

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### The Great Decision

Every moment souls are going  
To reap the seeds they have been sowing;  
Out to meet the Mighty One.  
What will the harvest be when day is done?

Some will enter heaven's shore  
To dwell with Christ forever more,  
Singing praise among the blest,  
Their souls will have eternal rest.

Others will take their awful flight  
Into the flames of hell's dark night;  
No hope, no joy, no glorious peace,  
'The door of mercy has finally ceased.

The appointment of death each one must see,  
From Adam's time to you and me;  
Our life maps out the road we choose,  
One gains a crown, on the other we lose.

Come, sinner, while Christ calleth you,  
Pick up your cross with the faithful few,  
Then when the trump of God shall sound  
You'll exchange it for a glorious crown.

Donald W. Sharp

### When The Atomic Bomb Dropped

In Nagasaki as a missionary internee with her husband when the atomic bomb dropped August 9, 1945, Mrs. E. C. Oliver has described her experience in a letter to the writer.

"On August 9th the atomic bomb fell about 11:20 a.m.," she writes. "I was in bed, when suddenly a bright light, brighter than the sun shot across the room, with the accompaniment of a terrific blast. The door fell in, the windows on one side were shattered and in some cases the frames too. The large building trembled, plaster was torn off the walls, furniture displaced. Some internees were lifted up from the floor, others had their eye glass frames twisted up, whilst others lost the lens from the frames still on, and never saw them again. One had one lens smashed but not shattered; the broken glass remained in the frames.

"My bed was covered with broken glass and debris besides articles thrown from the other side of the room, and I was untouched, personally! My dear

husband, who was sitting at the table, sustained a flesh injury in the forehead, which bled profusely and many in the camp got cuts and bruises . . .

"People wearing white were not hurt nearly as much as those wearing colors. Advertisements in the station showed the black printing obliterated, whilst the surrounding white paper was untouched!

"The city, after the bomb burst, was covered with a dense black pall over the sky around the camp. The side of the hill covered with vegetation and trees was scorched far up the hill. We were 2½ miles from the place where the bomb burst."

That interesting feature of persons escaping injury if clothed in white, reminded us that all who are clothed in the pure white "righteousness of God" shall not be hurt of the judgment of God whenever it falls.

Needless to say that such a garment is not something which we can manufacture. It is freely provided for us by God, Who made Jesus Christ a sin-offering for us that "we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Cor. 5:21)

This righteousness of God, which is by faith in Jesus Christ is "unto all and upon all them that believe." (Rom. 3:22)

The judgment of God is certain to fall, and when it does, those clothed in garments of salvation and covered with the white robe of His righteousness shall be exempt: but those clothed in black—the blackness of their sins and unbelief—shall not escape.

The Lord Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24)

Why not "hear" and "believe" and rejoice in the assurance of "no condemnation"—and sing:

"No condemnation!" O my soul,  
'Tis God that speaks the word;  
Perfect in comeliness art thou  
In Christ thy glorious Lord.

"No condemnation!" precious word!  
Consider it, my soul;  
Thy sins were all on Jesus laid,  
His stripes have made thee whole.  
—by Tim Olsen.

## Law And Grace

"For we are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid." Rom. 6:14, 15.

Does God expect less of us, his servants under grace than He did of Israel under law? We should count it the grandest privilege on earth to be called of God to be workers together with Him. We should not consider it just our duty to be faithful unto Him. After all, who are we? Are we not bond servants of His, bought with a price? Yes, the precious blood was shed that we might be redeemed.

In the days of the apostles there were two kinds of servants: bond and hired. The bond servant had no will of his own, and no choice in his duties to his master, for he was bought with a price, while the hired servant could come and go as he wished. If he resented the treatment of his master he was free to go elsewhere. We are bond servants to the greatest Master of all. Our Master wants our willing, loving service in the most glorious work that mortals could be called upon to do: the salvation of a lost world. In this great work we may have a part, and the reward will be great: everlasting life and everlasting bliss throughout eternity.

This is not a duty to be performed only, but a great privilege. Our Master "came not to be ministered to, but to minister; and to give his life a ransom for many." Mark 10:45. We are called upon to sacrifice our will unto his will. Our all must be on the altar laid. If we are not willing to sacrifice, God cannot use us, for he has said, "Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Psa. 50:5. Let us ask ourselves if we are sacrificing anything for the Lord and His cause? It is easy to say "all belongs to the Lord," and just drift along through life seeking satisfaction from things of earth, using all that the Lord blesses us with upon self and those dear to us according to fleshly ties.

Did God require a greater sacrifice upon the part of the Old Testament saints to support and advance His cause, than He requires of us today? When we consider the greater blessings that are ours to enjoy under grace, our hearts leap with joy. But are they not obtained by making greater sacrifices? Yes, for much more is expected of us under grace.

It is not so hard to believe that greater blessings are for us today under grace, and to understand that because of the fact that greater grace is given, more will be required of us in all walks of living a godly life; except when it comes to sacrificing to support the cause of Christ. Many do not seem to see that God expects a greater sacrifice of all our possessions, than he expected of those under the law. Perhaps the ministry is somewhat to blame for this. Or, have we let the people know that God expects greater sacrifice in order that the kingdom of God might advance and spread throughout all the earth?

It is true that God does not use force to cause us

to give of our means, (the tithe or offerings). No, He does not use force to compel us to serve Him, but He does require our loving, willing service; and without it we shall in no wise enter the portals of glory. Under the law God required Israel to give one tenth of their income into the treasury of the Lord to maintain His cause in the earth. Can we think for one moment that less is required of us today, when we are enjoying greater blessings?

Under the law God was dealing with one nation, and the gospel was not going to all the world; yet he required them to give the tenth of their income to support His cause, and to keep the truth fresh and growing in the hearts of His people. Under grace all the world can be blessed by receiving the Gospel. We are called upon to go preach the gospel to every creature. All cannot go in person but we can go in spirit by sacrificing that others may go. If we carry a soul burden we will gladly sacrifice.

The cause of God is suffering today, because so few are burdened to the extent that they are compelled to sacrifice. The first New Testament congregation gave freely and willingly, because they were persuaded that they had what the world needed: a gospel that would save and give power to keep saved. All men-made churches are calling souls into their folds: folds that cannot stand. Many are sacrificing to increase their erring cause.

Oh, Saints, we have the truth that will save a lost world and bring them to Christ, the Saviour of the world, and not to an organization of men that is to be doomed sooner or later. "Lift up your eyes, and look upon the fields; for they are already white to harvest." We believe that we have the truth, while others have part truth and part error.

If you are rid of self, you are rid of all selfishness, and are not living for self, but for others. The true saints of God have their all consecrated, and God is freely using their means, and not just a tenth part. The true ministers of God are to give themselves, "wholly" to the Word, (1 Tim. 4:15.) The early ministry felt this, "It is not reason that we should leave the Word of God, . . . But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." Acts 6:2, 4. "They that preach the gospel shall live of the gospel." Are you willing to sacrifice that the gospel might be carried to a lost world? Many are saying, "All is His," but at the same time their all is being wasted upon their fleshly desires, even the tenth part of their earnings is not being given that the gospel may go to a lost world. These shall surely hear, "Depart from me, . . . I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat, . . . a stranger, and ye took me not in." Matt. 25:41-43. Jesus wants his little ones fed on spiritual food, as well as upon the material food. What are you doing about this? —H. P. Huskey.

## The Tract Missionary

You would like to win souls, you say. Of course, you would! That desire is normal with every true Christian, and our Lord wishes us to express this

yearning in honest efforts to reach the lost.

Souls can be won, and you can win them too!

No, you need not be an evangelist, or a minister, or a missionary, in order to be able to win people to Christ. You can do it right where you are! You can do it now!

Do you find this hard to believe? Here's something even harder to believe, but true nevertheless. You can win more souls to Christ in a few years than most ministers and full-time Christian workers do—if you will become a faithful distributor of tracts and Gospel literature.

Christ has wrought a finished, full and perfect salvation for men by His death, resurrection, and High Priestly work in heaven, but most people are ignorant of it. One of the good ways to get the Gospel message into the minds and hearts of sinners is through religious literature. This is a work every Christian can do. Its importance cannot be overestimated.

Peter Cartwright, circuit rider and pioneer evangelist, wrote:

"It has been a question that I shall never be able to answer on earth whether I have done the most good by preaching or by distributing religious literature. For more than fifty years I have firmly believed it was part and parcel of a Christian's sacred duty to circulate religious literature.

"I have spread thousands of dollars' worth among the reading public; sometimes a thousand dollars' worth a year. The religious press is destined, under the order of Providence, to minister salvation's grace to the perishing millions of the earth."

Only a small per cent of Christians can be full-time pastors, evangelists, or teachers—but every believer can be a tract evangelist. Few of them are.

