

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 27, No. 11

Printed at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35c Per Year

April, 1958

A Building of God

I think of a building, whose foundation laid,
Has stood through the ages: the one Jesus made.
A beautiful building that's not made with hands,
Is ever before me—so lovely it stands.

And when Jesus built it, with grace from above,
He meant to preserve it with undying love;
The powers of darkness and forces of hell,
Against this strong building would never prevail.

His blood paid the ransom, His death broke the chain,
For souls held in bondage—to conquer and reign.
Himself the foundation, the Spirit to lead,
His Father the keeper supplies every need.

With love for the mortar, and people for stone,
They're built up together: thus God is made known.
Perfection of beauty, the Haven of Rest,
She's God's holy building, the Home of the blest.

The joy of all ages—She'll never go down;
And heaven is waiting to give Her a crown.
Dear friends, are you dwelling inside those great walls?
If not, seek salvation, before Jesus calls.

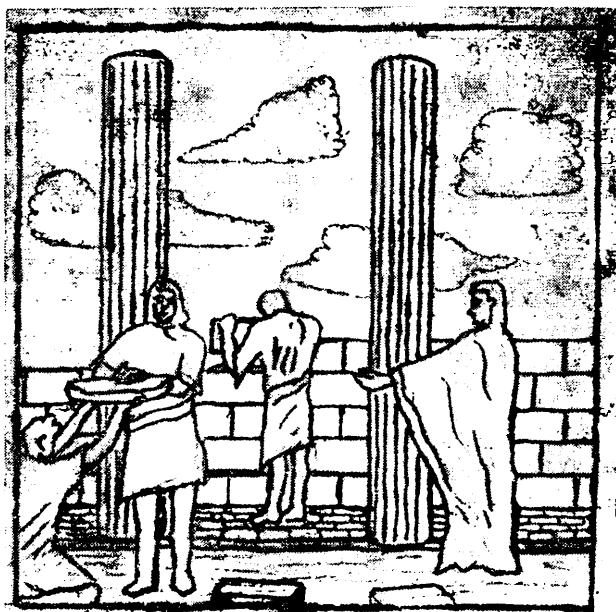
—Leslie Busbee.

The Church of God Divinely Built

In reading Bro. D. S. Warner's writings on the Church of God I find that he seemed to have a deeper insight or discernment as to what constitutes the Church of God than most of those that followed him in the Reformation of truth. If those that followed him had received the light on this divinely built Church as he saw it and would have held true in it, they never would have imbibed sectish ways or taken up with worldly religions, but could have held their identity as the true holiness Church of God.

In Matt. 16:18 we read, "And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." "It" means one. It was not built upon Peter, but upon the truth (rock) which was revealed

to him from the Father in heaven, namely, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Read I Cor. 3:11. You notice he said, "I will build my church." He did not have it built as yet.



"I will build my church....." Matt. 16:18

This picture typifies Christ building his spiritual house during the three years and one half that he preached the gospel before Pentecost. Every one he called became a lively stone in the building, 1 Peter 2:5. The Spirit of TRUTH was with them.

Those that repent and believe in their hearts that Christ is the Son of the living God are born from above and become a member in the Church of God which he has built and is adding to. Let us turn to the prophets and see what is written about the One who was to build the Church or Temple of God.

In Zechariah the 6th chapter and the 12th verse we read, "Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord: Even he shall build the tem-

ple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." In the 15th verse it reads thus: "And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the Lord." The BRANCH spoken of refers to Christ. This is made plain by the Prophet Isaiah in the 11th chapter and first verse for it reads, "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots." The word "temple" is often used in the Scriptures as referring to the Church or God's House. Solomon's literal temple was a type of the spiritual temple or house of God. Read Hebrews 3:6. In Hebrews 8:2 the Church is referred to as a Sanctuary or Tabernacle. In Hebrews 4:14 we read that Jesus the Son of God is our great high priest.

In Jeremiah the 23rd chapter and the 5th and 6th verses we find the Lord is referred to as a righteous Branch and also that he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. In I Cor. 3:9 we are referred to as "God's Building." In Eph. 2:19 to the end of the chapter we find that we who are saved are the "Household of God" and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself (not Peter) being the chief corner stone! (The foundation of the apostles and the prophets was Jesus Christ.) "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." How plainly these scriptures teach us that we who are saved are the church which Jesus built and are a habitation of God through the Spirit. His Spirit inhabits each member and we are His body, the church. Col. 1:24. In Heb. 8:2 we read that we are His Sanctuary or Tabernacle whom the Lord pitched and not man. In I Peter 2:5 we read, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." The next verse refers to Christ as the chief corner stone.

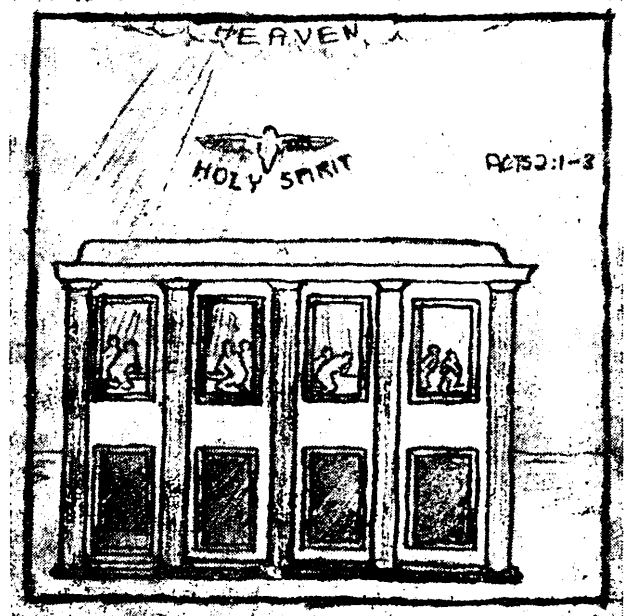
Let us read some in II Chron. the 7th chapter and the first verse and we will see what took place when His literal house was built and Solomon had finished praying in the temple which was a type of the real temple or house which the Lord built. It is recorded that fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offerings and the sacrifices and the glory of the Lord filled the house and they bowed themselves down worshiping and praising God. This literal house that Solomon built was a type of the spiritual house that the Lord Jesus Christ built.

It took Solomon seven years to build his temple which prefigured the Lord's spiritual house, but it only took the Lord three years and one half to build His spiritual house and get it ready to occupy.

The first stones that the Lord put in His building were the twelve apostles, for he called them and they followed Him. They were the foundation stones in His building. Later we learn of seventy that He sent out and they were also stones in His building. Peter calls us lively stones in the building because

the Spirit of God is working in and through us. He inhabits each member of His body which is the Church. When the day of Pentecost had fully come His spiritual house was built together for it is written that they were all with one accord in one place praying and waiting for the "promise of the Father," the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit. His house was completed and ready to be occupied.

Let us turn and read what the prophet Malachi has to say about the Lord occupying His temple or house. We find it in the third chapter and the first verse and it reads thus: "Behold, I will send my messenger and he shall prepare the way before me [John the Baptist]; and the Lord, whom ye seek [Christ Jesus], shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." How plain this Scripture should be to spirit-filled men and women of today. Let us read that account given in Acts 2:2, 3 of the Lord coming into His temple and occupying it. It reads: "And SUDDENLY there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. [You will notice the same word "Suddenly" is used in Malachi's prophecy of his coming to his temple.] And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them." When the Lord came into Solomon's temple, a type of the real, there was also fire and the glory of the Lord filled it.



This picture typifies the Temple or Church which Jesus built. It was occupied on the day of Pentecost by his Holy Spirit suddenly coming into the hearts of the one hundred and twenty in the upper room.

In the 4th verse in Acts it reads that they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. The Lord had come into His temple, His spiritual house, in the form of the Holy Spirit and the Church of God was set in order.

It was divinely organized as he gave gifts to each member to function in his proper place. The Kingdom of God had come with power and the Church was divinely organized and set in motion by His Spirit inhabiting each one.

The sum of the matter is that the Church was completely built and occupied on the day of Pentecost. It began to function and Peter preached such a searching sermon that three thousand souls were saved. In the 47th verse it says, "And the Lord [not men] added to the church daily such as should be saved [or believing ones]."

Some think that the Lord is still building His Church but in reality He is only now adding to His already built Church. When He built the Church He gave it all the gifts and officers that were needed to carry on the work of the Lord and it was complete within itself. I see the Church built in comparison to a city. Tulsa, Oklahoma was one time a city of five thousand people, but it was complete, as it had all the councilmen and officers that it needed for its size. It has grown to be a city of over two hundred thousand and it is still a complete city. Another illustration is like this: Bill Jones has a flock of twenty-five sheep and that comprises his complete flock of sheep. In the spring there is born twenty lambs into his family of sheep and now he has forty-five sheep and this number is still his complete flock. God's Church is always complete and is, in a spiritual sense, being added to as souls are born from above.

—Fred Pruitt.

THE HOLY OF HOLIES

There is a blest pavilion,
A sacred inner court,
The place of God's own dwelling,
With all the world shut out.
Oh, holy resting place!
Oh, calm and pure retreat!
Where God unveils his face,
And life is only sweet.

Within this greater temple,
Built by the Son of God,
We've found a full salvation,
And entered thro' the blood.
Here on the mercy seat,
Beneath the cherubim,
We dwell in love complete,
And heaven's glory hymn.

—D. S. Warner.

Psalms 31:19

"Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!" What a wonderful thought, yea, a reality, that the Lord has so many good things laid in store for those who fear and trust in Him. "Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues." Verse 20. If

God be for us who can be against us when they shall say all manner of evil against us falsely, for His sake? Oh, to be concealed in that pavilion, hid where the wicked one toucheth us not! It is joy unspeakable and full of glory.

"O fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want [or good things] to them that fear him." Ps. 34:9. Pray that the fear of God will be in your home, in the activities of life, that you will be eligible to those good things the Lord has laid up for you. They are for this life and for all eternity. His goodness is so rich and great! It brought salvation to every child of God. Rom. 2:4.

