywhere,
Proving Christ her Saviour,
Did all her burdens bear.

Oh, dear Sister, we will miss you,
But we know that some bright day
We shall never more be parted
Where all tears are wiped away.

—by Grace Jones.

o-o-o-o-o

Sister Sammie Adams Phillips, daughter of Sarah Jane and Sam Taylor, was born March 20, 1870 at Belleview, Texas and departed this life January 22, 1958 at the age of 87 years, 10 months, and 2 days. She married Dan Adams at Belleview, Texas. To this union were born five sons and one daughter. Four preceded her in death.

While a very young girl she was converted. About 1913 she heard the truth preached in all its fullness and accepted it. From then on she lived true and faithful to God to the best of her knowledge. In later years she spent much of her time in visiting the sick and consoling them. She also was united to M. J. Phillips in marriage.

She is survived by two sons: Exodus Adams of the home, and George Adams of Detroit, Mich.; one brother: Webster Weldon of Bakersfield, Calif., and other relatives saints and friends.

Services conducted by Manley Spears. Text: Rev. 14:13.

o-o-o-o-o

Matthew Turner, son of Peter and Emily Turner, was born December 16, 1870 at St. Stevenson, Ala. and passed from this life September 19, 1957 at the age of 86 years, 9 months and 3 days. On July 17, 1917 he was united in marriage to Mary Jane Snell. To this union 10 children were born, 6 daughters and 4 sons. Two children preceded him in death.

At an early age he was converted. Later he heard the truth preached in its fullness. He accepted it and was saved in the year of 1933 with the evening light saints.

He is survived by his wife; six daughters: five in Okla. City, and one in Alabama; four sons: one in Alabama, and two in Okla. City and one at home, and a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

Funeral by Bro. Manley Spears. Text: Job 5:26.

NOTICE OF THANKS

Dear Bro. Pruitt and "Faith and Victory" readers.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am saved and love the Lord with all my heart. My sister who was 83 years old passed away the 5th of January. I want to thank all who sent me the nice sympathy cards.

I am 86. My desire is to live true to my blessed Lord. I have loved ones in heaven I want to meet some glad morning. Pray for me that I ever live true to the Lord.

With Christian love in Christ,

Annie Tooley

IF WE ONLY HAD THE TIME

If we only had the time thru the day's busy hours
To think of the sick and say it with flowers,
If we only had time to write friends we have known
Of our love as of old though long years have flown,
If we only had time for a few words of cheer
To the one left bereft of a loved one so dear,
If we only had time for the helpless and old,
In our mad strife for fame and our grasping for gold,
The world would be better, if for Jesus we had time.

The Los Angeles, Calif. Assembly Meeting will begin March 28 — April 6 on corner of Walnut and Naomi St. For further information contact T. R. Summers, 207 E. 76th Place, Los Angeles, Calif. Phone PL 88319

WEBB CITY, MISSOURI MEETING REPORT

Dear Saints of God,—I am glad to report victory in my soul and to be able to report the Lord's good dealings with us at Webb City. We just finished a meeting of nearly two weeks in January. Bros. Charles Smith and David Madden had been burdened for sometime to hold a meeting. God wonderfully blessed their efforts there in sending six souls to the altar, one for sanctification, five to be saved.

Quite a few outsiders attended and seemed to really enjoy the Word. The weather was really bad but the brethren came each night trusting God for a safe journey. We were so thankful for the other saints from Diamond, Mo., Neosho, Springfield and Tulsa. I feel I have more to be thankful for than almost anyone. My husband went to the altar and was saved a few nights before the close

of the meeting. Everyone was encouraged by the precious Word and I believe we will be stronger because of it.

My husband has been very sick since he has been saved. Please pray for him.

Yours in Christ,

Sis. Ersa Carrick

Meeting Notices

The Annual Young Peoples' Meeting at San Bernardino, California will be held, Lord willing, March 8 and 9 with afternoon and night services on Saturday and all-day services on Sunday. We urge all young people to attend these services. A revival meeting will commence immediately following the young peoples' meeting and will continue as long as the Lord leads.

We are looking to the Lord to send Holy Ghost filled workers and ministers and extend a cordial welcome to all.

For further information contact Sis. Nellie Poulos, Pastor: 7691 Central, Highland, Calif., Ph. GL 8-3540.

GREEN PASTURES SPRING MEETING

The Green Pastures Spring Meeting will begin, the Lord willing, March 21, 1958. For information write Bro. Alvin Lucas, Rt. 1, Box 505, Spencer, Okla. —Bro. E. W. Sanders, Pastor.

OKLA. CITY, OKLA. SPRING MEETING will begin, Lord willing, February 28 and continue as the Lord leads. For further information write or call Bro. Manley Spears, Pastor: 2704 N. E. 19th St., Phone GA 7-1033.

BOLEY, OKLA. SPRING MEETING

The Boley, Okla. Spring Meeting will begin, the Lord willing, April 11 and end April 20. —Sis. Ora Spears.

CAMPMEETING DATES

BRIEF PARTICULARS LATER

Hennessey, Okla., —May 30 — June 8

Kalamazoo, Mich., —July 11 — July 20

National Cpmtg. (Monark Springs), —July 18 -- July 27

Guthrie, Okla., —Aug. 1 — Aug. 10

NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, July 18 to 27, 1958.

It has been requested that all other campmeetings would not be scheduled to conflict with these dates, so that all the saints and ministers would be free to attend this national gathering of God's people.