Believers need to see the vision, hear the call, and feel the challenge of the world need. And more than that, they need to know exactly what to do and how to do it.

One wrote that the tract ministry was the first in his category of the three most important methods of Christian work: "The advantages of tract and leaflet distribution as a means of evangelism are many. A good Gospel tract is the carrier of truth, an instructor in the way of salvation, a messenger of the words of life, a conveyor of the Gospel message, a teacher of Christian thought, and a bearer of words of comfort, cheer and counsel."

A publisher of tracts wrote: "Tracts can go anywhere. Tracts know no fear. Tracts never tire. Tracts never die. Tracts can be multiplied without end by the press. Tracts can travel at little expense. They can run up and down like angels of God, blessing all, giving to all, asking no gift in return.

"They can talk to one as well as to the multitude; and to the multitude as well as to the one. They require no public room to tell their story in. They can tell it in the kitchen or the shop, the parlor or the closet, in the railway carriage or in the bus, on the broad highway or in the footpath through the fields.

"They take no note of scoffs, or jeers, or taunts.

No one can betray them into hasty or random expressions. Though they will not always answer questions, they will tell their story twice, or thrice, or four times over, if you wish.

"And they can be made to speak on every subject, and on every subject they may be made to speak wisely and well. They can, in short, be made the vehicles of all truth, the teachers of all classes, and the benefactors of all lands." —Sel.

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## The Danger of Television

Once upon a time, before TV, our little family of four ate all meals together and it was enjoyable. Especially in the evening: we learned what the children were doing at school, we made future plans, like outings for special days or a fishing trip, we laughed and had a merry time. The children peeked in the pots to see what was cooking, and when biscuits or cornbread came from the oven, there was an eager rush for the table. But alas! Things have changed.

Now, the family parks in front of the TV. They cannot hear the call for dinner, nor can they smell the aroma of freshly baked pie or cake. Even a sizzling steak fails to bring them out of their trance. So, to prevent starvation in the midst of plenty, I quietly serve three trays to three hypnotized persons, who are sometimes unaware that I have entered the room. They eat mechanically, sometimes missing their mouths when Superman flies out the top story window.

Me? Oh yes, I eat in a silent kitchen and wonder what would happen if I would give in to an urge to barge into the living room with a hammer and smash the TV into a THOUSAND PIECES. —Newspaper Clipping.

Would Jesus be noticed if He would appear in person in this home? How would He feel about this home? Who is to blame for this condition? I say the head of the house. May God help those who are Christians! "Christian" means Christ-like.

This is quoted from a clipping of a Los Angeles, Calif. paper in 1950:

"The hysterical panic of youth in a crisis was blamed today for a 15 year-old boy's "mercy-killing" of his younger brother, whom police said he had accidentally wounded painfully only moments before.

"The tragedy occurred last night shortly after the boys had watched a western movie on television. They were alone in the home of their parents. The boy had bought the gun and hid it in his bedroom. After his parents had left to go to a dinner party and a movie he got the gun out and in his confession said, 'I called my brother and told him I wanted to show him something. As he walked past me I attempted to put the hammer down and it slipped. The gun went off and I heard him hit the floor. He was lying there with his head toward me squirming and moaning, in a pool of blood. I couldn't stand to see him suffer so I fired another shot into him. I don't know why I did this, I must have been crazy. I went into the front room, and telephoned the police.' "

Children who are allowed to watch movies with murder in them on television day after day will develop these subconscious attitudes and will subconsciously put them into practice just as a person subconsciously steps on the brake of a car while driving, without thinking. I say the risk of watching television is dangerous.

—M. M.

## "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.

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

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

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

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

The Faith Publishing House is incorporated under the laws of Oklahoma as a non-profit religious organization.

#### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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

## Editorials

Sister Cassie Irvin and her daughter, Viola Atnip, are at their home in Senath, Mo. now where they can care for Sister Cassie's mother, Sister Marler. She is getting along in years and is not well much of the time. Sister Irvin and Viola have been precious helpers in the work of the Lord here at the print shop for the past three years or more and we miss them and their good service in the work very much. They both fitted into the work so nicely and always manifested the Spirit of Christ, which always brings peace and harmony.

The Lord is so good to supply His work with helpers who love the Lord. Recently Sister Malinda Penner has a clearness from God to be a steady worker in the Print Shop. She is learning to do the work very nicely. We do appreciate these young workers for the Lord. Sister Malinda Penner has been living here in Guthrie for more than three years, and had helped in the work some as she had time off from other duties.

My son, Lawrence, is quitting his position with a large publishing firm here in Guthrie where he has worked most of the time for the past 28 years, and is arranging his business so he can give a good part of his time to the "Lord's Print Shop" work. He will fill the place vacated by our Bro. William Weir who has been a faithful worker here in the Print Shop for the past four years. The Lord always takes care of His work. He means to keep the clear gospel going forth by the printed page to uncover Satan's hiding places and to get the gospel of full salvation to precious souls.

We are thankful to God for those of the saints who come in and help in the work when extra help is needed. Also we thank the Lord for Sylvia Forbes who has been faithfully working here in the office for two years. She is doing well with the Linotype work as well as other parts of the work. Sister Geneva Ray also helps in the work as the need may be. She is helping set type for this October paper. Anna Marie Miles, my daughter, is a devoted worker and relieves me much with the heavy correspondence and other editorial work, and in managing the office work which is too heavy for one person.

For forty-three years the Lord has had us in the front of the battle against the enemy of all righteousness, even Satan, the arch fiend of hell, and all of his agents. Looking at it from a human standpoint, we think of these as giant enemies, but when we see the power and might of God above and beyond them, they become as weasles and have been whipped and overcome by the Lord Jesus Christ over nineteen centuries ago. They have no more dominion over us who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Just as soon as we were saved and sanctified wholly these foes rose up against us and the work we were doing for the Lord. At times they were allowed of God to come against us with such force and surround us with so many of their agents that about all we could do was as Job did, merely hold our

integrity with God, knowing that when we were tried sufficiently he would bring us forth as gold.

Many years ago when all things were going rough with us and it seemed that we were practically shut off from doing good to souls, the burden became so heavy that words failed us in prayer. All we could do was to groan and about all we could say was, "Lord, they have not heard; Lord, they have not heard." While we were under this groaning and heavy burden, the Lord spoke and said, "They shall hear." The heavy burden rolled away and gave place to rejoicing. When God speaks it is just the same as done, for he rules the universe and none can stay his big hand.

The Lord opened up doors to get the gospel to men by the preaching of His Word and more saints began to subscribe for the "Faith and Victory" paper. Thus the redeemed were gathering unto the Lord, and our soul began to mount up as on eagles' wings. Mt. Zion, the church, was shining brighter and congregations were being raised up. Evangelists began to go forth with greater courage to gather unto Him all the lost who would hear and believe.

For many years we traveled in evangelistic work, being away from home from three to four months at a time. We preached the gospel in nearly all the states, trying to get the truth established in the hearts of men and getting the "Faith and Victory" paper circulated among the people.

Today there is a mighty force going forth against Satan and his forces of darkness and wickedness, calling men to godly sorrow and repentance. We have been thinking of the different evangelists and planters of the truth and do not feel that it would be out of place to mention the names of a few of them—some of whom have been saved under our labors and others received sanctification when the Lord used us in preaching this precious doctrine. Many of them were called to the ministry after this work was under headway, and have been a vital part of the gathering together of souls unto Him who placed them in the Body, the Church, as it pleased Him.

In the evangelistic field a number of ministers are kept busy planting the truth in new places and encouraging congregations of saints and isolated ones. They are Bro. S. E. Abbott and wife, Bro. D. A. Gibson, Bro. Murphy Allen, Bro. Charles Smith, Bro. Olsen, Bro. L. Roberts, and others.

There are so many ministers laboring for the Lord as pastors or helpers that we cannot name them all, so if you are one of that number whose name does not appear here, please do not feel slighted nor discouraged, but labor on as unto the Lord and you shall not lose your reward. A few of those living in Okla. are: Bro. Ulysses Phillips, Sister Ada Davis, Bro. Sam Barton, Bro. O. C. Porter, Bro. Archie Souder, Bros. Richard and David Madden, Bro. Crawley, Bro. Spears, Bro. G. W. Stephenson, Bro. Sanders, and others. In Missouri are: Bro. and Sister John Wilson, Bro. Merrill Williamson, Bro. Edd Whipple, Sister Bowers, Bro. Dollins, and others. In Louisiana, the state where we have attended campmeeting for thirty years and done much evangelistic work, are: Bro. and Sister Key,

Bro. C. C. Carver, Sister Carter, Sister Lottie Joiner, Bro. Pinkerton, Sister Ruth Murphey, Bro. Max Williamson, Sister Simpson, and others. There are quite a large number of pastors and helpers in California (some are often in the evangelistic field of labor) who are solid and standing firmly for God (even as in other states). We'll name only a few: Bro. Ostis Wilson and wife, Bro. A. E. Harmon, Bro. I. Chandler, Bro. Trotter, Sister Lavern Manuel, Sister Poulos, Bro. Holden, Bro. Huskey, Bro. Zinn, Bro. Francisco, and others. In Kansas are: Sister Margaret Eck, Bro. L. Williams, Bro. Ira D. Stover, Bro. Roy Harmon, and others. God also has ministers in other states; i.e., Bro. McCoy, Bro. Chaney, Sis. Spaur, Bro. Neilson, etc.; and a number of young ministers whom we believe will be stalwart warriors for truth if they remain humble before God. God will have this precious truth going right on after we older ones are long laid in the grave.