Regardless how wicked this world seems to be, and the crimes of the darkest hue are in existence, tell the world of the grace of God to save, sanctify, heal, and keep with victory by His mighty power. "The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord." Psalms 33:5b.

Dear sinner friend and backslider, heed the call. God is pleading for you to come and partake of His goodness and mercy. You may have it if you will.

It behoves the people of God to contend for the Faith that was once delivered to the saints, keeping in mind the precepts of the Word, that the happenings of the things of the world will not nullify the spiritual man, that we may enter in the eternal bliss.

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." I Cor. 2:9.

Oh, when I remember His goodness to me I cannot refrain from praising Him.

—E. V. Phillips.

What Shall I Render?

What shall I render unto my Saviour
For all His mercies and love to me?
He is so gracious, so kind and precious;
What shall I render, my God to Thee?

What shall I render unto my Saviour?
Upon His name I will daily call;
Yes, I will serve Him, I will adore Him;
I will confess that He is my all.

What shall I render unto my Saviour?
I will pay my vows, I will trust His Word:
I will seek to please Him, I will not grieve Him.
This I will render unto my Lord.

What shall I render unto my Saviour?
To Him I'll give my body and soul,
Upon Mount Cal'ry with blood He bought me;
That I might gain the heavenly goal.

This shall I render to Jesus my King,
I'll walk beside Him the whole day through;
I'll take salvation, and praise His name;
This will I render, this will I do.

—U. Phillips.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-Page Holiness Monthly**

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, three months	\$.10
Single copy, one year	\$.35
Single copy, three years	\$1.00
Roll of 4 papers to one address, one year	\$1.00
Roll of 12 papers to one address, one yr.	\$3.00
Roll of 16 papers to one address, one yr.	\$4.00
Roll of 20 papers to one address, one yr.	\$5.00
Roll of 25 papers to one address, one yr.	\$6.00
Roll of 30 papers to one address, one yr.	\$7.00
Roll of 50 papers to one address, one yr.	\$10.00
Roll of 100 papers, one address, one yr.	\$20.00

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

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

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

The Faith Publishing House is incorporated under the laws of Oklahoma as a non-profit religious organization and is eligible to receive gifts which you can deduct from your income tax report.

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 713, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
Phone No. BUTler 2-1479

Editorials

A brother sent in some questions for us to answer and we believe it would please the Lord to use the Editorial space in answering these questions.

Question 1. Is the church of God a denomination and is its headquarters at Guthrie, Oklahoma? If Guthrie is not the headquarters, then where is the headquarters of the church?

Ans. The church of God is not a denomination, neither is its headquarters at Guthrie, Okla. To say that the church of God is a denomination would be Biblically wrong. In Matt. 16:18, we read the words of Jesus, "And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." "It" means just one, and the teaching is not in the plural number, therefore it would be Biblically wrong to call or refer to a denomination as the church. The church of God is a divinely built institution and not built or held together by man or any company of men. When the Bible speaks of the churches of God or the churches of Christ it has reference to the church of God in different cities or countries as a congregation of believers and Christ as head and all teaching the same truth, being organized together by the Lord himself. In Hebrews 8:2 it speaks of the Lord being the minister of the Sanctuary, (Metaphor of the church) and of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched and not man. This makes it plain that man has nothing to do with the organizing or building the true church of God.

The headquarters of the church of God is in heaven and consists of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. While the Faith and Victory paper is printed here at Guthrie and issued out to the saints in all quarters of the globe it is only a servant of the church and by the saints everywhere sending in their testimonies, their articles, campmeeting notices, meeting reports, obituaries, they are making it the church paper. It could by no means be called the headquarters of the church for all in the body or church of God have the same privilege as we in looking to the headquarters in heaven for messages or being led by the Spirit to function in their proper places in the body. The Lord places the members in His body, the church, as it pleases Him. Read I Cor. 12:18. Also Col. 1:24.

Question 2. How and when are the ministers of the church of God educated for the ministry and how and by whom are they ordained and from what source do they obtain their authority to preach?

Ans. The ministers of God are men who have received the baptism of the Spirit as promised in the Scriptures. Matt. 3:11; John 7:38, 39; and also Luke 24: 49, which was fulfilled as recorded in Acts 2:1-4. They are given power and education by the Lord himself. When the Spirit of Truth comes into their hearts He guides them into all truth. John 16:13. Read also John 14:25, 26. God ordains His ministers by giving them the gift of prophecy and when the

elders in the church recognize this gift they acknowledge it by the laying on of hands and asking God to bless their ministry. Acts 14:23. They obtain their authority to preach from God Himself. Rom. 10:15; Luke 10:1.

Question 3. How are the services conducted and is a program prepared beforehand to be used in any particular meeting?

Ans. In the true church of God there are no programs pre-arranged for the services, for the Lord Himself is given the preeminence in the meetings and uses the members of His body according to their several gifts. To have a pulpit committee to arrange the services in a meeting would be taking it out of the hands of God and thus hindering the Holy Spirit from operating freely in the services. We kneel in prayer, giving God all homage. Our singing is without the aid of musical instruments. (Col. 3:16; John 4:24.)

Question 4. I notice in reading some of your literature you refer to sects and sectism, etc. Please explain what you mean by these terms.

Ans. Webster's Dictionary terms a sect as, "One of the organized bodies of Christians: a denomination." The reason why the denominations are sects is because they do not contain all the truth and in this way become a cut-off part, humanly organized, therefore they cannot be the Divinely built church of God. If any one of these denominations would receive and practice all the truth their humanly organized substitute for the church would soon disappear and those that are truly saved would find themselves abiding only in Christ and would automatically become a member in the true church of God. Sects or denominations divide God's children and put them in pens where they are half starved and many of them die and have only a cold dead profession. Those denominations that are dead and cold become a gate-way to hell for poor deceived souls.

Question 5. Does the church of God believe and teach that no one can be saved outside of the church of God and that no one is saved while they are a member of a denomination?

Ans. No. We do not teach that no one can get saved who does not know of the church of God and that no one is saved while he is a member of a denomination. We do teach that a soul can get saved when he truly repents in the heart with godly sorrow and believes on the blood sacrifice as an atonement for his sins; whether he is at home, in the barn, or in the field or in a sect meeting. When a soul is really born again from above he is born into the church of God and should not join any sect or denomination but just abide in Christ and then have fellowship with all other of his children that are living free of every denomination. All saved souls would naturally flow together if free from all denominations which men have humanly organized and called churches. I Pet. 2:5, and Eph. 2:20-22. There is only one place in the Bible where we are told to join ourselves to anything. That is in Jer. 50:5. It reads thus: "They shall ask the way to Zion

[a metaphor for the church] with their faces thitherward, saying, COME, let us JOIN OURSELVES TO THE LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten."

Souls that are saved and find themselves in a sect or denomination should obey the voice of God and the holy Scriptures and "COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE." Read the last few verses of II Cor. the 6th chapter and also the 2nd and 4th verses of the 18th chapter of Rev.

For further information read the article in this paper entitled, "The Church of God; Divinely Built." Also we have a book entitled, "The New Testament Church and Its Symbols, Metaphors, and Analogies." It contains 159 pages and will be sent, postage paid, to any address in the U. S. for fifty cents or five books for \$2.00. These books are coveted and prized by many of the household of faith. Send and get a supply of these books to give to your Christian associates and others who need light and truth on the Scriptures and the one and only Divinely built church of God.

—::—

Called Out Body

The church of God, generally speaking is a universal, world-wide gathering, composed of every genuinely saved soul on earth who is living earnestly and feverently to all the light (knowledge) which Almighty God shines upon their Christian pathway as they progress in their Christian walk of life. The word "gathering" used above does not mean a physical gathering together of every saved soul, but a gathering out of and from the sinful life which had formerly had them in terrible bondage to Satan. Although those precious souls who were gathered out of that horrible pit, out of that awful entangling mirey clay, may not be gathered together in a physical sense as a body of people, still and yet each genuinely saved soul anywhere upon the earth belongs to God's church, by virtue of having been born into it, Psalms 87:5, by and through the glorious experience of partaking by faith, in the precious new SPIRITUAL birth.

In experiencing this new spiritual birth, accomplished through faith of the recipient in the precious shed blood of our blessed Lord Jesus Christ, the precious soul of that formerly sin ridden seeker is quickened from a spiritually dead state of sinfulness, into a glorious living soul, Eph. 2:1. It is born again, and made a new creature (creation) in Christ Jesus, born directly into the glorious church of God through their faith in the cleansing merits of the precious shed blood of Jesus Christ to blot out all of their sins which they have ever committed.

Sometimes through ignorance of how to seek and sometimes perhaps from being over zealous in desiring to do good things for God, the newly redeemed soul will join itself to a congregation of people, who are gathered together, supposedly to worship God, and if that precious saved soul does not find

the same blessed Spirit among those dear people which it received in the new spiritual birth for itself, that soul will begin to hunger and thirst after more of the same sweet Spirit which it possesses. As God leads and instructs that yielded heart, and perhaps leads others of the same Spirit to contact it, that precious soul will be gathered out of Babylon.

Then again, some precious redeemed souls from the very start of their born again experience are impressed of God to know that they are already His child and in His glorious church, through the experience of the new birth, and just calmly rest in God. They pray for His guidance to lead them where He would have them to worship, even though it may be over a period of many years' waiting. In either of these cases mentioned above, God will, if they keep humble and meek and hungering to find a people of a kindred Spirit, lead them to or in some manner help them to contact those of a kindred Spirit who can point them the way to become a part (or member) of His called out body of Christ. Thereby, that precious soul can become a part, and member of the body of Christ, which on earth is composed of every saved soul who hears and answers the call and is living to all the light (knowledge) which God has given to it, and which He has called out of Babylon and of sin and placed all together in the body of His dear Son. This body has many members and is in many places. Each member is to fulfil its individual duty in the body just as God has placed it.