Nothing is more convincing to the world than the demonstration of love, unity, and fellowship of the saints. "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, . . ."

Plan now to attend this national meeting. For further information, write —L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla.

HANDBOOK FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

The most comprehensive manual of detailed information about the draft law and procedures relating to military service has come to our attention under the title, "Handbook For Conscientious Objectors," published by the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, a non-sectarian independent counseling agency whose services are free to all who apply.

A copy should be secured by every one interested in the field of conscientious objection to war, and it is a "must" for every minister and counselor of conscientious objectors. Be prepared or have a reference book at hand to advise C. O.'s.

Heavy paper bound, containing 108 pages, price—50¢ postpaid. Send amount in stamps. Order direct from Faith Pub. House, Box 713, Guthrie, Okla.

—L. D. Pruitt.

The Onward Vision

"Escape for thy life; look not behind thee," an angel said (Gen. 19:17); and Jesus said, "Remember Lot's wife"

The Apostle Paul said, "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded." Phil. 3:13-15.

Dear reader, are you "thus minded"? Are you doing the one important thing as the apostle did?

When our sins are forgiven, they are covered by the precious blood, never to be remembered against us any more forever. To have constant victory we must not think on them; we must forget them forever, and forgive ourselves for committing them just as Jesus has forgiven us.

A dear sister, blind and advanced in years, said one day, "The Lord has made me to know that I must not dwell upon the past; I must not long for the days when I had my children around my knees. No, I must rejoice in the present blessings and look forward to greater blessings in the future."

The religion of the Lord Jesus is a religion of the present and of the future; not a dead religion of the dead past. Do not say, "These days are not as good as the days of old." Life is to be enjoyed now, and to be brightened by a great hope of better things in the future. The Lord Jesus is still upon his throne of glory. His blessings to you will be just as great as they were to men of the past if you will labor, sacrifice, and love as they did. God's power to heal and to satisfy the longing heart has lost none of its power. "Behold, . . . I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy." Luke 10:19. His ministers are told to "heal the sick" for he has given them power over all the power of the enemy.

Praise God for victory! — Brother H. P. Huskey

SALVATION

"And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house" Luke 19:9a. These words were spoken to Zacchaeus, the little man that ran before the crowd and climbed up into a sycamore tree that he might see Jesus as he passed by. As he heard these words his heart was filled with joy and he was willing and ready to respond to all the will of God, and to do those things that were pleasing in the sight of the Lord.

Salvation will bring joy and happiness to any soul that receives it. It is an invaluable treasure; it is deliverance from sin and the power of evil, and from the awful punishment that will be meted out to those who die without it. It is far more than just a belief in some doctrine or creed, or some movement. "Salvation belongeth unto the Lord" Psalms 3:8a. He is the only one that can impart salvation to the sons of men. No man, nor any group of men can give salvation to the longing, wandering soul. Salvation is found in God, through Jesus Christ. "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. God gives his people a knowledge of salvation by the remission of their sins.

It is obtainable in this life—Zacchaeus obtained it nearly two-thousand years ago. Millions have obtained it since that time and died triumphant in the faith. There are many living today who are the happy possessors of this great salvation, living and serving God through his miraculous power. "But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord" Jonah 2:9. Yes, salvation is of the Lord; it comes right down from the throne of God, right from heaven, right into the hearts of all who look for salvation through Jesus Christ. He is the captain of our salvation. It brings joy and thanksgiving when he enters the heart. Isaiah 12:2-3 reads, "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord."

Salvation has a wonderful transforming power. It translates one from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light; translates from the power of Satan into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. "For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation. Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand" Psalm 149:4-6.

God is our salvation. Salvation is a wall of fire; a lamp; a fountain of praise, a source of melodious song. It is deliverance from sin, and a uniting of the soul with God. "Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes" Psalm 119:155.

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Hebrews 2:3a. "Whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent" Acts 13:26b.

—Ulysses Phillips.

Testimonies

Okla.—To all the saints, Greetings in Jesus' dear name.—I am still in the land of the living. Thank the dear Lord, I am still saved and determined to go all the way. I have been through the test of my life. I never was sicker in all my life. It seemed every sickness was all put on me at once; then dropsy set in. For about twenty days and nights I could not lie down. I was so sick but still had to stay up. The Lord was right with

me. Sometimes, I would do like Job, I would call for the Lord to let me feel his presence. I was in the valley much of the time, but I knew Jesus was there also.

On January 11, I took real sick at midnight. Two ministers were called and I was anointed again. I told them I had done all I knew to do. They quoted the Scripture which tells us that when all is done, then stand. I took a stand, and for three weeks I could see no results, yet I would say I am still standing on the ministers' decision. Jesus healed the cough, vomiting, shortness of breath, colic, and dropsy. I began to slowly mend. The devil was not a bit satisfied. He afflicted my feet with itching and they turned blue, and I have such an uncomfortable feeling in my stomach. But I have not changed my physician. I know he will heal me completely in due time. Do remember me in your prayers.

I thank everyone that sent cards, offerings, and letters. Truly I hope I am worthy of all the interest that was shown to me, God bless everyone. I'll see you, Lord willing, at the Monark Springs meeting. Sister Barton

o-o-o-o-o-o

Ky.—Dear Sister Miles,—I was sitting here and thinking how good the Lord has been to us and how good God would be to folks who will let Him into their heart.