Many of these ministers have suffered much and weathered many a storm for Christ's sake. We have only named ministers, but we realize God works thru others too. In many cases the faithful companions who have stood with the ministers in the battle fray have also been instrumental in spreading this truth. For instance, the faithful sisters who have labored out of the pulpit at Monark Springs have helped much in making it what it is today. Sister Neva Buchanan of Arkansas has devoted her life to the work of distributing tracts. She is now about blind and feels like her earthly labors are about over. May God inspire others to sacrifice their lives in like manner. Mother Marler of Missouri received this truth years ago. When she first read the "Faith and Victory" paper, she affiliated at once with the truth of its teaching and has stood firmly all these years. Consequently there are some saints at Senath. She began to pass the "Faith and Victory" paper around and talk to others about salvation. When Bro. Gibson was informed about them several years later, he went to visit them and found a little company of saints worshipping God in the holy Bible way. Sister Marler is now in poor health and needs our prayers. Bro. and Sister A. J. Sorrell of Myrtle, Mo. stood true to God through many tests even before any congregation was there, and we believe that the established congregation in that place is in great part the result of their faithfulness.

All of these ministers and workers mentioned, and others, are dear to our hearts and we love to see all as a solid and firm wall against all evil and wrong and all sectish ways and let differences of opinions over things be melted away by the burning love of God in our hearts. Let us hold the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, striving in a lawful manner for the unity of the faith until we come unto a perfect man, unto the stature of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians the 4th chapter.) Let us read often the 13th chapter of 1 Cor. Paul says it is the "More Excellent Way." If we abide in the teachings of this chapter, there will be no big "I's" nor little "you's" among us, and it will do away with envy, jealousy, fault-finding, sarcastic remarks, and mote hunting. Let none of us get into a state of a "Holier than thou" attitude and have to be

admonished as Jesus did the Pharisees in Matt. 23:23. Let us not omit the weightier matters, which are judgment, faith, and mercy. Judge righteous judgment, manifest faith in God, and have compassion and mercy upon all. Bear and suffer with one another, and in that way manifest the sanctified life. Let no one try to pick a mote out of his brother's eye with a beam in his own eye. In this state you will be sure to gouge in the wrong place.

Several years ago the Lord gave us a message on, "Have good thoughts of others; think evil of no man." I have been looking to Him for the grace to practice it ever since. I find the soul will be kept sweet and free in the Lord by so doing. What a person believes in his heart will be acted out. We think of Paul the apostle: before he was saved he believed Christ to be an impostor and he acted like it by persecuting the disciples of Christ. He believed a lie and it affected him in a wrong way. When he believed on the Lord and the truth, he acted like it by associating with the saints and preaching Christ. If the devil can succeed in making you believe a lie about your brother, you will act it out by beginning to find fault, criticizing him, and trying to kill his good influence. What a shame for anyone to be in that state of mind. We are taught to do good unto all men, especially to the household of faith.

You dear brethren who have not had the call to edit a paper, do not realize the awful powers of evil that come against the work to destroy it, to slander us, and to kill the influence of the clean-cut gospel of Christ.

Several weeks ago we received a letter from a party asking us to forgive them. They stated that the Lord showed them that they had done us a wrong by criticizing us and the work and speaking wrong about us. This party said that they were getting along in years and wanted everything cleared up before the Lord called them from this world. We answered them that we freely forgave them, for we always hold a forgiving spirit toward all who do us wrong. I was very thankful that I could not call to remembrance any evil thought or deed that we had done toward them. This party expressed sorrow and seemed to think that they were the only one that ever criticized and found fault with us and the work the Lord had us doing. I told them that I had been on the spot for God for a long time, receiving criticism from others, and that I expected to stay on the spot for God until He said, "It is enough, come up higher."

Before you enter the city of Hammond, La., you will see a sign which reads, in part, thus: "Welcome to Hammond, a city of ten thousand happy people with a few old grouches." We could, in like manner, speak of the "Faith and Victory" paper. We have ten thousand happy readers with a few critics and fault finders. It does seem from the mail we receive that we have a few on the list who never see the good things in the paper, but hunt for something to criticize or to find fault with. Such as this ought not to be from any one claiming to be saved, let alone being sanctified. Brethren, pray for us and

bear with us in any mistakes we make, for we can assure you our hearts are right if the head does make a mistake now and then. We certainly do want to see the cause of God prosper and increase in the earth and the oneness of His people in a solid front, and them having love one to the other that all men may know that we are the disciples of Christ, His body, the Church which is the pillar and ground of the truth.

It makes me wonder concerning the future state of some when we look back over the years of service and know of many who have found fault with us and the work and made others think wrong things. To cause another to believe a lie is just the same as telling a lie in the sight of God. I wonder how many, when death stares them in the face, will find something like this barring them out of heaven and they will have no time to confess it and clear it up. What a sad day that will be. I want to say this to all whom it may concern: If I have wronged you in any way in word or deed (I say "If" because I do not have a knowledge of knowingly doing wrong to any soul) or in any way you may think I have done you wrong, I humbly ask you to forgive me. In my writings in the paper and the editorials I do not write with a thought of revenge or retaliation, but if possible to get my convictions of truth to souls and to clear the minds of those who may have been wrongly informed about matters.

We solicit and covet your prayers and co-operation in getting the gospel to men by the printed page.

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The saints in the vicinity east of OKEENE, OKLA., feel it would be the Lord's will to begin their fall meeting Nov. 7th. Pray that hearts will be receptive of the truth.

## Obituaries

Hattie Dora Laws, daughter of Fred and Harriet Pittman, was born, August 23, 1877 in Edgecomb County near Tarboro. N. C., and departed this life September 10, 1958 at the age of 81 years.

During her youth the family moved to Texas where in 1905 she met and married Joseph Benjamin Laws. They moved to Boley, Okla. where their five children were born, three girls and two boys. Three children passed in infancy and her husband preceded her in death by 14 years.

She heard the truth and accepted it and was saved August 16, 1912, and trusted the Lord fully for her healing. Later she moved to Oklahoma City where she continued in the faith until her death. She would often say, "The Lord is my Saviour, Keeper, and Healer, praise the Lord forever, I'm enlisted in the army until I die."

She leaves two daughters, Vivian Laws of the home and Celestine Carter of Bakersfield, Calif.; one sister, Mrs. Annie B. Sledge of Corsicana, Texas; one brother, Allan Tannahill of Oklahoma City; two grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

Sermon by Ulysses Phillips. Scriptures used: Rev. 14:13; 1 Thess. 4:13-18. Burial in Pilgrim Rest Cemetery, near Oklahoma City, Okla.

"Servant of God, well done!  
Rest from thy loved employ;  
The battle fought, the vict'ry won,  
Enter thy Master's joy."

Sister Ella W. Tyson, the daughter of Levi and Nicie Abraham, was born August 12, 1889 in Bright Star, Ark., and departed this life August 14, 1958 at the age of 70 years and two days. In Dec. of 1905 she was united in marriage to Rink Tyson. To this union 13 children were born. Her husband and six children preceded her in death.

In 1907 Sister Tyson moved to Okla. with her family, and in 1912 she met the saints and heard the preaching of the church of God ministers and accepted the truth in its fullness. She moved to Calif. in 1946, and to Fresno three years before her death. She was very active in service.

She became ill during the California State Camp-meeting last year. She was in early morning prayer service and when she ended her prayer she was not able to get up. She was completely paralyzed in her left side. She was cared for in the home of her daughter and remained faithful until death. Her trust was in the Lord.