We read that in the early morning time there was a church of God at Corinth composing the body of Christ. At Ephesus there was a church of God which also again comprised the body of Christ. At Antioch was another called out body of Christ, which was the church of God. Although all these places (and many others) were separated by many miles of earthly space, yet were they all one spiritual body in Christ, or the body of Christ on earth. "For we are members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones." Eph. 5:30. As the called out members of one part of the country or world, moved about and contacted members of this body in other places, they always found pure love and sweet fellowship in each contacted group. It was just like those sweet virtues they had felt in those among whom they were wont to worship.

This pure love and sweet fellowship is made possible by one thing only and that is because of the ruling and reigning in their individual hearts of the SAME glorious Spirit of Almighty God, which, when allowed to have its full free course in man's life brings each redeemed soul down to the same sweet, precious level (Isa. 40:4, 5), possessing that same sweet meek and lowly spirit of heart that caused our blessed Lord Jesus to be so adorable and strong.

There are many groups of peoples in different parts of the land who band together under the name "The Church of God," taking the name because they choose to do so. Yet they prove by their everyday lives, lived in worldliness, strife, plural marriage, envyings and pride, that they are not the true church

of God of the early morning time, and are not the called out body of Christ, with its sweet spirit of love and true Christian fellowship, into which church only the pure and meek and humble soul is called of God. In many instances when a soul is called, and led out of Babylon, it will be in need of much help from God after entering the called out body, but so long as that dear soul will keep lowly, meek, and humble, and easy to be entreated of God, it will grow and prosper in its new and God ordained home. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matt. 5:6.

God has always had a few souls on earth who were willing to be led by Him and love and serve Him, and He has whispered to mankind of His great love and mercy all down through the ages. Through His holy prophets He has taught man of His great and glorious and simple plan of redemption for mankind, and of how He would gather out all those who would love and serve Him in spirit and in truth through the great and merciful sacrifice of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, who, although completely sinless Himself had to shed His precious life's blood for the sins of all mankind, making the perfect sacrifice.

—Brother Trimble.

—::—

The Old and The New Covenants

Heb. 8:7, 8, "For if the first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah." We, the saints in light, are spiritual Israel. This new covenant is ours to enjoy today. Both covenants came from God: the old fulfilled its mission as a school master to lead us to Christ and his new covenant.

I. The Old Given: Exo. 19:16-19, "... there were thunders and lightnings, ... and the voice of a trumpet exceeding loud; ... And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in a fire: ... and the whole mount quaked greatly [an earthquake]. And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice." Exo. 34:28, "... And he [Moses] wrote upon the tables [of stone] the words of the covenant."

When Aaron and his sons were fully consecrated for the priests of office, "there came a fire out from before the Lord, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering," Lev. 9:24, and chapter 8. Those who offered strange fire were slain of the Lord, Lev. 10:1, 2. Many are offering strange fire today: death shall be their portion, physically and spiritually.

2. The New Covenant Given: The new is written in or upon our hearts, and put into our minds, Heb. 8:10, and not on stone like the old, praise God. When the old was given there was a literal demonstration of "thunders," "lightnings," "voice of the trumpet," "voice of God," and "God answered by a voice."

When the new was given there was a spiritual demonstration that brought the multitude together. "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them." Acts 2:3. We find that this spiritual demonstration that brought a great spiritual awakening is symbolized by the literal demonstration that was given when the Old Covenant came, Rev. 11:19. Notice the third series of sybolical events ends with the judgment scene in the 18th verse of this chapter, therefore the 19th verse begins a new series of events, that introduces the church, symbolized by a pure woman. But before we could have the New Testament Church the covenant had to be given, and we find its coming symbolized in the 19th verse, "And the temple of God was opened in heaven [the ecclesiastical heaven, the church]." The temple of God, is the church of God. When the church was opened, (we are the church, our bodies are His temple), John saw the open hearted people that compose the church, and beheld the laws of the New Covenant written in their hearts by the finger of God, praise His name, "The ark of his testament," his new testament covenant to us.

The old covenant was put into the ark, Exo. 25:16, "And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee." This verse, Rev. 11:19, reads, "And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament; and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail." Praise God, the coming of the New Testament is symbolized by the same things that happened literally when the old was given. No better symbols could be found. How clear! The old sacrifice was consumed by fire from before God, Lev. 9:24. Fire also comes from before God to consume the dross when we present our sacrifice on the altar under the new covenant. Our sacrifice is our bodies, Rom. 12:1. Rev. 8:5, "And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake."

This fire that the angel cast into [or upon, marginal reading] the earth, came "of the altar," "the golden altar which was before the throne," verse 3. And the throne was the throne of God. This fire symbolizes the fire that consumes the dross when our bodies are presented upon the altar of sacrifice. This fire and its burning power was set forth by the "cloven tongues like as of fire" that "sat upon each of them."

Dear ones, have you had the burning fire from heaven applied to your souls, burning out all that is unlike God? If not, I implore you to yield all your will unto His will, make a complete sacrifice, and be wholly sanctified, body, soul and spirit, I Thess. 5:23.

Yours in Him, —H. P. Huskey.

—————:—————

Morality Will Not Count

Since the fall of Adam, sin began to rage over God's creation, and we were all made sinners. We

see by one man's sin, death had passed upon all men, thereby we would be eternally lost. God saw the awful wickedness of man and knew something would have to be done. He made a new plan that would redeem man back to life and give him everlasting freedom. God gave His only begotten Son, who died for the sins of the world, that man could live free from all sin again. Man must see his lost condition before God and come with godly sorrow repenting of his sins, believing on His name, so that he may enjoy the newness of life.

My heart is especially burdened for what we might call a good moral person. Sometimes we are made to believe a good moral person does not see his lost condition, therefore does not see his need of repentance. We read in Rom. 3:23 "For ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Here it says, "All have sinned." Now maybe you say, "Well, I do not go to shows or dances and I do not smoke, drink, or steal. I do not use bad words or use God's name in vain." You may think you are all right, and say, "I do not do anything bad." Dear reader, you may not see your need of repentance. You must see your lost condition before God and repent of your sins. ALL have sinned. He says in John 3:7 "Ye must be born again." We are not born again of flesh but born again of God.

Then again you may go to church and have your name on a church roll. Maybe you have been a Sunday school teacher for many years. Yes, you may say, "I pay my tithes every Sunday." Perhaps you do not even go to church and think you are just as good as some church member. Yes, that can easily be true. There are many who have joined up with a sect church that are not born again.

We also read in Eccl. 7:20 "For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not." Here I believe he is speaking about a moral person that does good, but yet not without sin. He has not been born again. You may be a good moral person; you may be kind and helpful to your neighbor; you may be thoughtful of others; and you may divide with the poor and needy. We also read in I Cor. 13:2, 3 "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." Here we find we must have the love of God in our hearts or our labors will be in vain. We can have this love by being born again.

We may see many people today that are going after their own pernicious ways and thoughts, therefore we have much confusion in the world. They are going after their own unrighteous ways. In Isaiah they are spoken of as filthy rags. The Lord said, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God,

for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." Isa. 55:7, 8. Here the Lord is wanting you to forsake all ways and thoughts that are not pleasing to Him. Come unto Him, He will have mercy, for He says, "And him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37.

Dear reader, if you are a good moral person, if you are honest in everything you do or say, if you say, "I am not a bad person," and do not see your lost condition, remember He said, "ALL have sinned." You may know Scripture and may be able to quote them by memory, but, remember, "Ye must be born again," or you can not enter into the kingdom of heaven. We are interested in your soul and want you to see yourself as God sees you.

—Malinda Penner.

Obituaries

Beulah Wallace Miller was born October 22, 1892, and passed to her reward February 16, 1958 at the age of 65 years, 3 months and 24 days. She was married to Wayne S. Miller December 17, 1907. To this union 12 children were born. One passed away in infancy.

Sister Miller lived a consistent saintly life so far as we know since she (along with her husband) got saved several years ago during one of the campmeetings at Hammond, La. Both she and Bro. Miller accepted the full truth of this "Evening Light." They were forever spoiled for sectism because the Lord had revealed to them the one body of Christ, or Church of the living God. She seemed to enjoy trusting the Lord for the healing of her body. She had many and bad afflictions but the Lord seemed to lengthen the brittle thread of life for some while. Her life was an encouragement to those who visited her in their home. Many times while sitting in her wheel chair she would burst forth in song. So we say, rest on, sister. We will all have a new body when the final resurrection comes. Praise His dear name!

Funeral services conducted by Bro. Max. Williamson, assisted by Bro. Ray and Sis. Katherine Key. Text: John 5:24-29.

Annie Williams, daughter of Steve and Annie Conner, was born in March, 1888, and departed this life February 26, 1958 at the age of 69 years, and 11 months. She was united in marriage to William Miller. To this union seven children were born. Her father, mother, former husband preceded her in death.

She became a Christian at an early age. In 1918 she heard the Word of God taught in its fulness, and accepted the truth. She endeavored to live a consistent Christian life. She was always ready to offer help or a word of encouragement. When she was in trouble or a disappointment, she would say, "The Lord will make a way." She was married to Charlie Williams.

She leaves to mourn their loss: her husband; four daughters: Mrs. T. R. Summers, Mrs. Wilbur Anderson, Mrs. Curle Grant all of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mrs. Spencer Williams of San Bernardino, Calif.; two grandsons and one granddaughter and other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services conducted by Sis. Nellie Poulos and Bro. I. C. Chandler. Texts: Amos 4:12; Hebrews 9:27, and others. Burial in Pioneer Cemetery in San Bernardino, California.

NOTICE OF APPRECIATION AND THANKS

We wish to thank all the saints and friends for all their expression of love and sympathy in our bereavement. —Sisters Gladys Williams, Juanita Johnson, and Irene Andrews.

NOTICE

Bro. and Sis. Lloyd Dollins of La Monte, Missouri need our prayers and help. On returning home, they found their home burned to the ground. Everything was burned up with it.

They have six children, five boys and one girl with ages from two to fifteen years old. The girl is the youngest.

These are true saints of God and worthy of our help in this time of great loss. Let us ask ourselves the question, Lord what would you have me to do? 1 John 3:17.