The Lord seemed to talk to me the night before I got saved. We had been going to a revival. As we went home that night we had to stop for a red light. My husband spoke saying, "Mother, we have put it off long enough. If people could take so much interest in us, why should we not take an interest in ourselves?" I was so pleased to hear him say that. When we had gone to bed that night the Lord was near us. We both were praying to ourselves, neither knew the other one was awake. It was one or two o'clock before we closed our eyes for sleep. Suddenly it seemed like the Lord was standing by my bed so plain that I could reach out and touch Him. The next night we went to church services and when they gave the "altar call" I said, "Come on, let's go." He said, "Tonight?" I said, "Yes, tonight." I decided to go on even if no one went with me, but when I got up from the altar the Lord had saved both of us. There were two of our daughters-in-law and one son there too. What a wonderful time we had in the Lord!

When we went home five or six of our boys and girls were sitting in the living room. They said as soon as we entered the door they could tell it. I was so happy and my heart was very light (It was so heavy before.) that I did not want to go to bed. I wanted to sit up and write to all the rest of our children and my Dad to tell all about it. The next morning I began to tell them all about it in letters. I was so happy and still I am happy in the Lord and do not have any desire to go back. I do not have any love for the worldly things but just want more of the Lord each day of my life.—"Take all I have but give me Jesus." I do love Jesus with all of my heart and do not want to fail Him at any time. I want to do more and live closer each day and be a soul winner for him.

We have loved ones who need the Lord, so always remember them in all of your prayers. Pray that the Lord will keep us always doing His will. He has touched our bodies and we feel so much better. The Lord hears and answers prayer we know. With Christian love.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. J. T. Roberts

o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear Saints, Greetings of love.—I have been desiring for sometime to write a testimony how the dear Lord blessed me in going to Wyoming to help my brothers.

One was very sick and the other one in Cheyenne Veterans Hospital. I knew it was the dear Lord's will for me to go and care for my brothers. The dear Lord showed me that his sickness was not unto death but to the glory of God. It was wonderful how the dear Lord gave me strength to help him raise up and care for him. It was a needy place to work for the dear Lord. I prayed much. I knew there was a great responsibility when working with others for God. I know that I am nothing only what God has made me to be. My brother had lots of company and he would let me pray and read and give then tracts when they came. The dear Lord would wonderfully bless me in prayer. One woman who had hurt her back came late one evening. The prayer of faith was prayed and it did not hurt her any longer. The Lord tells us not to rejoice for these things, but to rejoice because our names are written in heaven. Luke 10:20. I am thankful my name is written in heaven.

I was burdened to visit the High School and give out tracts. I did plead to the dear Lord for help. Jesus knows about our every tear. It was cold and windy. I was standing outside as it was not time for school to be out. A lady came and asked me if she could help me. I told her I was working for the dear Lord and was waiting for the pupils to come out so I could give them tracts. She said it would be ten minutes yet. I asked her if she cared if I gave them tracts. She said, "No." They were all very nice to me. I knew the dear Lord wanted me to go to the grade school but I did not know how to get there. He sent a lady to take me. I was inside the building giving the children "Beautiful Way" papers and some tracts. A man came and told me that was forbidden. I asked him if he would take some. He said, "Yes." He told me I could go outside the school ground and give them out. I stood outside and as the children came out I passed them out. The dear Lord will make a way somehow.

I went to Clearmont, Wyoming to get the train to come home. I gave tracts to the agent and talked to him about his precious soul, also the the paper boys and others. On the train was a young man asleep. When he woke up I gave him tracts and he seemed to be anxious to know about salvation. I had the "Faith and Victory" paper sent to him. I could tell lots of things but I do not want to take the space. Rom. 8:28.

My daughter was very sick. My son-in-law called me to come. I sent a request for prayer to the saints. He took her to the hospital. I asked her if I could pray or if she wanted me to. She said she did. I love to pray. I am so glad to work for Jesus even in the hospitals. A friend was in the same city in another hospital and wanted me to come to see him, which I did. He wanted prayer as he was going to have a serious operation.

My son-in-law and family are getting along nicely in body but are not saved. I was able to let my light shine in that hospital.

The Lord healed a neighbor boy yesterday. One night I was suffering so much I cried unto the dear Lord and he healed me almost instantly. Please help me pray for all these precious souls. I love Jesus. Pray for me.

Your sister in the Lord, Sister Mary Whitmore

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

Montana—Dear saints, Greetings in the name of the Lord. I promised the dear Lord on Thanksgiving Day to testify of some of the good things He has done for us.

Thanksgiving Day my wife came into the room where I was and said, "I'm so sick I don't feel like I can go any farther." She was preparing Thanksgiving dinner for

us and a neighbor lady who lives alone. I had never seen her give up that way in all our married life. I have been blind now for over four years, so you can imagine the shock this gave me. My first thought was to call on God. I promised Him if He would heal her I would testify through the "Faith and Victory" paper. In a very short time my wife was back at work and singing. Praise the dear Lord!

We heard a sermon on the church a number of years ago. We had been saved and joined the Baptist denomination when we were young but always thought God's people should be one. We saw the Bible church while this man was preaching. How we longed to find a congregation that lived and taught like the New Testament Church. After much wandering and confusion in the so-called Church of God and after giving up trying to find it in our own strength, the Lord led us to the saints in light at Jefferson, Oregon. We thank the dear heavenly Father we have not been disappointed in the saints. Some of the dear saints gave us a subscription to "Faith and Victory" and a lot of back numbers. That was three years ago and we still treasure them and read them over and over. We have been healed and the good Lord has done so many things for us in answer to prayer. We can not tell the half of it.