She is survived by seven children; four daughters: Mrs. Jettie Mae Phillips of Fresno, Calif., Mrs. Hettie Watts of Okemah, Okla., Mrs. Lela Armster of Kiblah, Ark., and Mrs. Nellie Gammon of Berkeley, Calif.; three sons: Robert of Los Angeles, Calif., Edward of Texarkana, Ark., and H. L. of Comptom, Calif.; twenty-eight grandchildren; twenty-eight great grandchildren; three great great grandchildren; five sisters: Mrs. Malisse Evans, Mrs. Exie Matthews, Mrs. Evelyn Drake, and Mrs. Lena Webster of Ark., and Mrs. Rosetta Weaver of La.; a brother, Robert of Ark.; nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. E. J. Trotter, and Bro. Isaac Chandler. Text: Job 14:14; Rev. 14:13. Interment in the Nelson Cemetery, Kiblah, Ark.

We loved her but God loved her best.

#### NOTICE OF APPRECIATION

I wish to thank the many saints and friends for their time in helping me with Mother, their many cards, letters, and donations and prayers. Continue to pray for us.

Your sister in Christ, —Sister Jettie Mae Phillips.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Calif.—I have been severely afflicted for little over twenty-five years. First I had Malaria Fever. I was up and down with it for several months, then my heart began to weaken and lots of times I couldn't lift anything that had very much weight. Sometimes the beat was so weak that I would have to sit down or lie down. I couldn't cook or do hardly anything for several months. I was looking for God to heal me. I was saved then and had much faith, really believing God would heal me. I was prayed for many times and would claim healing by faith. God would touch my body. Sometimes I would get very low, and the dear saints would come and pray until God would touch me and raise me up from the door of death.

I will always thank God and the saints for all these blessings. God has blessed me in that I am still encouraged to keep living for Him.

Now this weak heart has gone into a serious case, and my body is a complete wreck. My nerves are not good and it is beginning to oppress me so at times. When it does, I pray lots and fast as God burdens me too.

I mean to fight the battle to the end, and as God hasn't seen fit to heal me yet, I am asking the saints everywhere to pray. I want and long to be completely delivered from this condition. I also have some special problems we want God to work out soon. I am looking for it.

Your sister,

—Jessella Ausbie.

Will every saint of God get under a burden with me, and pray most fervently for the Lord to break up and move out a "set-up" of evil work which strictly works against the pure and clean, who stand for God and His cause. Also pray for my complete and permanent healing.

—A saint of God.

## The Special Two Months' Offer

Unfold the enclosed self-addressed envelope and you will find spaces marked off for ten names and addresses of friends and neighbors whom you want to receive the "Faith and Victory" paper for two months, beginning with the 1959 January issue. Print the names and addresses on the lines, enclose a dollar bill, check, or postal money order, write selection of desired premium in the blank space, then fold the envelope back as it was, stamp and seal. This offer will expire December 10, 1958. Send the names as soon as you can. This liberal offer is made possible by the free-will offerings of the saints and others.

**PREMIUMS OFFERED:**—Choose one of the eight free premiums listed below. Please send postage stamps to cover cost of mailing premium, if convenient. Do not forget to write name of premium you have chosen inside of the envelope on which you send the names.

**How I Got Faith** by Willis M. Brown, the converted Kentucky infidel; a 200-page book of healings and travels. Sale price is 50 cents.

**Touching Incidents** by S. B. Shaw. A great book for children and gospel workers; 135 pages with pictures, paper bound. Sale price is 50 cents.

**God's Gracious Dealings.** A 191-page paper bound book—a very interesting and helpful account of God's dealings with the founder of Faith Pub. House. Some get saved by reading it and others are refreshed and built up in God. Many read it over and over again. It sells for 50¢.

**The Story of Joseph** by J. R. Miller, revealing what God can do with a surrendered life. 80 pages, paper bound. Sale price is 35 cents.

**Selected Articles and Editorials.** 256 pages of choice selections from your editor's writings for the past forty years, and many Editorials which have appeared in the "Faith and Victory" paper. This paper bound book is full of good soul food and doctrinal truth that will make you strong in the Lord. Sale price is 50 cents.

**Bed Time Prayer Reminder.** A luminous cross that glows in the dark; also a booklet, **The More Abundant Life**, 31 pages. The sale price is 15¢ each or both for 25¢.

**1959 Scripture Calendar** to hang on your wall, beautifully colored picture for each month and text of Scripture for each day in the year. Sale price, 35 cents.

**The New Testament Church and Its Symbols**, revised and enlarged, making it a 54 page book. This book is very interesting and brings out the symbols, metaphors, and analogies contained in the Bible of the Church that Jesus built which the gates of hell shall not prevail against. You will know how to keep out of sectism or get out of sectism by reading this book.

#### CHRISTMAS CARDS (Order Early)

No. G8558 21 tall cards with Scriptures ..... \$ 1.00  
No. G8578 21 cards with Scriptures ..... \$ 1.00

We have the 1959 Scripture verse wall calendars in stock and you can order them now and avoid the Christmas and holiday congestion of mail matter. The price is 35¢ for one, \$1.00 for three, and \$3.00 for ten calendars. We pay the postage at these prices.



## Notices

The saints at Akron, Ohio extend a hearty invitation to all to attend or support with their prayers, their Annual Fall Revival at 1325 Ninth Ave., Oct. 17-26, 1958 or however the Lord wills. For further information write Dorothy Jackson, 474 Ardella Ave., Akron 6, Ohio.

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The saints at Boley, Okla., are undertaking to put in sanitary rest rooms in the chapel. Anyone that feels led to help, may, and it will be highly appreciated. Send all donations to Sister Ora Spears, Rt. 1, Box 109, Boley, Okla.

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I have felt led of the Lord to purchase a small supply of children's long hose. I bought some of these last winter for my little girl and they wore well to be of an old stock. There are white, dark brown, and black in most all sizes, but due to washing the white ones to see if they were rotten, the sizes are gone, so I'll need the measurements of the child's foot in order to fit it.

I know these long hose are getting hard for the saints to find in some places, so if you would like to order some of these please send postage and if there is any left I will return in stamps unless stated otherwise, as the Lord has shown me to do this for His cause. He promised He would do the supplying. If you haven't the postage and need some of these, please feel free to order some as the Lord leads.

I have found another supply of tan and light brown hose of larger sizes up to size 9½. Also some smaller sizes. The man said he would let me have them at a reduced price if I took them all, so as the Lord supplies and leads, I will buy these and other supplies.

Dear Saints, it means much to bring your child up right to please the Lord. We find in Prov. 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." This does not mean to wait until they get older but when a child. If we start then, it will stay with them on through life and they won't forget the way they were brought up when they get older. Then in 1 Tim. 2:9-10, "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; ... but (which becometh women professing godliness.)"

If we, as parents, don't heed the Word of God and bring our children up according to the way God wants us to, how do we expect them to know how to please God? If we put anklets on our little girls while they are little why would they want to dress different when they grow older?

So let us go to the Lord that He will continue to supply these long hose for our little girls and not dress them as the world does, for in the Word of God we find if we ask, He will supply our needs.

One who loves the Truth, —Sister Norma Allen, Star Rt. 2, Elk Creek, Mo.

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### EVANGELISTIC TENT REPORT

Bro. Charles Smith held a tent meeting at Kingston, Ark. from Aug. 28th to Sept. 7th. Other ministers and gospel workers assisted at various times. The interest and attendance was very good. The gospel was preached plain and definite, and the people came back night after night for more. Some expressed a desire for spiritual help. We are confident that much lasting benefit will result from this meeting.

The workers from the office, Sisters Marie Miles, Sylvia Forbes, Malinda Penner and myself, were privileged

to attend the last Saturday and Sunday of the meeting, and witnessed the blessings of the Lord upon the services. May the Lord bless the saints in the community for their interest in the meeting and sincere desire to have the gospel preached in that place. We appreciated their generous hospitality.

Bro. Smith feels this is the last tent meeting for this season, and the equipment will be parked on the National Campground. The bus is in such a worn-out condition that it is not advisable to take it out again for meetings. Replacing it with another good one is the only solution, and we are expecting the Lord to fully supply the need.

—L. D. Pruitt.

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I am planning to take into my home, two aged people to care for. I would be glad if I could get aged sisters or a man and wife. The charges will be the same as in a nursing home. If anyone is interested, please write or call at once, before I get someone else. I had much rather have saints than anyone else.

A sister in Christ, Mrs. Charlie Price, Rt. 1, Box 26B, Trout, La., Phone—Jena, La. 24882.

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## Meeting Reports

The MYRTLE, MO. CAMPMEETING was good this year. A number of ministers were here to preach the Word of God. Quite a number went to the altar and got saved. Some came for help and others for the healing of their bodies. God was good to us to supply all the needs of the meeting. A good many left the meeting encouraged to live for God.

—The Myrtle Congregation.

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The KALAMAZOO, MICH. STATE CAMPMEETING, we feel, was a real success for God, although it was not a large meeting. We believe much good was done for God.