Bro. and Sis. Darius Gibson.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Meeting Notices

Sapulpa Road Meeting Notice March 30

There will be all-day meeting (the Lord willing) at the Sapulpa Road Church of God Chapel on the fifth Sunday, March 30, 1958. You are welcome.

—Richard Madden (Pastor)

FAIRVIEW, OKLA. REVIVAL

The Lord willing, there will be a revival meeting at Fairview, Oklahoma from April 25 to May 8, or as long as the Lord leads. Bro. Charles Smith and Bro. David Madden are expected. We also are looking to the Lord to send other Holy Ghost filled workers and ministers, and extend a cordial welcome to all. All-day meetings are to be held on the two Sundays.

For further details write Bro. Alfred Classen, Fairview, Oklahoma. The meeting place is in the west part of Fairview. Turn off Main St. between the two banks and go west to 7th Street. —Mrs. Eva Penner.

BOLEY, OKLA. SPRING MEETING

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

All day Easter services, with Ordinance service in the afternoon, Guthrie, Okla., Easter Sunday, April 6.

FORSYTH, ILLINOIS ALL-DAY MEETING

We have changed our all-day meeting date to the third Sunday of each month. At present it is at Forsyth, Ill. Come to our house at Rosamond, Ill. We would be glad for any minister in full fellowship with the saints to come, and welcome anyone to come worship with us.

Pray for us. —Arthur and Vivian McClain

o—o—o—o—o—o

CAMPMEETING DATES

BRIEF PARTICULARS LATER

Hennessey, Okla.,	—May 30 — June 8
Jefferson, Oregon	—June 20 — June 29
Hammond, La.,	—June 27 — July 6
Kalamazoo, Mich.,	—July 11 — July 20
National Cpmtg. (Monark Springs),	—July 18 — July 27
Guthrie, Okla.,	—Aug. 1 — Aug. 10
Myrtle, Missouri,	—Aug. 15 — Aug. 24

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.

o—o—o—o—o—o

PRAYER REQUESTS

Wallace Sipe requests prayer for the healing of his body. His mother, Anna Mae Sipe also desires the saints' prayers.

—::—

Testimonies

A Remarkable Testimony

Dear Christian Workers,—I received several of your tracts. In looking over your list, I see you have the tract called "An Angel Visit." It may be of interest to you to know that I am one of these children: Henry, Lizzie, Ida, Nettie, and Pearl Hittle. I am Ida. It occurred in February, 1886. The first copy of the account was an error of 1887 and has been continued. I was born February 9, 1880. This marvelous visit was stamped on my mind. I shall never forget it. I was sitting on the Angel's right knee and his hands were on my head. There was a blessing that thrilled my entire little body, etc. He picked Pearl up in his hands, kissed her so kindly, etc. Then he departed taking the shepherd's crook from the corner of the room in his hand horizontally and passed through the locked door, leaving no mark on the frame or glass. The beauty of his ascension to heaven enraptures me each time I recall it.

Yesterday I had a hemorrhage in my left eye. This is the second time. It is impairing my eye sight. I am trusting Jesus, my all and in all.

Yours for His glory, Mrs. Emerson Smith

o—o—o—o—o—o

Illinois—Dear Saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper—Greetings of Christian love to all. My heart is very burdened for lost souls and there are so many wonderful promises in the blessed Word of God that He has given to His children. Let all of us everywhere agree in prayer each day that the Lord will convict and save lost souls and that He will send many more laborers out into the field. There needs to be more laborers out in the field than there are now. We cannot all go, but we can stay on our knees and hold on in faith asking God to bless the labor of the ones that can go. Many souls will get saved. God's Word gives us many promises and His Word is true. These promises are ours. Here are a few of them: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7. "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 18:19. "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask,

we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." 1st John 5:14, 15.

There are many more wonderful promises in the Word of God: "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16.

In another place in the Word of God it says for us to ask largely. The Word also tells us that He is able to do over and above what we can ask or think. Dear saints, we can come boldly to the throne of grace. God will hear us and answer our prayers. When the evangelist and gospel workers go out and our prayers go with them, it will add power to their work and their messages will go straight to hearts.

In our united prayers we should also pray for the saved ones in sectism that they will see the oneness of God's people and come out of division. Pray for the ones that have compromised and the ones that are deceived under this compromise, that the Lord will open their understanding and set them free until we are all one in Christ.

The Lord has laid this on my heart. Pray that I ever keep at the feet of Jesus. Praise God! I love the Lord. I want to do all I can to get lost souls saved. Your sister in Christ.

—Mrs. Lettie West

o—o—o—o—o—o

Kans.—Dear Saints, Greetings in Jesus' name.—I am encouraged this morning to go on for the Lord. I was sick a few months ago with gallstones for a week, but the Lord healed me. Before my healing I went through a real dark trial. The Lord came to my rescue and helped me on a Sunday night. Early Monday morning I started suffering. By 5:30 or 6:00 o'clock the Lord delivered that gallstone. I vomited it up. I never heard of any one vomiting up a gallstone. It was my desire, and the Lord gave me my desire. I thank Him for it. I am giving God all the praise.

This is not the first time that God has come to my rescue and healed me. Several years back when my oldest girl had tonsillitis and both boys were very sick the Lord healed them. He has also blessed my baby girl so she can drink whole milk. She had a skin disease and whole milk would break her out, but it does not now. Pray for me.

Your sister in Christ,

Pauline Nichols.

o—o—o—o—o—o

S. C.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, Greetings in Jesus' name. I am writing to tell you how much I enjoyed reading your book, "The New Testament Church and Its Symbols." It is one of the best I ever read on the subject. I wish that every home in the world had one of these books. They are worth more than the small price you charge for them. I can praise God today for the way it has helped me. I am still standing on the promises of God. I know He will not let us down if we trust in Him, and live a clean holy life right here in this world. Praise His name! Please pray much for me.

Your saved brother in Christ,

Eddie Driggers

o—o—o—o—o—o

Ky.—Dear Sister Marie,—This morning I can say that I am healed of bloating stomach, abodmen, costiveness, and ulcerated condition. Praise God, I am healed! What a mighty God we serve! I told you in a letter a few days ago that I have had pleurisy-pneumonia. You all must have prayed for me. This morning finds me well of that, too. My lungs, side, and laryngitis are all healed this morning. This morning March 15, 1958, thank God, I feel like getting out of bed. I noted the raw rasping in my chest is gone. I do not have any more pain in

my head; no pain anywhere in my body, and no swelling. I am healed every whit. Praise God forever!

I thank the Lord first of all for His mercy in healing me. I thank all the dear saints at Guthrie, and everywhere who took my case to the throne of grace on the wings of prayer mingled with faith. For our God whom we love and serve has heard at a time appointed in His own good pleasure, and has sent His healing virtue permeating my physical body, and has eradicated every ache, every pain, every bit of swelling in my body. Glory! hallelujah! I am glad I can write my testimony with victory! Pray for me.

Yours in Christ,

Sis. Bolvia Montress

—:::—

Ohio—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—It is with a heart of praise and thanksgiving to our God that I write this letter. Truly He is all in this world we need and our victory over death, praise His dear name!

We so often speak of the miracles Jesus did as He walked the shores of Galilee, but I'm so glad to know His miracles didn't stop there. The Bible says, "Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, and today, and for ever," and how sweet it is when he performs one of his miracles for us.

The Bible says when one member suffers they all suffer and when one rejoices all rejoice, so I want you all to rejoice with me. About six weeks ago our car went bad on us and we couldn't shift to reverse to get it out of our garage. My sister and brother-in-law had tried several times but were unable to get it out. People were telling us how expensive it might be to get it fixed, so we had just let it set until we were more able and could find a good honest person to do the work. I had been praying about it. My sister was off work sick and the Lord knew we couldn't afford to pay a lot of money to fix it, yet we needed the car.

Sunday night the Lord gave me a dream of trying to start the car and then praying and it started. I was in the drive leaping and praising God. So Monday when I came from work I went out and tried it. The Lord let it start (after prayer) just like my dream. But I still couldn't shift to reverse. I was so cold and the snow was so deep I couldn't open the doors and so I thought I would wait until today and believed if I could dig out the snow, by faith, the Lord would let that car go in reverse. The devil was busy telling me how impossible it was, but God kept giving me Scriptures, "I am the God of all flesh, is there anything too hard for me?" "If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will." "According to your faith so be it unto you" and many others. Today my sister Annie and my nephew brought me from work. I was telling of my dream and they agreed to help me.

My one sister (not saved) thought it silly to try, for it wouldn't start. But we went anyway. While they shoveled snow and worked to get the doors open, I prayed and asked God if it was for his glory, would he let it work? They finally got the doors open. I couldn't get it started, so my nephew told me to move over. My sister and I stood praying. About that time the car started out. How we did leap and praise God. I drove to the home of one of the saints and we praised God together. I've been to the store and it works just fine. Oh, praise the dear Lord!

My sister says while she was digging the snow the devil tried to discourage her, but the Lord reminded her of the time Elijah was told to dig the trenches and he wouldn't see any rain but the ditches would be filled with

water. So she kept on shoveling with that encouraging thought.

Oh, I shall never cease to praise Him for all he is to me. In so many ways the Lord has helped me. I do thank the Lord for all his dear saints and their many prayers that have gone up for us and our home since Papa's death. I just want you to know God has been answering your prayers. As my father often said, "I just want to be a clean vessel hanging on the wall ready for the service of my Lord at all times," for truly I've enlisted in his service 'till I die.

I want your prayers that I may be true and faithful and live so when I kneel in prayer the Lord will meet me there. You pray for me and for my lost loved ones that God will save them before it is too late.

—Dorothy Jackson

o—o—o—o—o

Dear Sister Miles: Greetings in Jesus' name. I read your interesting article concerning the marrying of a companion. I am one who made the mistake of marrying out of the Lord—much to my sorrow. I would not do it again for anything. He was a church member, but knew nothing about holiness. At the time I wasn't where I should have been in the Lord, therefore, I got into it.

I say unto young and old, "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." II Cor. 6:14.