I do want to tell how the Lord answered prayer the first time we were at the Jefferson campmeeting. I had been blind for a year and suffered untold agony from the light; had to wear a pair of heavy colored glasses and a dark visor over them and yet the light hurt my eyes all the time. But thank and praise His dear name forever! when the dear saints got under the burden and prayed for me, that glare from the light did not bother any more and I have not had to wear glasses or anything since. Praise His name forever. I am still looking to God to open my eyes and heal my body of other afflictions. Dear saints, will you please pray earnestly for me? I would appreciate letters of encouragement from any of you who feel led to write or any of the saints to visit us if you happen our way, or rather if the Lord sends you. There is always a welcome for the saints in our home.

Your brother in Christ, Charles A. Davis

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

Cuba—To the dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper. Greetings in love in the precious name of Jesus, my Saviour and Friend. I am so glad and thankful He has spared me in this new year that I can still tell of His goodness to me. He is dearer to me than all, for He is my Saviour, sanctifier, healer, and keeper. He gives me a strong determination each day to serve Him. By His help I mean to make heaven my home. There is nothing I have seen or heard of that I would change the love of my Saviour for. The joy and peace He gives day by day is more than tongue can tell. If in this world of trouble and sorrow, He can give such rich blessings, what must it be over yonder, where we will see Him face to face and praise Him through the countless ages of eternity? The greatest desire of my heart is to live closer to Him day by day and see my loved ones saved.

I ask an interest in your prayers. Let us hold fast to Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, so that when He comes to claim His own, we may be ready to go with Him.

Dear sinner friend what is your hope? When the saints go marching in through those pearly gates, where will you be? Do not you think you had better put in your application and get into that cleansing fountain

that cleanses from all sin, while there is time and before the door of mercy is closed? He is no respecter of persons; whosoever will may come and drink of the water of life freely, without money and without price. I am so glad that I obeyed when He gave the call, and I hope the day will never dawn that He will be less to me than He is right now.

May God bless these lines to some dear soul to take courage and go forward in Jesus' name.

Your sister in the one body, Rose Maxam

o-o-o-o-o-o

California—To all the saints, Greetings in Jesus' name.—I am very thankful that the Lord healed me of the flu and nervous condition. I am also very thankful for all the prayers that went up in my behalf. I could clearly see in my affliction how the enemy had been oppressing me all along in my experience to keep me from doing what the Lord wanted me to do. He could not get me to give up so he was there to hinder faith in healing. I repented that I failed God by not victoriously holding on by faith and doing the things he would have me do. I promised to obey the Lord the best I could understand and send in my testimony to the "Faith and Victory." Pray with me as I pray that I will have more victory in my life.

Yours in Christ, Sister Ruby Lee Spirling

o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear Saints,—Greetings in the name of the dear Lord. I feel the Lord wants me to send a testimony of thanks to Him because He has so blessed my soul that I am still saved and encouraged to live for Him. This song is very dear to my heart: "The Lord is my light and the strength of my life, Then of whom shall I be afraid? He hideth my soul from the troubles that roll, In the cleft in the rock he has made." I thank the dear Lord for helping me to know what it means to keep saved. I have many trials and tests of life, but I am surely encouraged to live for the dear Lord. I am the only one saved in the home, and desire your prayers for the unsaved ones. Thank the Lord, He has given us a wonderful pastor who helps me to keep encouraged and pressing on in the way of the dear Lord. Saints, pray that I be a blessing to lost souls. I have it settled in my heart to go all the way with the dear Lord.

Yours sister in the Lord, M. Phillips

o-o-o-o-o-o

S. C.—Dear Saints,—Greetings to you in the name of Jesus. I am still saved and standing on the promises of God. By the help and grace of God I am going to stand for the whole truth and nothing but the truth, praise God forever! The little "Faith and Victory" paper that I am reading can not be beat. I also enjoy the tracts that I have read. I have lots of confidence in you dear saints who print them because God hears and answers your prayers. Praise His dear name!

In November I was down with a carbuncle. I wrote to the saints to pray for healing, and God healed me completely. It pays to trust God for what we need. About three weeks ago another carbuncle came in another place. Bro. Gibson and another minister prayed for me and it dried up. It never hurt any more. Praise God for His healing power.

I am sending a little offering to help in the Lord's work. Pray for me.

Your saved brother in Christ, Eddie Diggers

o-o-o-o-o-o

Arkansas—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ and saints everywhere,—I have made several promises to God

that I would write my testimony for the "Faith and Victory" but just kept putting it off. But tonight while I was praying for my little boy who is very sick with flu, it came to me that God was wanting me to send in my testimony.

The Lord has been so wonderful to me, more times than I can name. He has heard and answered so many prayers and has healed my children many times. I am a Christian, but have many discouragements, as my husband is lost. We have a family of eight children who are all much blessed with good health. I try to be the kind of mother, God would want me to be, and I am thankful to Him for everything. I fully realize what it would be like to be without God in our hearts and lives.

I want all of you saints to pray for me and my family, for we all need prayers to be stronger and put up a better fight for our Lord and Master. I also have an unspoken request for prayer. Please pray for me, as I want to press forward and keep looking upward and remain a child of God. We live out in the country and there are not very many people in our settlement.