We believe the Lord sent in the ministers of His choosing mostly, and God's convicting power was present so that souls were at the altar from time to time for help. One sister from Bangor, Mich. came out of the Gospel Trumpet Church and took her stand, rejoicing in the truth. A Bro. and Sister and daughter from Nokomis, Fla., had left the Trumpet Church a long time ago, but were searching to find the true people of God. They came out clear, rejoicing that they had found the true family of God. The last Sunday a.m. before the regular service, a baptismal service was held at Pickeral Lake and nine were baptized in this service.

The enemy of souls came around too, to cause friction if possible, but the Lord held every hindering spirit in subjection and victory reigned in the meetings.

The meeting was run on the free-will offering plan, and the dear Lord wonderfully supplied every need and away over the needs, praise God! We are looking forward to another meeting next year, if the Lord wills.

—Sister Eva Wilkins.

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The CAMPMEETING at DOVER, OKLA., was blessed of the Lord. One soul was reclaimed. The saints were encouraged and built up in the faith. God richly blessed in sending forth His Word. Sinners were enlightened. Good attention was manifested through the entire meeting.

There were about sixteen or eighteen ministers; some only stayed for two services, and some came the last Sunday. Some of the subjects were as follows, with one or two Scripture references: "Looking Ahead" Luke 16:1-9; Heb. 9:28. "A Peaceable Habitation" Isa. 33:20, 21. "Plowing in Zion" Isa. 28:23-29. Depths of the meaning



of the word "Amen" Deut. 27:14-26. "Freedom From Bondage" Gal. 5:1. "The Power of God" Exo. 8. "Enduring Temptation" James 1:1-15. "Jesus, Our Sacrifice" Isa. 53. "Watch" Mark 13:33-37; 2 Cor. 2:11. "Ye Are Not Your Own" 1 Cor. 6:19-20. There were other Scriptures used in connection with these subjects but were omitted to conserve space.

In answer to prayer the Lord supplied all needs from the kitchen to the pulpit: cooks, ministers, and workers. One vacancy: the lack of more souls turning to God, but they are without excuse. We thank God, and pray His blessings upon all who contributed to the needs in any way, both financial provisions, and sacrifice and service.

"This world is not my home,  
I'm just a passing through;  
My treasures and my hopes,  
Are all beyond the blue."

God be with you till we meet again.

—Ulysses Phillips and Henry Caldwell.

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## The Corrupt Tree

On the 18th limb of the Corrupt Tree let us write "and such like." As we read over the list of the works of the flesh and then add, "such like," we are made to know clearly that God's people are a clean people. They must be spotless, blameless, and undefiled.

"Such like" means anything pertaining to what had been written before, so we could add many things to this list.

The Bible says, "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost? . . . therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor. 6:19, 20. It is therefore a sin to do anything intentionally to harm this body which God has given us.

Young people need to be on their guard in this day of much deception. Many have started on the downward road just because they did not want to be called a "bad sport," or having an attitude, "I'll try anything once."

It seems dope is getting a great hold on our young people in many cities. The officials are fighting it but do not have much assistance from those who should care. One juvenile official writes that 5000 known drug teenage addicts are in a certain city who could have been stopped in the early stages of addiction if their parents had been more aware of their associations. This is a sad condition.

Marijuana dope is one of the most commonly used. It grows almost anywhere in the U. S., and becomes from 5 to 16 feet high with leaves 3 to 8 inches long. It is most commonly used in the form of cigarettes. A policeman said that most of the marijuana traffic is among grade and high school students. The more advanced users use heroin, which is injected into the blood by needle.

This dope is very habit forming. It has strange effects on those who use it. A boy in Miami, Fla. slaughtered his father, mother, two brothers and a sister with an ax after smoking two marijuanas. One writer says that marijuana gives a person feelings of unusual mental ability and superhuman strength. He has uncontrollable and unreasonable desires and often a silly laughter. It acts differently on each victim,

yet makes all dangerous. Some have a resistless desire to kill with the thought that they are being attacked. Some have the effect of being able to cross the continent with one stride and others lose their sense of time.

How terrible this dope is! Just think of the many, many heartaches that are caused by its use. I'm sure you have read of the wrecked humans who are under its influence. One 16 year old girl wrote a letter to Mr. — in which she made some awful confessions and then added: "These preachers! They either do not know or do not care what we do. Some day I'm going to kidnap one of them and take him to one of our marijuana parties. I'll bet his next sermon would be on SIN. And that's what we need."

May God have mercy upon our young people. Do not let the devil buy your soul for the sake of not being called a "wet-blanket" or a coward. Stand for what is right and God will stand by you.

If any have been trapped and are under the influence of dope, be encouraged. There is deliverance for you through the blood of Jesus Christ. Just come to Him with faith and God will heal and restore you. God bless our precious young people and preserve them from the wiles of the devil.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.

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## Charismatic Church Government

The New Testament sets forth the practice and doctrine of a charismatic ministry as a means of governing the Church of God. The words *charism* and *charismatic* (adj.) are derived from a Greek word meaning the special divine or spiritual gift conferred upon a believer which fits him for the work or office to which he was divinely called. It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit and began its operation on the day of Pentecost through the 120 disciples in fulfillment of Joel's prophecy.

Christ is now on David's throne and is the sovereign monarchical ruler of the true Church through the agency of the Holy Spirit. The divinely-gifted subjects in Christ's kingdom constitute the charismatic ministry for the governing, edifying and perpetuating of His Church.

The Apostle Paul writes in Eph. 4:8, "When he [Christ] ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." What was the purpose of these gifts unto men? The Apostle answers in verses 11 and 12: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Note that these gifts and offices were divinely given directly for the benefit of the Church.

In Romans 12:6-8 the Apostle Paul again sets forth the charismatic ministry of the Spirit: "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on

teaching; or he that exhorteth, on exhortation; he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness." Such gifted individuals possess moral and spiritual authority to exercise their gifts anywhere in the world as the Lord may direct.

The Apostle Paul further describes the charismatic ministry in 1 Cor. 12:1, 4-11, 18, 28-31: "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? But covet earnestly the best gifts."

Notice the many types of service of gifted individuals, and the Church did not call or appoint them, nor supervise their work, "but now hath GOD set the members every one of them in the body as it hath pleased HIM." God's working will please the spiritually minded as well. This is the work of the Spirit of God. These gifts are the endowments of the charismatic ministry, and when the Church discerns these gifts in an individual it is justified in ordaining him as an elder, and thus extending recognition to his gifted ministry. He becomes an elder of the universal church. To be an elder in one locality is to be a recognized elder everywhere. But he is not the bishop or pastor, nor deacon, of a congregation until he is divinely directed and recognized as such by that congregation. His gift will make room for him, and the divine call for a special work will be loud enough for a spiritual church to hear and recognize.

The relationship of the kingship of Christ to His Church is set forth by the Lord in Matt. 23:8, "One is your master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren." The equality of all the saints before God leaves no place for human autocratic, bureaucratic, and dictatorial man-rule in God's Church.

The Church of Rome is under the dictatorial rule of the Papacy and teaches that the church is the authority and not the Holy Spirit. Whenever the church or any group professing to be such begin to exercise

authority over the spiritual work of the charismatic ministry, they are erecting an image to the beast of Catholicism. The modern terms of diocesan bishops, archbishops, and popes are nowhere indicated in the New Testament.

—L. D. Pruitt.

## Testimonies

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and all the saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me well and encouraged to press the battle on for our dear Lord. I do trust this finds all of you well. I am here alone this a.m. so thought I would write you, as you and the Lord's work there kept coming to my mind. I am so thankful to hear how the Lord is supplying help and means to keep the printed work going forth. We certainly do enjoy the tracts, "Beautiful Way" paper and "Faith and Victory," and also the many books we have read that Bro. Pruitt publishes. We thank God for Bro. Pruitt and his family who have proven so faithful in the work of the dear Lord. We love the saints and know they are the best people on earth because they are the people of God which make the beautiful church of God.

We have been in several of the campmeetings this summer and have enjoyed the sweet fellowship of the saints and the good messages that came forth. We find it just the same as 13 years ago when we first attended campmeeting. In fact, I believe it is getting better all the time, as the Bible teaches it will grow brighter and brighter.

It has been quite a while since I have written, but we think of you all and pray for you often. We are behind the work of the ministers with our prayers and means to the best of our knowledge and understanding. We are determined by the help and grace of God to stay in this strait and narrow way. We feel the need of your prayers.

I want to thank all the dear saints for their earnest prayers in the behalf of our son who has been suffering with sugar diabetes and T. B. but is much improved. His tests have all come back negative and they can't find any cavities in his lungs after being X-rayed. I know it has been through the prayers of the dear saints that God has undertaken for him. I believe he also realizes that it was God who was helping him, as he refused any operations. Continue to pray for him and that he will live to please the Lord.