There were so many heartaches and hindrances; one pulling one way and one the other. When I would want to go to meeting perhaps I would have to stay at home. Then, too, there was also the problem of where the children should go or shouldn't go. At times there was the disagreement on my manner of dress or the length. Then there was the worldly pleasures that I couldn't and didn't want to attend. It was like being alone at times. We couldn't share the blessings of the Lord together or pray together.

As we, dear saints, pray for the healing of our bodies and other needs, we should also pray that the Lord will save companions for those that are saved and seeking a husband or a wife.

o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear saints, I wrote some time ago requesting prayer for a neuritis condition. Through answer to prayer, I was healed. I do thank you for prayer. The "Faith and Victory" paper means so much to me. I thank the Lord for healing me. The left side of my face bothered me terribly. I just can not thank the Lord enough and you for your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

—Rozella McClendon

o—o—o—o—o

Texas—Dear Saints of God, Greetings in Jesus' name.—I have my mind set to live for God. The Lord has done great things for me. He heals my body when I am sick. He makes ways where there seems no way. For two months I have enjoyed the little "Faith and Victory" paper. It has been a blessing to me. I would like for you to renew the paper. "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord." Ps. 121:1-2a.

Yours for Christ's sake,

—I. T. Smith

o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Saints everywhere,—Our heavenly Father has been so good to us. We had the flu. Our daughter had it so badly she was down about a month. She did not seem to get better but rather she got worse. She was so weak she could hardly walk across the floor. She had a high fever, and would not speak unless she had to. Most of the time she would get up and

sit in the rocker. A few times she came to the kitchen, but she never ate at the table. She would eat a little ice cream or bananas some days. She would cough very hard. We had prayer meeting here and prayed the prayer of faith and God healed her. She ate at the table the next day. Praise God! God also healed Floyd of a very bad nose bleed when he had the flu. We can not ever pay our debt to God. We love to serve him.

We are so glad for you workers there at the print shop. It is hard to wait for the "Faith and Victory" paper to come to us. Pray for us that we live to please our Maker.

—Bro. and Sister Floyd Knapp.

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

Okla.—Dear Sis. Miles, Greetings in Jesus' dear name,—This morning finds me still saved with a deeper determination to serve our Lord than ever before. As we look around us on every side and see so much wickedness, I am made to rejoice that I learned to love our Saviour.

We surely did miss seeing you dear saints this month, but we had a good day in the Lord in spite of the bad weather. We surely do want to thank the dear saints everywhere for the way they helped us out while Bro. Abbott was out of work. The saints are so precious to us. Bro. Abbott is working now, thank the Lord.

My dear mother passed away the 13th of January. We surely do miss her but our dear Lord knows best and does all things well. It only makes heaven seem nearer now since Mother is there.

I do thank the Lord for healing my body. I have had a cough about all my life. About two weeks ago I was anointed and prayed for and the Lord instantly healed me. Praise his dear name! We ask an interest in your prayers that we will walk before our Lord in a way that will glorify Him and be a living example before the world.

May the Lord bless you dear workers there in the print shop and continue to pour His rich graces on each and every one is our prayer.

In Christian love,

Sis. George Abbott.

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

Okla.—Greetings to the Saints everywhere,—This evening I can truthfully say that I am still saved and trusting in the dear Lord and pressing my way on to glory. Bless His holy name!

It has been some time since I sent in my testimony. The Lord is leading me to send it because I do not get to attend the meeting very much. It is my desire to be with the saints in the meetings but I am handicapped. I do try to lift the Lord up in this place by living to all I know and understand, telling the people how a Christian should live. It is my desire to live for the Lord, and do all I can to win souls for Him.

I can not thank and praise the dear Lord enough for what he is to me. He has brought me through many trials and tests for which I give him all the praise. God also did lighten my burdens. In 1957 I was so burdened until I could not sleep well at night. I would get up and walk the floor and pray. I saw that I could not go on like that. I told the Lord that he was a burden-bearer. I laid all of my burdens down at his feet and left them there. Then I would sleep all through the night. Bless His sweet name. I would like to live where I could go to church services regularly. Pray that the Lord's will be done in this matter.

I do mean to make heaven my home. Pray that I will do what the Lord would have me to do. Please pray for my unsaved family.

—Carrie Murdock

La.—Dear Saints everywhere, Greetings of love!—For some time now I have felt that I should send in my testimony of thankfulness to God for His precious love and mercy to me. This finds me encouraged and so thankful that I know the truth. The Lord has surely blessed and supplied my every need.

Recently, my little girl was sick and I was quite troubled. In praying often, I promised God that I would surely give Him the praise for the things He does for us, I do not want to fail to keep my promise. God healed her and she is well now. I am so grateful He hears our cries and never fails to come to our rescue. We can never thank Him enough nor ever tell the wonderful way He cares.

I had a severe headache all night and until noon the following day. Co-workers where I worked offered me different remedies—all I refused. At noon I was so sick with it I did not think I could go back to work. I almost had a chill from it hurting so long and so badly. Kneeling, I cried to God to please help me. Oh, how it encourages me when God reaches and helps me. I went back to work and was able to work all afternoon with much relief. The headache soon completely left me.

Before closing I want to thank each precious saint for their prayers and love for me especially since the passing of my husband almost two years ago. I have not forgotten the kindness of any. Pray that I will always stay close to God.

Christian love,

Betty Short

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

Mo.—Dear Saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper.—It surely is a privilege to send a word of testimony for our Lord through this little paper. My heart is always encouraged and my spirit renewed as I read each article and testimony from time to time. May the Lord bless each one as you send them out; for you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. Time is short and Jesus is coming soon; let us not fail Him, come what may.

He is so real to me, especially this past year when losses, sorrow, and illness have stricken our home. We felt God's divine touch and intervention in each case. Our heart can truly say, "Whom having not seen yet we love. Our eyes are ever upon Him, the author and finisher of our faith. Please remember us in prayer.

Your sister in the Lord,

Hazel Rich

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

Kans.—Dear Saints, Greetings in Jesus' precious name.—I feel like it would be pleasing to the Lord to write my testimony of His great love and mercy to me. I feel so little and so unworthy because I have done so little for the Lord. First, I want to thank God for saving and sanctifying me, and for His keeping power. He has made it possible for me to work in his service in caring for Sis. Bond. I surely do love the Lord. I have been learning precious lessons. Surely this is a pressing way. I want to stay low down and humble that God can use me. I thank God for the household of faith. Please pray for me that I will always stay true.

Your sister in Christ,

Irene Grover

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

Va.—Dear Christian friends,—Just a few lines to let you all hear from me. I am feeling fine. I promised the Lord that I would send in my testimony about the Asian flu that I had before Christmas. I had a sister to phone you for prayer, and the saints here in Richmond prayed. When you got in earnest prayer for me I began to get better. We know when all the saints get together in

prayer there is power. It is just like the time when the church was praying for Peter in prison. We know about the story. I know I began to get better after the church prayed. Then some of Job's comforters came to me in spirit, trying to discourage me much. I rebuked the spirit and it fled from me. My mother saw the change that took place after prayer was offered for me. She saw my face light up just like heaven opening up. She knew something had taken place. I can truthfully say that I had a vision of the Master standing behind me, looking straight through the back of my head and body. No human eye can see this unless they have been born again. When I was sick I began to search my heart. I asked the Master to show me if anything was not right in my life because I did not think that I was going to get well.

With lots of love, your Christian friend, Henry S. Carr

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear Saints, Greetings in Jesus' name.—I am still saved, and want to praise the Lord for all of His goodness. He has healed me many times. Praise his name! I find it a joy to serve the Lord, and to meet once a month with the saints at Myrtle. I received much good spiritual food. We live 150 miles from Myrtle.

Some of the saints here meet on Wednesday nights at Bro. Kenny's home for prayer meetings. He also has Sunday worship there also. Bro. Kenney lives three miles southwest of Rolla on Hartsville Road. If any of the saints come this way, we would like to have them stop with us. We have no plans to surrender the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the false doctrines of the world. There are so many. I found the truth on the church two years ago. Praise the Lord! What a blessing to my soul! My prayers are that more will receive the light.

Praise God for a good paper like the "Faith and Victory." It has such good testimonies and reading in it, too. May the Lord bless his laborers and workers in this work. I desire the prayers of the saints that I may stay where the Lord wants me. —Ivan Christiansen

o-o-o-o-o

Miss.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name to Sister Miles and others at the Print Shop,—I met Bro. Pruitt at Hammond, La. He seemed like a real fatherly friend or brother to me.

The Lord has healed me many times in answer to your prayers. I wrote to you a few day ago and told you of my lung ailment. Praise God, I am much better. I awoke this morning at 2 o'clock and lay there inhaling deep breaths instead of coughing.

I wrote you awhile back about our little granddaughters having bad asthmatic colds. Our daughter told me yesterday they have not had it any more. Praise God for that. A year or more ago, I had that awful affliction on my face. I called you folks over the phone for prayer and Sis. Miles said they would kneel right down there and pray for me. The fever went out of my cheek right then. I knew I was healed. For several weeks I had no feeling in that cheek or ear. I knew it would get well and it did. My cheek got as white as ever again. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! Praise the Lord! I know he will heal me of this trouble too, if I just hold on. I know I have not been as faithful to my post of duty as I should have been. Ever since the wreck we had our hands full. But the Lord stood by us in it all.

I can talk, teach and pray much easier than I can write. I pray the prayer of faith for lots of sick folks,

and God undertakes for them. I love to visit sick people and talk about the Lord to them. I love to hear how the Lord blesses them. Praise God for his goodness and tender mercies to the children of men. Pray for me that I will be faithful to my calling and exercise the gift entrusted to me to the glory of God.

Yours in Him,

Sis. J. Strickler

o-o-o-o-o

Ind.—Dear Saints,—I send you, one and all greetings in Jesus' holy name. I hope and pray you all are well in body and soul. I wish I could say that, but I am feeling very poorly in body this morning; so weak and nervous. I have had three unbroken years of pain and depression. Pray for me.