A sister in Christ, Mrs. Anna Conley

o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear precious Saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper, Greetings of holy love in Jesus' dear name.—I feel the Lord wants me to write a few lines for the little paper. The dear Lord has made the paper a real blessing to me for so many years of my Christian life. I never have doubted the Spirit of the Lord being the leader of this paper. It has meant much to me and I am sure to lots of other folks too.

My heart is grieved about so many that will not accept the truth. Some say they believe in sanctification but they do not try because they are afraid to get sanctified. Then they fail the Lord and go back. It is so hard for them to get right again. They make me think of the children of Israel when God wanted to lead them over into Canaan. Most of them were afraid of the giants. They never did get to cross over. The Bible says if Christ makes us free we are free indeed. The Holy Ghost will lead us into all truth. If we do not have the Spirit of Christ we are none of His. It seems to me by these Scriptures that if we get justified and do not go on into sanctification we are not completely free. Some are under bondage to fear and maybe other things. The Bible says perfect love casteth out fear.

Surely I thank the Lord this morning for full salvation. Dear ones, I believe we will have to have full salvation to make it into heaven especially if we have light on these things. It seems to me that a lot of people have more light than they want to acknowledge. I surely thank the Lord for His many blessings to me and my loved ones. He has healed our bodies so many times. He always helps us out of our troubles and trials. He will never leave nor forsake his children.

I want to thank all the saints for their prayers in our recent trial and test. The dear Lord has so wonderfully undertaken. I do thank and praise God. It is so wonderful to know the living God and have our trust in Him. Dear ones, pray for me. I want to keep true to the Lord.

Your sister in Christ, Katie Marler

o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear Saints,—Greetings to all in this new year. I am so thankful that the Lord has kept me saved through the past year with victory in my soul. Praise the Lord!

As I read the last "Faith and Victory" paper, it seemed that I had never read so many good encouraging testi-

monies. Sis. West told of experiences that were just like some in my past life, and I read her testimony over and over.

My folks were Baptists. I attended a revival at an old school house which lasted three weeks. There were two Baptists preachers and one Campbellite. There were forty-three conversions, including me. At the close of the meeting, the preacher got up and gave a talk. He said, "We are going to open the doors of the church, and anyone who wants to unite with the church may come forward." The forty-three converts went forward to the first seat and were seated. The preacher took his church book out of the desk and began to write the names down, one by one. Then he said they were going to give the right hand of fellowship, and the entire congregation passed along and shook hands with the new members. The preacher gave another talk, saying "Now, you are in the church and after baptism you will receive the right hand of fellowship, then it will be 'full fellowship!'" Sunday afternoon the forty-three were baptized, after which we stood at the front and the preacher and every member of the church came up and gave us the right hand of "full fellowship." Then he said, "Now you are in the church, all members of the church." Now when I think of this, it is like a dream or a nightmare. And when I think of how I was delivered out of that cage (Rev. 18:2) I rejoice to know that I am free. I can fearlessly teach oneness of God's people, holiness, and sanctification, knowing that my name is written in the Lamb's book of life, where no human hand can erase it. It is there to stay, praise the dear Lord forever!

The members of that church which I joined, danced, went to ungodly kissing parties, literary societies, lectures, box suppers where cakes were sold to the highest bidder—in the church. I felt bad when I went to these places after I joined the church, but I did not know what to do to get out of it.

After talking it over, my sister and I decided to get our letters out of that church and join the Union church. We were there a few Sundays but I was not pleased with their way of getting a different preacher every Sunday. One Sunday there would be a Baptist, next a Methodist, then a Campbellite, or anyone who happened to come along. I decided I would go to the Methodist church just across the road from the Union church. They seemed more spiritual than either of the others, but I really did not think sprinkling was right. My mind was on the Scripture that told about Jesus being baptized by John in the River Jordan. I had a Bible story book when I was seven years old in which was a picture of the dove lighting on Jesus' head. I had not forgotten that.

While I was going to the Methodist Church, Bro. Montgomery who was traveling through Missouri, got permission to hold a revival there. The rumor got out that he was preaching "Holiness or Hell." Mr. McKinney had heard that and decided he would go and hear the preacher that was called a "Church of God minister." He had never heard that name before. He went two times and came home telling his brother Joe that the preacher preached nothing but the Bible. Joe was one of the forty-three converts in that Baptist revival, and was preaching at the Baptist Church. Joe was persuaded to go once, and like the rest of us, accepted the truth. He became a church of God preacher, and his wife a worker for the Lord. The few who were saved in Bro. Montgomery's meeting began having prayer meetings at the school house, also cottage meetings. Five years later Bro. Zinn (my brother) was saved in a revival at the

school house. We then, being four in number with two young preachers, were able to have regular services. I do praise the Lord for permitting me to hear the truth and that I had a willingness to measure to God's Word.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister McKinney

Ind.—Dear Sister Miles,—Loving greetings in Jesus' name. It is with a happy heart that I write you tonight, for I want to tell you that our dear Lord answered prayer Tuesday afternoon. We fasted and prayed in agreement with you until the answer came. Oh, how wonderful to be delivered! Glory, honor, and praise to His dear name! I have been ailing since July, always thinking I would get better, but instead I grew worse. I became miserable.

Help me praise God more and more until this fleeting life is o'er. What a mighty God we serve! Thank you for your interest. May God bless all of you.