The Lord has touched and healed me several times since I last wrote to you. I am so thankful to serve such a mighty God, One who is a very present help in time of need. I surely do feel my need of Him.

I have some unspoken requests I would like for you all to remember in prayer that God will help.

May God bless all you dear saints and supply every need is my prayer.

With Christian love,

—Mrs. Effie Miller.

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers,—I wrote to you to pray for me as I had a very severe pain in my body. Thank the Lord, this morning I am feeling much better, as I don't feel the pain at all. I just cough every once in a while. Thanks be unto God! I am encouraged to move on up with the Lord, as God is a good God. Thank you for praying for me. May the Lord bless each of you is my prayer.

A brother in Christ,

—Robert Lee.

Va.—Dear friends in Christ,—I do praise God for you and your ministry, not only for what it means to me but

also what it means to thousands of others. I am sorry that I let my subscription to "Faith and Victory" expire and have neglected to renew it. It is a wonderful little paper, like a little gem—small, but so precious. May God bless you in your work and may He supply your every need.

Sincerely yours,

—Stella Brewer.

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Kans.—Dear ones,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I feel led to tell of God's great love. This finds me still saved and encouraged to press on in the holy name of our Lord. I love my Lord more and more each day. We, His children, should honor Him more, in all humility and meekness.

I thank and praise the dear Lord for the wonderful campmeetings this summer. Oh, how rich the truths that poured from the mouths of His dear children!

One evening as I was walking toward home, a car backed up at high speed, and I did not see nor hear it coming. Very suddenly I felt the hand of my heavenly Father pick me up out of the way. Dear ones, when I think of it I can still feel that hand upon me. Praise His holy name forever and forever! It is wonderful to know He is with us everywhere we go.

There was a message I heard this summer that was very impressive to me: "We are not our own." He gave us life and, dear ones, He also can permit it to be taken. May we always be found in the center of His holy will is my prayer. May the Lord bless every one.

A sister in Christ,

—Joy Mannon.

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Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, and brethren in the Lord,—Greetings of love to you in Jesus' precious name. A few weeks ago I wrote to you for prayer for my eye which had something stuck in it near the pupil and was very painful. I want to report to you that the Lord has removed whatever it was, and my eye is getting along nicely now. We surely do thank and appreciate yours and all of the other saints' prayers and for remembering me in this time of need. Also, I truly do appreciate and thank God for what he has done for me. Praise His dear name! Much love to you and all the saints. May God richly bless each one.

Your brother in Christ,

E. C. Tombleson.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—I am greeting you in Jesus' dear name. I am saved and very encouraged to live for God.

He has healed me many times. About two weeks ago I had a bad foot. The devil said, "You have sugar diabetes," but I told him that he was a liar. I began to pray and asked the saints to pray. It surely looked bad. One day when I was praying a voice came to me saying, "If you are healed, will you tell it?" My answer was, "Yes, Lord." I know it was the Lord. He healed my toe and I give Him all the praise.

I have ten children, five girls and five boys, and none of the older ones are saved. Their ages are from 17 to two months old. Pray for them that they will get saved.

Pastena B. Warren.

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Ohio,—Dear Brother Pruitt,—I received the September number and saw several names in it that I know by love only through the written page, while some I have had the privilege of meeting. Bro. and Sister Gibson, from Mo., made a trip through the east, and stopped here where I stay. I had the privilege of enjoying Bro. and Sister Abbott's messages in a meeting last year in Akron, Ohio. Then I saw dear aged, blind sister Amanda Bayse's name,

whom I also met in a meeting in Columbus, Ohio and it was saintly love at once. She needs our prayers in her blindness, that God will continue to be very near to her. The Lord willing, I shall write to her soon. Another name I saw was Sister Ada Scanlan's, whom I have not met, but loved by her helpful encouraging letters.

I read the article on sanctification and thank God for His Word and His blood that cleanses from all sin. I was born into the church of God some 60 years ago and I have no trouble wandering about in Babylon. I am established in Zion and love its inmates and our God who so loved us that He sent a deliverer.

Oh, just look out ahead! Eternity, oh, that long eternity. Who wants to spend it in a lake of fire and brimstone for the few paltry pleasures of sin? This short life is the most important period of our existence, for in this brief moment we make and seal our eternal destiny for heaven or hell. I feel there should be a loud crying through the towns that Jesus is coming, and are people ready? I feel I would like to be out crying with all my might which, of course, would not be very great now at eighty-eight. But I feel it should be. Oh, I can hardly stand it to see such a settling down in sin, and religious professions—a real Sodom. Seldom does an isolated saint find one that wants to talk of eternal things.

I would not know where to begin to tell of all the wonderful blessings through all these years. I was run over by an automobile at seventy years of age, but the Lord lifted the auto enough that no bones were broken although because of the bruises I was confined four weeks in bed. I will not take space with any more except when I came here to make my home with a daughter six years ago I was covered from the tips of my toes to my hips with a blotch that the Lord did not permit to break open. My daughter, who said it was erysipelas, said I must go to a doctor, but he said it was not that. I said, "Lord, if this is the end, keep me faithful and ready." He has kept me faithful and in reasonable health. I can care for myself and my room. I have had no medicine in fifty-five years.

I say this very reverently and in godly fear, and encourage all to trust in God. Oh, that I might help win some souls to God. I spend most of my time in tract work and a large correspondence, which I enjoy. I want to be true to God.

—Mrs. E. F. Oesch

Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. Today I am still saved and trusting the Lord for both soul and body. Jesus is a present help in every time of need. He is my physician when I am sick. I go to Him in prayer and He hears and answers, and comes to my rescue and heals my body. I have trusted the Lord for over thirty-six years. He has never failed to heal my body.

Today I praise His precious name for all the good blessings to me. I am very happy with my new home here in Stoutland. I don't know what all the Lord has for me to do here, but I want to obey His still small voice and do whatever He shows me to do. I desire your prayers that I live true and faithful to my Lord to the end. I want to gain heaven at any cost.

A sister in Christ,

—Mrs. Fannie Williams.

Ohio,—To all the saints everywhere,—Greetings once again in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This letter finds me saved, sanctified, and satisfied to go all the way.

A remarkable incident occurred to me on my way home from Oklahoma last month. I had been to service in Tulsa, Oklahoma Wednesday night before starting home. As I went to my car after service I discovered I had a flat

tire. Well, that didn't phase me too much as I had a spare. I opened my trunk and got out the spare, but it was too flat to use. Bro. Leron West was here and offered to take me up to the gas station to get both fixed. I gladly consented and after having both fixed I placed the better one back on my car.

We said goodbye to our relatives, and started for home. After reaching the Oklahoma Turnpike we breathed a sigh of relief thinking all our troubles were over. We were singing and rejoicing in the Lord when all of a sudden, we heard a noise as if the car were falling apart. I reduced my speed, thinking that would stop the noise or would reduce it at any rate, but it only got louder. I finally pulled over and checked all the tires, but they were all up, so I tried to raise the hood. It was stuck. I used force, but it still wouldn't open. So I said to my father, and Sister Lucille Jackson (who were with me) that the only thing I knew to do was to pray. So we got down by the side of the car and began to pray. We told the Lord that He said, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. I told the Lord of my ignorance of things of a mechanical nature, and that I was wholly dependent upon Him. I also reminded the Lord that He said, "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." When I finished praying I got the witness that God was going to answer. We got a flashlight to look under the car to see if anything had come loose and saw that one of the tires (which was a recap, I believe) was coming apart. Some of the rubber was just hanging on. My father started to pull it off, but I told him to leave it alone. So we got back in the car and started off. The noise seemed to be louder. We just kept praying silently, each one of us.

We drove about 15 or 20 feet and the noise stopped and I did not hear it any more. We had about 30 or 35 miles to go to the next station. The old devil was really talking, trying to make us doubt that we were going to make it, but by the help of the Lord we kept right on. We got to the gas station and changed tires, then drove over 500 miles. We had another flat tire before we got home, but it went flat right in front of a station. We bought another tire there, and from then on we had no more trouble.

Oh, how we praised God when we got home! When we told of praying for the car just as we would for a person, some sneered and laughed, and some just called us crazy, but our confidence in God was unshaken. We know of a surety that "nothing is too hard for our God."

I desire all of your prayers that I can continue to live so that I can call on God for anything, anytime, and He will honor my prayers.

Always, your brother in Christ, —Robert L. Jones.

La.—My dear Sister Marie, Bro. Pruitt, and all the saints scattered throughout the world,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I have never loved the Lord more than now and have more confidence and faith in Him than ever before. Praise His name.