I want to have a meeting here and get the truth to the people. There are some bright looking prospects here. If some spirit-filled minister would come and stay a while and labor among us; if God has a consecrated minister somewhere that is willing to suffer and labour for lost souls, I believe he could do a great work. Some of the sect holiness people are spiritually dead, and some of them are leaning toward the truth lately. Dear ones, I want you to take this to heart and to God in earnest prayer. Plead with God to undertake at once in a mighty way for the sake of his precious cause and for lost souls.

May God richly bless every one is my prayer. Pray much for my healing. I would be glad to hear from someone if you feel led to write to me. I am very lonely and full of pain and have no one to go to or to talk with. I hardly ever see any of the saints.

Your brother in Him, J. B. Trinkle, Hardinsburg, Ind.

o-o-o-o-o

The Corrupt Tree

In Gal. 5:19-21, where we find the "works of the flesh" listed, the twelfth and thirteenth are seditions and heresies. These are to be written on the limbs of the corrupt tree, which will be hewn down and cast into hell fire. (Matt. 7:18-20)

The dictionary says that sedition means excitement of discontent against the government or lawful authority. The Lord wants us to be law abiding citizens as long as we are not required to do anything contrary to the law of God. We are not to be a part of any insurrection or contention against our government. We thank God for the United States government which allows us to worship God according to the dictates of our consciences.

Heresy is religious opinion held in opposition to the commonly received doctrine of any authorized doctrinal standards of any particular church, and tending to promote schism or division. (Web. Dic.)

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that brought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction." (II Pet. 1:21; 2:1)

The church of God has for its creed the doctrines that were taught by the apostles and prophets of old. We are standing upon the precious Bible. We believe it means what it says. To become a member of the

body of Christ we must be born into the kingdom of God or church of God by a spiritual birth. (John 3:3-7) The Holy Spirit is the dictator, guide, and director of God's people. God, through the Holy Spirit, draws us to Himself. (John 6:44) Sinner's hearts are broken up when they see the love of God in sending His Son to die on the cross for their sins. They repent with godly sorrow for the sins that they have committed. God, for Christ's sake, forgives them. He writes their names upon the book of life and it is there as long as they do not sin. If a person sins, after being forgiven, his name is blotted off the book of life. (Exo. 32:32, 33; Phil. 4:3; Rev. 20:11-15) Sin is a wilful transgression of God's law. (James 4:17) Mistakes are not sin even though they must be corrected and cleared before God.

When a person has been forgiven of his sins and has opened his heart to Jesus, there is still a work that needs to be done. "This is the will of God, even your sanctification." (I Thess. 4:3) The soul of man cannot be completely possessed because of that sin principle, which man is not responsible for, in their nature. (Psa. 51:5; Rom. 5:12) They cannot repent of it but it needs to be cleansed by the fire of the Holy Spirit. (Matt. 3:11) After a person has repented of his volitional deeds, which is sin, he is then in a condition to present himself to be sanctified wholly and to be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord, as long as he keeps yielded to the Lord. (I Thess. 5:23; Rom. 12:1) We are sanctified by the Holy Ghost, (Rom. 15:16) through the blood of Christ. (Heb. 13:12) The dictionary says sanctification means to set apart to a sacred use or to make free from sin; to purify. We have a part in setting ourselves apart and God has a part in thoroughly cleansing our natures and filling us with the Holy Spirit to make us able to please Him and obey His Word. Praise the Lord. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is the second definite work of God in our soul.

We believe the Bible teaches justification, sanctification, baptism (by immersion, Matt. 3:16; Acts 8:38; I Pet. 3:21; Col. 2:12), holy living (without holiness no man shall see the Lord, Heb. 12:14), separation from worldliness (I John 2:15, 16; John 17:14-17), plain dressing (I Pet. 3:1-5; I Tim. 2:9; I Cor. 11:15), Holy Spirit rule (I Cor. 12; Eph. 5:18-20), divine healing (James 5:14-15), feet washing (John 13:4-17), Lord's supper (Luke 22:15-20), unity of God's people (John 17:20-23), and many other precious truths which we will not take space to write.

False teachings that are opposed to these or other precious teachings of the Bible are heresies. Heresies are works of the flesh and those who bring them in and cause division will be cut down as the corrupt tree, and be cast into hell fire. Division is a sin. "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." (Rom 16:17) We are to obey the Word of God and not false teachers. The Apostle Paul said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." (I Cor. 11:1) Only as ministers follow Christ are we to follow them.

The Apostolic church fully recognized the personal presence and authority of the Holy Spirit. Peter told Ananias that he had lied to the Holy Ghost. (Acts 5:3) In Acts 13:2 we read where the Holy Ghost said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." God wants the Holy Spirit to be the leader today and we can feel and see it being manifested among God's true children.

Let us watch and pray that we read the Word of God for ourselves and seek God to reveal it to us through His Spirit and then we will not be led astray. In the Apostolic church men rose up among them and led off others and it is still going on today. (Gal. 2:4, 5) We want to stay with the Bible. May the Lord bless each one as we are living in perilous times. Many are saying, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? We hear what Jesus said, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:21-23)

—Sister Marie Miles.

—————:—————

NEW BOOK JUST OFF THE PRESS

"Songs and Poems" is the title of a new book just off the press, published by Bro. Ulysses Phillips, containing the songs written by Bro. and Sister Phillips, 18 of which appear with music in shaped notes, and two with music written by Bro. George McMillan, entitled, "Profit and Loss" and "Take Up Your Bed and Walk." In addition there are about 40 poems written by Bro. Phillips never before published in book form.

Heavy paper bound volume of 93 pages. Price, 60¢ postpaid. Order your copy now direct from Bro. Ulysses Phillips, Dover, Okla.

TENT EVANGELISTIC WORK REVIEW

The last evangelistic tent meeting was held at Neosho, Mo., in September, 1957, after which the equipment was parked for the winter on the National Campground near there. This tent work was and is still handicapped because of the unfilled need of a large truck to haul the equipment and pull the house trailer. The 1937 Chevrolet school bus, which has been used to haul the tent equipment, is neither suitable nor sufficient to pull the house trailer in addition to its usual load. The average car will not stand up to the stress and strain of pulling this 24-foot house trailer—hence, the need of a large truck which could haul and pull the whole affair, and then the present 20-year-old school bus would not be needed.

With the arrival of spring, it is time to make some definite preparations in regard to the equipment, so that the evangelistic company can start out in May with the present obstacle removed. The missionary funds here at the office are far from sufficient to make the necessary purchase, so this means an urgent call to prayer and faith for this need to be supplied. It is God's will that the gospel be preached to every creature. The task has been left to the church, and what will our answer be if we fail or neglect the obligation?

Recent word from Bro. Charles Smith of Tulsa, Okla., is that his burden for the tent work is still as great as ever, and he is ready and willing to labor if the way is made possible. We trust that other qualified ministers and gospel workers will be burdened to assist in this evangelistic effort, willing to "endure hardness as good

soldiers;" but "he that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap."

—L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Wash., Guthrie, Okla.

o—o—o—o—o

Have Miracles Ceased?

An answer to a tract "Miracles Have Ceased,
Also Healing."

Jesus' last commission:

Mark 16: 15-19, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." This was spoken to the eleven disciples. They did not go into all the world, but those that came after them did go, so He spoke to them as well as the eleven. Verse 16, "He that believeth," verse 18, "they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover"—they that believe, both during that time and those that afterward believed. This commission given to the apostles was far more reaching than the length of the apostles' lives, for he said go to all the world. Their short span of life would not permit this. Verse 17, "These signs shall follow them that believe"—then and now, 1958. There is nothing here about miracles ending.

James' instructions to believers:

James 5:13, 14, and 15. Verses 14 and 15, "Is any sick among you [believers]? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; And the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up."

Now if there had been a time limit to the doctrine of healing James surely would have told us about it. In verse 14 he spoke of the elders of the church, and he spoke to the sick in the church. Has the church ceased? We all say no. In Matt. 16:18 it is written that the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it [the church]. The ones James spoke to were in the church. The church still exists, so do believers, which includes the sick among them.

There were doctors in old time, but God said, "I am the Lord that healeth thee [His people]." Notice Exo. 15:26, "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee." If he was the healer of his people in that time, then would it sensibly be any less important for him to be the healer of his people now? For then would we have to attach the greater importance to the church in the wilderness, which was only a shadow or a type of the true church or tabernacle, which the Lord pitched and not man. Then would we be going backward to the weak and beggarly elements of the Law and works instead of looking for the Sun of Righteousness to rise with healing in his wings, (Mal. 4:2). Notice Psalms 103:3, "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." These were miracles under the old law in the church in the wilderness, but now the church is under the

dispensation of grace. Would there not more likely be healing in the land of promise which has come to pass, than the desert?

Luke 5:17, "And the power of the Lord was present to heal them." We know it takes the power of the Lord to heal. If there is no power to heal now, there is no power of the Lord present: then how much better off are we than sinners?

James 5:16, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." If the miracle of healing ceased with the apostles, why did he say to pray for it?

Rom. 1:16, "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 to the Greek." This says, "every one that believeth." Was this power limited to Paul's time? No, for he mentioned Greeks and all others that believeth.

John 17:20, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word." This shows a continuation of the things which Jesus taught on down to those that were to come after, not ending there. To believe in Christ properly is to believe in the commission, and the commission plainly states those signs that would follow.

The tract mentioned at the start from one of the prominent denominations denies healing because it denies Holy Ghost baptism. Jesus taught that this is the Holy Ghost dispensation. (John 14:16, 17; 15:26; 16:7, 13; Rom. 15:16.) The last says, "that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost." There is no sign here of the Holy Ghost ceasing to fall upon believers; and if not, there is no sign of ceasing of divine healing in the New Testament.