Living to make Christ known, Sis. Fannie Overhiser

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Grand Cayman Island—Dear Saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper, Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am thanking God for a full and free salvation. I am glad for the time when I got acquainted with Jesus. Today I can truly say I know that I am walking with Him. Thank God! I know I have the victory through Him who loved and gave himself for me. I am determined, by God's grace to make it through to heaven. This old world has no more charms for me.

I do hope these few words of testimony will be an encouragement to someone and will help some poor sinner friend to seek God for his soul's salvation. I need your prayers.

Yours for the one church,

Sis. Cassie Bodden

o-o-o-o-o-o

Oklahoma.—To the Saints of God everywhere, Greetings in Jesus' name.—This leaves me still saved from all sin and truly encouraged to press on and be all God would have me to be. I am glad I found His Word true. He is a present help in time of need. The Lord has been good to us. My husband became ill at the Christmas meeting in Guthrie. He was very, very sick with the flu, and I had to care for him night and day. The Lord wonderfully healed him. Praise His holy name.

During that time Sister Wiley became sick on Monday but went to town and then to Kingfisher. She came home, and in the evening called me to come to anoint and pray for her. The Lord wonderfully touched her body. I brought her home with me so I could easily care for her and my sick husband at the same time. On Wednesday morning about 8:00 she passed to the great beyond. The doctor said she had heart trouble. She did not resort to medicine but trusted the Lord to the end. It pays to trust the Lord. I have known Sister Wiley since 1915, the year she was saved. We lived very close to each other and reared our children together. My prayer is that they come to the Lord before it is too late.

Yours in the one body,

Sis. Ada Davis

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Ohio.—To all the saints, Greetings in Jesus' name.—We are so thankful we are saved and encouraged to go all the way with the Lord. We have felt led for some time to send our testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper all to the glory of God, how He heard and answered prayer in behalf of my husband. He had sinus trouble for over ten years and at times he came very near choking to death. He would cough day and night. We kept trusting the Lord. We sent to the saints for prayer. The

saints from Dayton were so good to come and see us. Bro. and Sis. Farlow and others would come to see him and have prayer. He was so bad it looked like the Lord was going to take him, but the Lord has healed him. He has not been bothered for two years and we surely give the dear Lord all the praise.

We are thankful for the way He takes care of us in our old days. We thank all the dear saints for their love and prayers. I ask all the saints that read this to pray earnestly that the Lord will relieve my husband of arthritis that he can be able to walk better.

Yours in Christ,

Sister Will Jenkins

o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—Greeting in Jesus' precious name. "O sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name." Psalm 96. This morning a new song is in my heart, to praise and thank God for the kindness He has bestowed upon me and my husband to this day. How often I feel I am not worthy of all he has done for me. Praise His holy name forever and ever!

I desire to live for the Lord as long as He gives me breath, for I have found that there is nothing better in life than to be a Christian. My desire is to live closer to the Lord from day to day. I love to read all the good testimonies that appear in this little paper—"Faith and Victory." They encourage me much to trust the Lord more and more for everything. When I hear of how God has healed others and was a help in their needs, I know God will not forsake us if we keep trusting Him. Psalm 23:4 says, "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Praise the name of Jesus. I am sending a little love offering.

May God bless you all is my prayer and please remember me in prayer that I would be what God wants me to be. A sister,

E. Ewald

Va.—Dear Saints of God, Greeting in Jesus' precious name.—I am writing you in regards to my son that had the flu over a month ago. He was very ill. All the saints were praying here but he did not change for the better until we had one of the saints here to make a phone call to you. The very time that prayer was offered I saw a change had taken place. His face brightened up. We give God all the praise and glory for answering prayer.

Please pray for the saints here. I have some special requests; and please pray for my household.

I am sending this as the Lord spoke to me and said, "How about sending five dollars to Guthrie?" I said, "Yes, Lord I will obey you." Alice M. Carr

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I have received the "Faith and Victory" paper for several years. I really enjoy reading it and get so much encouragement from the articles, poetry and testimonies. I do not want to ever be without it. Many times when going through the dark valleys of trials and tests the little (but mighty) "Faith and Victory" would come. I would find the Holy Spirit working through the testimonies, articles, and poems to strengthen, encourage and enlighten me. It would be what I needed just in time.

God has answered prayer since I wrote you. All praise belongs to him. I have prayed for you. My brother who is sick needs our prayers very much. It seems that there is no hope unless God undertakes. I am afraid he is not where he should be spiritually. Pray for his soul and that God will spare him until he has a clear witness for his soul's salvation. May God bless you.

Your sister in Christ,

Mrs. George Swafford

Kans.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints, Greetings in the precious name of Jesus.—I wish to testify to the goodness of God to me. He has blessed me and given me a desire to live for him. I am glad God has put an end to my lone career of sins. He has changed my life and given me a new life to live.

I want to thank all the saints that prayed for me. I praise the Lord for it. The Lord has brought me out of the devil's slime pool. Now I can say as David, "Open unto me the gates of righteousness and I will go unto them and I will praise the Lord." I am now happy in my soul to know that I can defeat the devil by the grace of God.

Dear saints, I have heard of a city called heaven and I have started to make it my home. I ask the dear ones to pray for me that the Lord may let his blessings rain on me. I am praying for a closer walk with the Lord, and for a better understanding of His Word. May the dear Lord bless each and all of His dear children is my prayer.