I imagine that the most of you know that my only son, Curtis D. Snead, was killed instantly June 30th in a car wreck. He had never professed to be saved but the Lord had promised me several years ago if I would give my baby's life, Nyda Jo Snead, age 16, at that time, that He would save my children. Well, it took me about three hours to be willing for her to die that day, but I finally got her on the altar. Like Abraham of old put, physically, his son, Isaac, on the altar by faith, so did I by her, altho

the Lord, even after I was completely willing, didn't take her and she is alive today, as far as I know at this writing. When I got the news that Curtis was dead, of course the shock was great. Though I knew nothing about his being saved the night before I felt that all was well, and was standing, by the encouragement from my children, on the promises of the Lord.

The night before his death I could hardly go to sleep. When I finally dropped off to sleep I dreamed I heard some people's voices (didn't see anyone though) say to me, "I want you to go and see a Snead's grave," and then some children's voices spoke, saying, "I want to go with you." I said, "You can't go for I have to go down into a deep valley and then up." Well, when I got to the top I saw a grove and a beautiful glittering white cross. It seemed the cross had diamonds as it was glittering so brightly. But the cross was a tombstone, and the name "Snead" was on it. I tried to connect it with my children's father who got killed in 1939 but it didn't seem to fit in somehow.

We then heard through Curtis' wife that he had been under deep conviction about two weeks before his death and had told his wife that night that he was surely going to serve God and that she needed to too, so they could help their children serve God. All of these things sounded good and then I also stood on God's Word, John 15:7, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." When I was laboring for souls I knew that God was willing to save all and not willing that any should perish. (2 Pet. 3:9.) How we all need to abide in Christ, so completely hid away with His Word dwelling richly in us so that we can have confidence when we come to the Lord

Then on Thursday morning after Curtis was killed on Monday, I was awakened early and was lying there praying. God spoke to me in clear tones that Curtis had gotten saved and was safe with Him. Sister Lee Whitley and my daughter were here with me and I could hardly wait for them to awaken so I could tell them. All that day the glory of the Lord came down on my soul until I had no desire or want to cry, but rather rejoiced. The Lord had so encouraged my heart already, even more than I could ever hope to express, and I believe that most everyone that was around knew that God had preformed a miracle on me, as I was known to adore my children.

I love the "Faith and Victory" paper and would send it to anyone that I thought would read it. I had sent it to my son to his office for years, and I asked him one time if he read it and he said, "Yes," so perhaps that was a great help to him to teach him the ways of the Lord. He loved the saints and was especially fond of Bro. Cecil Carver and would often speak of him.

On November the 15, 1957 I had a heart attack, a coronary thrombosis, and came near death. Inez, my daughter, talked to her doctor and he told her what I had. Inez said that from that time she could see a decided turning to God in Curtis.

Dear saints, let us contend earnestly for the faith that was once delivered to the saints. (Jude 3) Surely we need a spiritual awakening among us and need to be hid away with Christ in God—such a safe place to be.

Pray for me and for my husband, W. L. Carter, who was saved at Monark Springs Campmeeting, that we make progress in the Lord and do what we can to help souls to see Jesus in us and thereby seek their salvation.

Yours in Christ, —Mrs. Beulah S. Carter.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings to all of you in Jesus' dear name. It has been some time since I have written,

and now that I feel impressed I will do so with pleasure that God might be glorified. It is only through His grace and power that I can still report victory in my soul. So much has taken place and the Lord has been so near I hardly know what to testify to. His blessings are without number. He has led us through deep waters but has brought us out into a deeper experience and closer walk with Him. I have meditated much the last few days of how the dear Lord has worked to draw us closer. I have had to suffer some, but I found that was the most precious lessons learned. His precious love has surrounded me and like the dear heavenly Father He is, it was all for my good and I thank Him for it.

Some time ago He put upon our hearts a certain thing to do. I felt He would surely work very soon when we had done as directed and looked to that end. As time went on the Lord began to show me to wait and encouraged my heart when the enemy would put frightful things before me. But I can truly say this morning from the depths of my heart I am thankful He did not work immediately, and I care not how long I have to wait. I know that at just the right moment the Lord will come on the scene and work all to His glory and my good.

How I thank the Lord for His ministers that preach the truth that we may grow and also be warned of the wiles of the devil! Bro. Pruitt's tract, "Yield Not To Discouragement," brings out how it is sin to yield. It surely enlightened me and helped me so much. This morning it seems God's presence is so near and His love so abounds in my heart. I wish I could express it. Surely I am very encouraged, and by God's grace, refuse to ever yield to such a thing as discouragement. You may think, no doubt, I am being blessed with no trials, tests, or burdens at present, but that is false. I have had more trials and tests, afflictions and added burdens the past few days but I am happy in the Lord and his presence is so sweet and I am resting in Him. God is good to His children and WILL NOT allow burdens more than they are able to bear if they count it so. We need to put more faith in God and not look at the surroundings.

If I looked at the surroundings this morning I would go down; but the Word tells me that if we "seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added." I believe that with all my heart, so I am lifted up by his precious promises. I had prayed earnestly for the Lord to see fit to spare me from a certain trial; but my way was not His. When He allowed it, I just said, "not my will, but thine." Then, and then only, did I see the blessing in it. Again I learned some precious lessons I could never have learned any other way. Oh, praise the Lord! He DOES KNOW what is best. Regardless of what He allows to come my way, I know it is for my good and His glory. Praise the Lord!

The song, "I Am Saved Today," has been ringing in my heart. Truly it is blessed to be able to sing the victory amidst the troubles of this old world. We can do that through Christ. How I do thank the Lord that he dealt with my heart and called me into this glorious way! I find it is the sweetest, most satisfying way there is. There is nothing in this world to satisfy the longing in souls, but Christ can. Oh! how I desire all people to accept the Lord and be washed in his precious blood and filled with his Spirit. Surely if they only knew what they were missing, many would rush to be saved.

Pray for me that I will live such a life that will give others the desire to know the Lord. Not the desire only, but also such a longing that they will seek and find Him precious to their souls. Oh! precious saints, do KEEP

courage and look to Christ who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above what we are able to ask or think if we have the faith. Wait on the Lord and just look to him in humble submission as a child, that He may bless your souls and bodies. Oh! how precious is the lesson I have learned on patient waiting and the reward it brings to the soul! I know we are in perilous times and are meeting with strange fiery trials, but God is able.

Put on the whole armor of God and we can stand and be more than conquerors through Christ. Paul said, "I can do ALL things through Christ which strengtheneth me." It is only through Christ that we are more than conquerors. We should never try to do anything in our own power or according to our own knowledge, for it will avail nothing. Acknowledge the Lord in ALL thy ways, and "He shall direct thy paths." When we meet conditions, we can claim the promise as our very own.

Oh! I pray this may encourage some dear one. I have nothing to boast of except that Christ is my all in all. All the faith, love, patience, tenderness, or any other fruit of the Spirit of God which I may have, came from above and is mine only so long as I obey and follow Him. My whole heart's desire is to be faithful that I may possess this life eternal in heaven as well as here. "He that shall endure to the end the same shall be saved." Pray for me that I will ever be faithful and follow the Lord ALL the way. I do not want to follow as Peter did "afar off," but as Enoch. We read he "walked with God." You cannot be classed as walking with someone unless you are side by side. May God bless and encourage all of His children to a closer walk. Yours in the one way, Laverne Moles

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Ky.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—We greet you all in the name of our loving Lord and Saviour whom we love with all of our hearts. I just ask the saints to always remember us in their prayers that the Lord will keep us in the center of His will and strengthen us and draw us closer each day to Him. I always have a desire to get closer and do His will. I feel I am the least of all His children. I don't ever want to fail Him in anything I do, for I want to gain heaven as my eternal home to be forever and ever with the Lord. We are not too well in body, but the Lord knows best in all things. I am sending you a small offering to be used as you want to. So remember us in your prayers.

Your sister in Christ,

—Mrs. J. T. Roberts.

Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I have felt led for some time to send in my testimony. I thank God this evening for salvation. God is so real to me. I have been living for the Lord about 29 years and the way seems brighter every day. The dear Lord has healed my body many times and I praise and thank Him for it. If there ever was a time when we needed God in our lives, it is surely today. The Lord is our only hope in these days of trouble and strife.

We have been taking the "Faith and Victory" paper for about 25 years and enjoy each copy. We get much good out of it. We look forward each month to its coming.

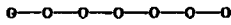
My desire is to press on toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. I want to live for Him who died for me. May God bless all the dear saints everywhere.

Your brother in Christ,

—H. A. Decocq.

A lady showing a massive piece of family silver apologized as she took it from the chest. "Dreadfully tarnished!" she said, "I can't keep it bright unless I use it."

That is true with our faith. We must trust the Lord and His way in the circumstances of every day to keep our faith bright.