John 14:17, "The Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Now if they knew him and we do not; according to the text, we are of the world. The tract says, only two examples of the Holy Ghost is mentioned. I read three (there are more): Acts 2:3, 4; 10:44; 19:6. The last shows that Paul required them to receive the Holy Ghost; the first shows Jesus promised them Him; the second shows it was a privilege. The Bible does not say that miracles have ceased or would cease. If I believed like the people mentioned teach, I would stop claiming anything from the Bible, for the teaching denies the Holy Ghost working power. If they received power from the Holy Ghost to spread the Gospel—and they did—then we must have it now for the same purpose. Gal. 3:3, "Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?" 5:12, walk in the Spirit; 5:22, fruit of the Spirit; Eph. 2:18, access by one Spirit; 1:13, Holy Spirit seals; 5:18, filled with Spirit (this was a command); Phil. 2:1, fellowship of Spirit; II Thess. 2:13, chosen through sanctification of Spirit. Every place here where Spirit is mentioned, it refers to the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost with whom God promised

to fill his people and if with the Spirit, then also healing for both soul and body.

BELIEVEST THOU THIS? both above and below? To believe with all one's heart, is to believe unto repentance, to believe enough to confess and forsake. There is no room left for unbelief. Likewise to love with all of one's heart, leaves no room for other love. Also, to believe that Jesus is the Christ, is to believe that he is the Saviour, to save from sin. The word, Jesus, means the Saviour; the word, Christ, means the anointed. Saviour the Anointed has power to save. To believe this is to accept it for one's own self, and to measure to the convictions of the Spirit. To believe then is to accept the Word as the man of our counsel. To accept the part that says, Let the wicked forsake his way, and thoughts, also confess his sins and forsake, puts one on believing ground which brings about a new birth. The Prophet told about the work of Christ. He said, "Behold, I lay in Zion . . . a precious corner stone, . . . he that believeth shall not make haste"—shall not be ashamed, afraid, or desiring to move, but has found a resting or hiding place. (Isa. 28:16) If one does not forsake all, then he does not believe or love with all his heart. We are told in the Scriptures that God is a jealous God.

God's children are called his people, a people; and in Eph. 5:23, they are called the Church, the body. Here the word "the" is a definite article, meaning one and only. The term one body (I Cor. 12:12, 13) in the Scripture refers to all these: a nation, a city, a people, a congregation, a church, a body, and last, a wife. We can begin to see why God is jealous. It is natural for him to do favors for those who are faithful to him and love him with all their hearts. In Heb. 12:2, Jesus is declared to be the author and finisher, or beginning and end of our faith; therefore without him we cannot have saving faith, for he says it is the gift of God.

Entanglement in frivolities of the world weakens faith. Dying to the world strengthens faith. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth." James 1:17, 18. Many could not believe because of the hardness of heart; those made well in body and soul were believers.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and for ever. AMEN. —A. E. Harmon.

—o0o—

Hanging Across the Fence

OR

TRYING TO SERVE TWO MASTERS

"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Matt. 6:24.

O dear ones, hear my plea this day. If you happen to be in such a condition, get on one side of the

fence or the other. The reason I say for you to go definitely one way or the other, if you are not completely on God's side then you are leading other souls astray and will have them to answer for as well as your own deceived soul. It is far better to be completely on God's side. Take heed to my warning: you CANNOT serve God and mammon. I speak this through my own experience.

I started off professing to know God, but I had not given up everything God required of me, therefore I was still obeying the devil. As I went on serving the devil, it was not pleasing to God and He began to punish me for not serving Him completely. I then turned and started serving God to every ray of light I had. Naturally that displeased the devil and he began to tempt me with everything that the Lord would allow him to tempt me with. I thought the road was too rough and could not take it. I weakened and again began to try to work for both at the same time, trying to get along some way. I found that I could not please either one. Then I cried, saying, "Lord, have mercy on me, as a sinner, spare my life until I have time to pray through on this thing."

Thank the Lord, He truly saved my soul, and the road does not seem too hard now. The rougher it gets, the closer God is to me. Thank God, I do not have to yield to the temptations of the enemy. I am over on God's side of the fence now, looking to Him to supply my every need, both soul and body.

1 Thess. 4:1, "Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more." Oh, dear souls, this day are we walking to please God, or are we walking to please self? Walking to please self means to walk after the flesh, pleasing this flesh of ours with its every desire, not caring whether it pleases God or not. Read 2 Pet. 2:9, 10, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to reserve the unjust to be punished: but chiefly them THAT WALK AFTER THE FLESH . . ." This will give you more light on my text. Let us give this a serious thought if we profess to be Christians. To be a child of God we must walk to please God and no one else.

Let us take this for example: If we have a child in our home, do we not expect it to obey us and walk to please us? If it doesn't, then we punish it, do we not? We require it to obey us. Then if the parents of the home are agreed on rearing the child to where if one punishes it the other will not uphold it, that child will walk pleasing to its parents. Of course, if the parents are not agreed, then the child will not know which way to go because it cannot please both parents any more than we can serve two masters.

Dear ones, let us be sure that we are walking to please God and that we are not "hanging across the fence," not knowing which way we will go. Let us be sure. How can we be sure? When you can sit under the sound of the true gospel coming straight from the Word of God and swallow every word and feel no condemnation, then you are on the right side of the

fence. God will guide an honest heart.

Pray for me that I will always remain in this truth.
—E. C. Moles.

—:::—

Exhortation To Faith

I am thankful that Jesus answers prayer for healing as well as any other sincere desire of the heart. Does our faith reach or compare with the faith that the morning church had?

It is said of Abraham, "He believed God." There are reasons why some people doubt God's healing power. If a saint has strong faith he can call on God when the devil is trying to impose something on his body and the devil will have to flee. The Lord may permit a child of God to become sick because he wants to correct him. You may have drawn back from God or perhaps were not humble enough. Perhaps you have detected your fault and have confessed it, but are still troubled with it. Then you have not confessed it from the heart. You would rather not take the humble side at all times.

In my case I had this very trouble. I became sick, and in my sickness I confessed with my heart. I am in good health today and my faith is built up in God. Let us be ready to obey all of God's Word.

The following Scripture indicates that there are going to be faults which need to be confessed: "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." James 5:16a.

The Lord may impress you to do something. It may seem small in your eyes, but in God's it is not small and He wants to see if you are diligent and useable. Let us no longer doubting remain. Jesus exhorted to "have the faith of God." God said that His ways are different from our ways as the heavens are high above the earth.

During the time of the captivity of Israel, God told them he was going to deliver them. No doubt they tried to reason it out, wondering how he could take them out of that place. But they went out in peace and possessed many goods. When a child of God goes through a trial and does not try to work it out in his own strength and wisdom, but leaves it in God's hands, he comes out of it with peace and possesses much goods. Let us not be as Israel and begin to fall under things that are humanly impossible. When they came to the Red Sea all they could reason out in their human minds was that the Egyptians were behind them and they would all be killed. They forgot God and murmured against Him when they complained to Moses. Reason could not grasp that they would walk on the ground in the Red Sea while the walls of water stood apart for them. God does many and great things for his people and wants to do even greater things. If you lack faith, I would advise you to request prayer of the saints. The Lord has given me faith and victory over different afflictions. It is wonderful how God is a present help in the time of need.

—Bro. C. Smith.

You Need Jesus

"Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble." Job 14:1. Not only was this true in Job's day, but it is also true in our day. Trouble is on every side. Sickness, disease, and suffering is the common lot of man that is born of woman. We read that 42,500 people were killed in accidents in the past year in the United States. Just think of those who were injured or left with much trouble upon them. We are living in the land of the dying, which brings sadness to those left behind.

The latest statistics show us that there are approximately seven thousand registered hospitals filled with the sick and suffering. It is said there are more people in the mental hospitals than students in college. We could go on and on and tell of the trouble in the land which is a result of the sin of our foreparents in the Garden of Eden, where death passed upon the human race; but we have something better to think about. There is a help for us as we go through this life. Jesus is that help. Jesus, the Son of God, who is sitting on the right hand of God in glory is interceding for you and me. Jesus, the man who lived here in this world one time was a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." Jesus says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. . . . Learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest to your souls." Matt. 11:28, 29. As we fall at the feet of Jesus, confessing our sins with a broken and contrite heart and forsaking them, He will forgive us and take away the load of trouble on our souls. Then as we continue to love Him and live for Him, we can at all times bring our troubles to Him and He will help us through them with comfort.

Dear soul, if you have not turned to God, do so today; won't you? Make the decision that the Prodigal Son made, and say, "I will arise and go to my Father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee." Luke 15:18. Jesus came to give "good tidings unto the meek," to bind up the broken hearted," and to give "liberty to the captives." Jesus wants to give you "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." Isa. 61:1-3. You need Jesus as you live a few days in this world of trouble to help you and then take you to a home in the end.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.

—:::—

Not I but Christ be honored, loved, exalted.
Not I but Christ be seen, be known, be heard.
Not I but Christ in every look and action.
Not I but Christ in every thought and word.
Not I but Christ, no idle word e'er falling.
Christ, only Christ, no self important bearing.
Christ, only Christ, no trace of "I" be found.

—Paul E. Billheimer.

CHRIST IS RISEN

Christ is risen,
Hear the message;
Run, tell it all around
In every village, town and hamlet,
Say, "He is risen from the ground."
Take the Truth to every nation,

Into every foreign land,
Sing and shout the proclamation,

Raise your voices, lift your hand:
In the morning, in the evening,
Say ye to both young and old, "--
Enter in, the gates are open,"
Now the sheep come in the fold.

—Ulysses Phillips.



What The Lord Is To Me

I thank the Lord for this wonderful salvation that saves us from all sin. I gave my heart to the Lord and became a Christian when I was a young man. The Lord helped me to live a clean life. He has given me good health even up to this present time. I am past eighty years old now. I am very active for a man of my age. The Lord blesses me in preaching the gospel from the pulpit. The Lord helps me very much in showing my love to others in personal work. I distribute a hundred "Faith and Victory" papers each month; also a number of tracts. The Lord blesses me much as I work for Him.

I have been riding a bicycle and motorcycle for about

sixty-five years. I am still riding my bicycle as I did when I was a boy. The Lord has been so good to me for more than eighty years. I am thanking and praising God for all of His goodness and strength that He gives me. Amen! Oh, but it is so good to be saved and living for the Lord every day. Praise His holy name forever.