Ben Phillips

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Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie and workers, With greetings in our dear Saviour's name.—I want to send in my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper. I want to tell how the dear Lord came to my rescue. I was feeling very bad when I called in to Sis. Holdcraft's for prayer. On Saturday I had a bad tightness in my chest; on Sunday when I would cough I felt like something clawing on the inside; on Monday I did not feel good; on Tuesday between 10 and 11 o'clock I began to feel better. I still coughed some but did not have any pain or soreness. I can only praise God for being so merciful to me.

I want to also thank all the saints of God for holding me up to the throne of grace in prayer. The dear Lord said He could do more for us than we could even think or ask. Praise his dear name. He gave me my smelling and tasting back.

My son has been sick for about three weeks. He is not saved. He has been to the doctor twice and I can not see any improvement. Please earnestly pray for him. He has a sore throat and has lost his speech. For almost three weeks he has had no appetite. I believe God can heal sinners, too. Praise his holy name. I think of all you dear saints. May God bless you is my prayer.

Your sister in Christ,

Sister Rumpfelt

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La.—Dear Saints at the Faith Publishing House,—I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper so much. It encourages me to press on and helps me keep the victory in my soul. I really enjoyed Sister Vera Forbes' testimony in the January paper. It must be like heaven on earth to have a home like she described. I have often prayed for a home like that but so far I do not have it. I know God will answer at the right time. Praise his holy name.

Sis. Forbes told how Tuesdays was a day set aside for fasting and praying. I want to join you on Tuesdays in my home. I want you all to pray that my husband will quit drinking and get saved and that my two girls will get sanctified. I pray God's blessings on all you dear workers and for all the saints. Pray for me that my family circle will not be broken in heaven.

Your sister in Christ,

Eleanor Robertson

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear Brothers and Sisters and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper.—I am still enjoying this great salvation which Jesus died for that all could enjoy who turn from sin to Him and be saved. His Word says to tell of

all His wondrous works. I want God's blessings to be to me too. I have trusted Him for soul and body ever since I was saved in 1920. I have had many afflictions but through them all I have trusted only in the Lord. He healed me of tonsilitis several years ago. I had it so bad I could hardly eat or drink and could not sleep. I wrote to Bro. Pruitt and the saints for prayer. When the card had time to get there, I began to get better and that night I could sleep much better. I have not had it any more.

I had some other cases of healing. At Monark Springs in 1956 I was so sick. One day I started to our tent. I did not feel I could get there. A sister came and led me to a cot outside. I could hear voices but could not keep my eyes open, I was so weak. The dear ones came and prayed for me and the Lord answered prayer. I do not know what all the trouble was but I do know that the Lord healed me. It does not make any difference what the affliction is or how great the suffering. God is able and willing. We need not be afraid to trust Him even if we are alone and no one to call on to pray. Do not be discouraged. Stand true to God. He has promised that we will not have more than we can bear. Stand on His promises. He will not forsake or fail you because you are alone. He says, "Call upon me in the day of trouble and I will deliver you." Oh, we have a great deliverer, a sympathizing Jesus! Do not be afraid to trust Him.

I was suffering severely with my head. I thought, "Oh, how glad I would be if some of the saints would come pray for me." There was no way I could get anyone. Then it came to me that the Lord knows it. I knew God would not fail me. I believed He would heal and in a little while I was easy. A few nights ago I was suffering so bad I would have called the saints. There was not a phone nearer than three and one-half miles. So again I kept praying and the Lord heard and I got relief. I went back to bed and went to sleep. Becky Barnes

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BIBLE STUDY

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

ONE IN CHRIST

March 2, 1958

Printed Portion: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16

Eph. 4:1. I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

2. With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3. Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5. One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Eph. 4:11. And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man,

unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15. But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16. From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Memory Verse: He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us. Eph. 2:14

Practical Truth: Christ in us and others make us all one in Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Christ prayed for oneness in John 17, verses 20 to 21. "That they also may be one in us." Why did he want his children to endeavour (means to strive for) to keep the unity of the Spirit? So the world would believe in Christ and that he was sent to redeem man from sin. Since this is true, then if we are not striving to keep this unity we are hindering others from coming to Christ. How sad this is! Imagination, fault-finding, envy, and jealousy will tend to destroy unity. God's children have faith and hope but there is something else, and that is love. It is the greatest of all. Real children of God have this love. We are prone to think that it is spontaneous if it is real. Another factor enters into it also; that is, our will. Paul brings it out by definitely recognizing the fact that we need to "forbear one another in love" with longsuffering and meekness. We must keep that binding love in our hearts, even if we do not understand the other, or sometimes we may be carried away with our zeal. The Holy Spirit will work through us as we keep yielding to him and watching our hearts.

Unity of Spirit can be even if there is not a unity of the faith or doctrine. Those who are babes in Christ have not come to all the knowledge of the doctrine. There are those who are at different stages of growth among us. We are all disciples of Christ and need teaching. God has given us teachers, ministers, workers and evangelists to help us to come to full growth and not be children tossed about by every wind of doctrine but become established in Christ. We should give heed to them.

THE CHURCH'S INFLUENCE ON SOCIETY

March 9, 1958

Printed Portion: Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Thess. 5:4-8; James 2:14-17.

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 thenceforth 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.

1 Thess. 5:4. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

James 2:14. What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

15. If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

16. And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17. Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Memory Verse: Learn to maintain good works. Titus 3:14.