"It pays to serve Jesus; I speak from my heart;

He will always be with us if we'll do our part.

There's nought in this wide world can pleasure afford;

There's peace and contentment in serving the Lord."

I thank and praise His high and holy name forever.

—Bro. George W. Stephenson, Box 713, Guthrie, Okla.

The Last Night

"But God said unto him. Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" Luke 12:20.

A fool does not necessarily mean a human being who has no sense. Some very wise men, from the standpoint of the world have been notorious fools. The French Voltaire of the sixteenth century had one of the brightest minds of his day; he studied law and was educated to be Roman Priest. A flaming wit of his time, but he was a fool.

David Hume of the seventeenth century, a Scottish philosopher and historian, educated at Edinburgh University, was a fool.

Tom Paine, British author of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, under the influence of Benjamin Franklin came to America and settled in Philadelphia. He fought in the American Army, wrote books and pamphlets on common sense, and climaxed his literary work by writing "The Age of Reason." But Tom Paine was a fool.

Bob Ingersol of the eighteenth century, a great American politician and lecturer, son of a Congregational minister, studied law, was a colonel in the American Army, and a great orator. But Bob Ingersol was a fool.

These men, and hundreds of others, wise and clever, had everything that the world called great, but they were fools, downright fools, notorious fools, for they were all infidels, they did not believe in God. Of such the Bible says, "The fool said in his heart, There is no God."

The man of my text was clever. He had accumulated great wealth, he had far flung fields, large barns, and an abundance of everything. This makes clear beyond all doubt that he had plenty of worldly sense, business sense, financial sense. He knew well how to manage great farms, how to build large buildings, and how to lay up in store abundance of goods, and he thought he knew just how to plan for years that lay ahead. "I will say to my soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him: "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be?"

That was his last night. His sun went down that evening never to rise again. The moon that scattered

her silver light across his spacious lawns and over his far flung fields would never shine another beam before his death-closed eyes. And the twinkling stars that hung like glittering jewels above his gilded mansion went into eclipse for him that night never to sparkle again. His well-filled barns passed into the hands of others; but for him their doors would never open. His stocks and bonds and bank accounts might go into receivership, but over it all he would have no more control. His wife and family and friends might weep and groan and beat their breasts in sorrow, but his lost soul had gone beyond the realm of earthly comfort. An elaborate funeral, with costly equipage, abundance of flowers, and a multitude of sorrowful friends—but all to no avail.

His silken shroud would rot and waste away, the worms would devour his well-fed body. His flesh and bones would crumble and gingle with forgotten dust. But his lost soul would live in hell while countless ages roll. That was the last night—the last night of scheming, planning, and money making, and worldly comfort.

There was a last night for another man—a last night of worldly amusement, frivolity, revelry, and pleasure: "That night Belshazzar the King of the Chaldeans was slain." Belshazzar was undoubtedly a wise man. He came to the throne of the greatest kingdom on earth when he was about nineteen years old. He was the Lord and master of the greatest city on the face of the earth.

According to Heroditus, the father of all history, the walls of Babylon were 350 feet high, and broad enough on the top for six great battle chariots to drive abreast. Twenty-five spacious avenues, 150 feet wide, running east and west, and the same number running north and south. The city was laid out with 676 squares, with gates of brass that shone in the evening and morning sun like banners of flame, with towers and temples to heathen gods, worth more than 200 million in gold. Over all this Belshazzar the King had absolute control.

He was what the world terms a wise man, but he was a fool, and spent his last night in drunken debauchery and went to hell from the glitter and glory of his hall of ill-fame, and from the presence of his drunken lords and harlots.

One more last night—the last night of mercy. Saul, the first king of Israel, was wise in both the things of the world and the things of God. But jealousy, pride, and passion conquered him, and part of his last night on earth was spent in a witch's cave, seeking help and comfort from the devil.

That was his last night of mercy! The next day he died as a suicide, leaving behind the most doleful lamentation of all time. "I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly."

The last night of money-making, the last night of revelry and pleasure, the last night of mercy. Sinners, take warning. Your last night may soon be knocking at your door.

—Sel.

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.50; Lesson cards, 10c

THE CHURCH'S ASSURANCE OF VICTORY

April 6, 1958

Printed Portion: John 20:26-29; Eph. 1:15-23

John 20:26. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Eph. 1:15. Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16. Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17. That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18. The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

19. And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

20. Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21. Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

22. And that put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23. Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Memory Verse: Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. Eph. 3:20, 21.

Practical Truth: The fact that Christ rose from the dead and is now alive is an assurance of victory for the church.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Today, we rejoice together because Jesus arose triumphant from the grave. The plan of salvation was completed. Men went as far as they could to hinder the plan of God. When they could do no more, God undertook and caused life to re-enter that lifeless body. What a miracle was performed on that body! People today are living in a day of great inventions and are beginning to take for granted any new thing. It seems they are treating the resurrection of Christ with the same attitude. Man cannot and never will be able to bring back to life a decaying body. "There is no man that hath power

over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death." (Ecc. 8:8) Today, we are rejoicing "because I live, ye shall live also." Jesus is the first fruits of the resurrection. This is the "inheritance of the saints." We are blessed today because we believe and have not seen.

We close our series of lessons upon the church with this lesson which stresses the assurance of victory for the church. Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God. We are born into "the church, which is his body," by a spiritual birth. The Church of God is the body of Christ working in the world. It has all the gifts working today in the individual members that Christ had when He was here on earth. Praise the Lord for the body of Christ.

GOD'S PEOPLE IN BONDAGE

April 13, 1958

Printed Portion:Exodus 1:7-22.

Exo. 1:7. And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

8. Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

9. And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:

10. Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

11. Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

12. But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

13. And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

14. And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

15. And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah:

16. And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

17. But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

18. And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive?

19. And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.

20. Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

21. And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.

22. And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

Memory Verse: The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? Psalm 118:6.

Practical Truth: God knows and cares about human suffering anywhere.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

How quickly, over night, changes can come. When the king lived who knew Joseph, the Israelites knew peace and quietness. When a king ruled "that knew not Joseph," the Israelites were plunged into a period of suffering, enslavement, and trial. They were overworked, underfed, insulted and beaten like animals. Nevertheless, they were still God's chosen people. Many times, no doubt, they in despair and sighing cried unto the Lord with tears, asking, "How long, O Lord, how long?" But God in his long-range planning, permitted this. He heard their cries but he was getting them ready for the trip through the wilderness. He was tearing them loose from their homes in this foreign land. Surely we can see that God's way was best for the Israelites.

Is God's way best for us? We too, are living in a land where the majority of people know not Jesus. God's child is finding that his walk with God is paved with stones of misunderstanding, lack of appreciation, scorn, hatred and even sometimes murder. These problems and perplexities that weigh heavy upon our hearts, body and soul, tend to cause us to tighten our grip on that unchanging hand of God. We find that God's control of our life does not mean easy going, but rather the Spirit's guiding hand over the rough spots and a promise of a rich reward in the end for all overcomers.

GOD PREPARES A LEADER

April 20, 1958

Printed Portion:Exodus 3:1-7, 10-15

Exo. 3:1. Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

2. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

3. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

4. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

5. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

6. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

7. And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

Exo. 3:10. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

11. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

12. And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

13. And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

14. And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

15. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Memory Verse: By faith, Moses when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; . . . Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. Heb. 11:24, 26.

Practical Truth: Leaders in spiritual movements need a personal and profound knowledge of the deep things of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lessons now are studies of the Hebrew people. It is getting near to the time when God wants to bring them out of Egypt to the land of Canaan.

God's eye was upon the little baby Moses who was hid in the bulrushes. He had a plan He wanted to unfold through that life. God knew Moses would need to be prepared to perform that great task. He needed some education to be the future leader of that great people. Moses received it in Pharaoh's court, yet he needed some training in the school of God. In our lesson we find him in that great school alone with God by the mountain in the desert taking care of sheep. He had been in the desert for forty years. He was at this time eighty years old. Today God sometimes permits his children to be taken apart in the desert to be alone with God. Do not murmur, because God is preparing you for service. We find a very humble, unassuming person talking to God. He even wanted to "hag off" on this great call to help the children of Israel out of their trouble. God called Moses and he became willing to go since he was assured of the Lord going with him. When Moses was forty years old he wanted to help his people. He killed an Egyptian taskmaster. He was taking things in his own hand and even his own people did not understand. (Acts 7:25) After the forty-year training in God's school, Moses let God do the working and he was only the instrument. Today God is calling for such workers for Him. God wants workers to let Him work through them and they be the instrument.

GOD DELIVERS HIS PEOPLE

April 27, 1958

Printed Portion:Exo. 11:1; 12:23-28; 14:27-31.

Exo. 11:1. And the Lord said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.

Exo. 12:23. For the Lord will pass through to smite

the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the Lord will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.

24. And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

25. And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the Lord will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.

26. And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?

27. That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the Lord's passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.

28. And the children of Israel went away, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

Exo. 14:27. And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

28. And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

29. But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

30. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

31. And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord, and his servant Moses.

Memory Verse: He saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known. Psalm 106:8.

Practical Truth: God is able to bring deliverance to His people in His own time and way.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson today, consists of four chapters dealing with the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt. The lesson ends with the song of victory to the Lord for his glorious power and marvelous work.

After Moses asked the king to let the people go, more trouble came to the Israelites. Their taskmasters made their work heavier and the leaders were beaten. They cried unto Moses and Moses cried unto the Lord. If it had not been for that desert training Moses had alone with God, he would have broken under the load. Instead he took new courage after God spoke reassuring words words to him.

Ten plagues were sent to the Egyptians, but none of them were visited upon the Israelites. During this time the Israelites' faith in God was strengthened. The king began to realize he was fighting a losing battle. The death angel passed over the homes and where the blood had not been sprinkled, the first born was killed. Pharaoh told the Israelites to leave and to "bless him also." They were all ready to go. God gave a wonderful deliverance at the Red Sea. God will help us also when we come to the Red Sea in our life, if we will "stand still" and wait on God.

—Mrs. Marie Miles