Practical Truth: God's light has power to overcome darkness providing we let it shine.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson has been on the Church of God in the world at the present. Last Sunday we talked about God's people being one in Christ. Our lesson today is about the Church of God coming face to face with the social order or community life. The gospel has done much to bring about many reforms we see in the world. The laws of our land are based on parts of the Bible. Slavery has been abolished in our land because of the gospel. Bible teachings have helped to free women from a state of slavery to enjoy rights and privileges, yet some have gone beyond God's teachings.

We, individually, must fill our place in the family of God in the world. Jesus says we are the "salt of the earth," "a city set on a hill" and a light on a candlestick. We can only be what Jesus expects us to be when we let the Holy Spirit work in us. We need to keep awake and be children of the light, ever watching for opportunities to do good. When we see brothers or sisters in need we are to help them—that is works. We may have a high profession of faith, but if our works do not show it our faith is dead. We need to know that our works will not save us; we must have faith also.

By teaching and by example, God's light will shine out from us into some darkened hearts and cause them to be rescued from sin. If we are God's children, the world is better because we are living.

EVANGELIST IN THE HOME COMMUNITY

March 16, 1958

Printed Portion: Mark 5:18-20; Luke 10:1, 2; Acts 5:42; 1 Thess. 1:6-10

Mark 5:18. And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him.

19. Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

20. And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel.

Luke 10:1. After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

2. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

Acts 5:42. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

1 Thess 1:6. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

7. So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

8. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

9. For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.

10. And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Memory Verse: The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray we therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Luke 10:2.

Practical Truth: The church has a responsibility for evangelistic work in its community which should not be neglected.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

When something wonderful happens to you there is something inside of you that causes you to want to share it with someone. When we receive salvation, we want others to have it also. We might want to go somewhere else to tell it but we must do like Jesus told the man who had been delivered: "go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee." He published it abroad in his surrounding community.

If we cannot go, we can help send others or the printed gospel, thus have a part in the reaping. We need always to pray for God to send forth laborers in his vineyard.

We are to tell the gospel story in the places God opens up to us. You will face opposition, because when you step on the devil's territory he is there with all hell behind him to fight. We need not fear the devil. "If God be for us who can be against us?" Paul was accused of turning the world upside down with his doctrine, but did he stop? By his steadfastness many believed and were delivered from the power of sin. The gospel is a sword. (Matt. 10:34; Heb. 4:12) Your life that is separated from pride, love of dress and money, revelry, drinking, war and sin of all kind is a sword to those around you. If they do not measure up or accept God's Word you will feel the effects of their scorn and contempt. Hell and those whom the devil can influence will be against you. Thank God, we can "be more than conquerors" through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

March 23, 1958

Printed Portion: Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 13:1-3; Rom. 1:14-18

Matt. 28:18. And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

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

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

Acts 13:1. Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

Rom. 1:14. I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise and to the unwise.

15. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

16. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also the Greek.

17. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

18. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

Memory Verse: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28:19

Practical Truth: Let us be workers for Jesus at home and abroad.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There are many in the world that need to know about Jesus, and His power to save from sin. Jesus has given a command for us to go and "teach all nations," and He will go with us. What are we doing about this command? You say that was spoken to the disciples. But our lesson clearly makes us know that others obeyed this command and went out. God intends for us to do something about it. You must have a part in this spreading of the gospel or you will be held accountable for it. If we are not called to go we each one are called to send forth the gospel by giving of our means to help send someone else or to help send forth the gospel through the printed literature as it goes all over the world. Paul felt that he was in debt to the Greeks, Barbarians, the wise and unwise, and to the Romans. Did he pay his debt? Have we paid our debt? May the Lord help us.

We are like Paul, we are not ashamed of the gospel or good news. There is power in the gospel. It will deliver those who believe it from sin and the power of the devil. The word power comes from the root word dynamite. When a person begins to believe from the heart that Jesus died on the cross for his sins, a power begins to work in his soul, and as he continues to yield to that power it will work a deliverance for him through Christ. Praise the Lord, it works because it worked in my soul and will do the same in everyone that believes. We desire that the world know about it, do not we?

THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

March 30, 1958

Printed Portion: John 13:14, 15; Rom. 6:3, 4; 1 Cor. 10:14-22

John 13:14. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

15. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

Rom. 6:3. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

1 Cor. 10:14. Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

15. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

16. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

17. For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

18. Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar?

19. What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing?

20. But I say, that things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

21. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

22. Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than he?

Memory Verse: For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. 1 Cor. 11:26.

Practical Truth: In observing baptism and the Lord's Supper we are bearing witness to Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson today brings Scriptures on three ordinances that Jesus commanded the church to observe. Some want to teach that the observance of the ordinances hinder the progress of the cause of holiness but I am persuaded that by obeying the commandments of Jesus, in all simplicity, we prove to the world our love for Jesus and His Word.

The Bible teaches us that the ordinances of Moses and the law was nailed to the cross. (Eph. 2:15; Col 2:14, 15) In their place Jesus instituted these three new ordinances, which bring a great blessing to all who keep them.

The Lord's or communion supper is to be observed in remembrance of the Lord's death. What joy it brings to the soul as we observe it and think of the supreme sacrifice Jesus paid for our redemption.

Jesus washed the disciples' feet. He set an example before us for our imitation. The word ought denotes an obligation of duty. (Web. dic.) Jesus said, "Do as I have done."

Baptism is an outward symbol of an inward work in the soul—a symbol of the burial or death to sin and a resurrection into newness of life. Jesus was baptized as our example. We have record of many following that example. Philip baptized the eunuch; "they went both into the water. Acts 8:38.

Mrs. M. Miles.