### Hallowe'en ALL SAINTS DAY

"This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye [true Christians] walk not as other Gentiles [worldly-minded sinners and unsaved professors] walk in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: . . . Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." "Be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." "See that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." This is the command of the Lord according to 1 Cor. 14:37 as recorded by Paul in Ephesians, chapters four and five.

The above quotations from God's pure and holy Word should be conclusive proof that God's children, young and old, have no part in the pagan (heathenish, Gentile) practices in which the millions of professing Christians indulge. However we shall give a few facts as found in text books of history.

Quote: All Saints Day, a church festival which originated in the seventh century when the Pantheon at Rome was consecrated as the Church of the Blessed Mary Virgin Nov. 1, 608. Choice of the day was determined by the fact that Nov. 1 was one of four great festival days of the heathen nations of the North.

Hallowe'en, the evening of Oct. 31 for young people a time of gaiety and pranks, a night to play at being witches, ghosts, and fairies (revelry). That evening is so called, however because it is the Christian (Roman Catholic) festival of All Saints which falls on Nov. 1. It means holy eve, and a time which was set apart to honor the memory of all saints. The building of bonfires, cracking of nuts, bobbing for apples, telling of fortunes, and ghost stories which are now Hallowe'en customs, are all relic of Paganism. About thirteen centuries ago Pagans celebrated Nov. 1 as All Saints Day when spirits both good and evil were believed to be on earth. The Druids also celebrated their harvest festival about that time and many strange ceremonies were performed. Even after Pagans adopted in a measure Christianity (so called; the R. C. faith) they still observed many of their old customs. In past years the ceremonies peculiar to the occasion were of highly superstitious nature. End Quote. Taken from Funk and Wagnalls New Standard Encyclopedia and the World Book edited by M. V. Oshea Department of Education, University of Wisconsin, George H. Locke Librarian of Toronto Public Library assisted by 150 directors, guided scientists and leaders of thought in the U. S. A. and Canada.

Christian, Saint, Church of God, New Jerusalem,

a city set on a hill—Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the world." Do not hide your light under a bushel of worldly ways, sports, fashions, fads, dress, revelry, banqueting, or friendship with the world and old sect-Babylon. In 1 Tim. 3:15 Paul tells us that he writes these things that we might know how to behave in the household of God, the Church of God, the pillar and bulwark (M. tr.) or ground of the truth. Pillar and ground or bulwark is that which holds up and supports and strengthens. Christian, if you do not support, love, and hold up the truth very high in ALL its purity and holiness, the whole principle of Christ in the New Testament, no one else will. Soon it will be fallen to the street to die there. You can read about it in Isa. 59: 13-16. Dear ones, we need to study to know how to live and conduct our walk in the church, for we have a great cloud of witnesses. We need to lay aside all the weight and sin of worldliness and make straight paths lest the weak and the lame and even ourselves stumble and fall. Paul tells us also in 1 Cor. 14:33, 37 that anyone who is to be considered spiritual or qualified to instruct others will acknowledge his words as commands from the Lord and will not murmur and complain nor try to dodge and make excuse to justify selfish worldly ways and compromise, but rather will gladly do all things and suffer to bring unity in the body. Dear ones, God's people are a clean separated people, a holy nation (oneness). Search has been made and no record can be found of any names of the mixed multitude written in the Book (Neh. 13). God's people will not try to imitate the worldly in ANY manner, will not fix up and dress like, follow styles, ways, hair styles and amusements, sports, unions, and such like as the world. When they do, God will cut them off and blot them out and bring suffering, disease, and reproach upon them. Read Isa. 3; Deut. 9:12-14; Exodus 32:33; also Ezekiel chapters 5, 6, and 7.

Oh, you may not realize at first that you are cut off. God says you will have a delusion, etc. He says that they will come AS my people and sit and hear AS my people, but that they are not his people. He also tells us that prophets will run but He does not send them. That is, men will claim to be God-sent preachers who are not. They will preach much truth and good things, using the Word deceitfully, telling the people that they are saved and all right and in the church, etc. But these cannot be sent of God because men have taught them, boards and committees have hired them and sent them to certain places. God's true Shepherds are called and taught and sent by the Holy Spirit to feed "the Church" (Acts 20:28) and declare the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27), not to amuse and entertain men.

Do you love the truth? Then tell God and the world so by living it before them—all the world, in the home, on the job, in business, and behind the pulpit—a workman that need not be ashamed, approved of God.

—R. R. Halladay.

"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them." Psa. 119:165.

## BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.50: Lesson cards, 10¢

October 5, 1958

### INTRODUCING THE GOSPEL

Printed Portion ..... Luke 1:1-4; 3:1-6

Luke 1:1. Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,

2. Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word;

3. It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,

4. That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

3:1. Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene,

2. Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

3. And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

4. As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

5. Every valley shall be filled, every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth;

6. And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Memory Verse: When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son. Gal. 4:4.

Practical Truth: God so planned and brought things to pass that there is available an adequate knowledge of the great truths of the gospel.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Luke, who was a Gentile, wrote the book of Luke and Acts to Theophilus, a Roman official. Luke joined Paul on his second missionary journey and went with him to Jerusalem at the close of his third missionary trip. He evidently stayed in Palestine during the two years while Paul was a prisoner in Caesarea. There he had plenty of opportunity to talk with the apostles and maybe Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The Jewish people had at this time established a firm belief in God as being righteous, holy, and just. Their commercial activity and synagogues in various parts of the then known world under the Roman government had great influence on the pagan peoples. The world at that time seemed to be ready for Christ's coming, which verifies Paul's statement in Col. 4:4, "When the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son." God was doing things in His own way. The appearance of Gabriel to Zacharias, the striking of him with dumbness, the birth of a son to Elizabeth when she was old, the sudden loosing of Zacharias' tongue, and his wonderful prophecy afterward was a good background for John the Baptist to be watched and

sought out by the people when he began to prophesy. He proclaimed God's message in no uncertain words. People repented and were baptized. They straightened up their lives and became ready for Christ and His great teachings. Jesus said, "There is no prophet greater than John the Baptist."

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October 12, 1958

### THE PROMISE FULFILLED

Printed Portion ..... Luke 2:25-35.

Luke 2:25. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28. Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29. Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

30. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31. Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32. A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

33. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

34. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

35. (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

Memory Verse: Mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Luke 2:30-32.

Practical Truth: The infant Jesus was an earnest or token of the redemption which He would later provide.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The most spiritual, humble, and devout men and women in the Jewish nation were looking for the fulfillment of the promise that a Saviour was to come to the world. Simeon, also Zacharias and Anna were informed by the Spirit that they would see the Saviour. No doubt they had studied Daniel 9:24-27, which gives the exact year that Jesus was to be born, and his ascension. Seventy weeks times seven (day for a year, Ezek. 4:6; Lev. 25:8) equals 490 years. Counting from the "Commandment to restore and build Jerusalem," which was in 457 B. C. (Ezra 8, 9, 10) and add thirty-three years (Jesus' life and ministry) to that date and it equals 490 years. At his death he made "reconciliation for iniquity." It is wonderful how God, by His Spirit, let his prophets know of His plans.

It is precious to notice how Simeon was led by the Spirit. The Spirit made him know he would not see death before he had seen Jesus, and when to go into the temple at the time when Jesus was brought in. The Spirit spoke through him, letting others know that truly this was the



Saviour which was a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Israel. Thank God for that wonderful light that came into the world and that is in our hearts today. At the cross Mary's heart was pierced, so the hearts of many were revealed.

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October 19, 1958

### THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Printed Portion ..... Luke 3:15-22.

Luke 3:15. And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;

16. John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

17. Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

18. And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

19. But Herod the tetrarch, being reproved by him for Herodias his brother Philip's wife, and for all the evils which Herod had done,

20. Added yet this above all, that he shut up John in prison.

21. Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened.

22. And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son, in thee I am well pleased.

Memory Verse: Then said I, Lo, I come ... to do thy will, O God. Hebrews 10:7.

Practical Truth: The Messiah, on whom the Spirit was poured out; can pour out His Spirit upon us.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There had not been a prophet in Israel for many years, and some wondered if John the Baptist was the Messiah. John set them straight in that thought by telling them that "one mightier than I" would come, who could change the hearts of men and effect an inner cleansing by the Holy Ghost fire that outward baptism could merely typify. Truly John the Baptist had a wonderful message to deliver, the foretelling of the work of Jesus our Saviour. We rejoice to know that today it is true in our hearts—all those who yield to God.

John prophesied that Jesus would execute judgment just like a fan or winnowing fork is used to clear the threshing floor. The wheat would go into the granary and the chaff would be burned. What a great separation will come some day when the hearts of men, women, boys, and girls will be judged. What rejoicing there will be to the righteous when they are gathered to be with the Lord forever in heaven; but how sad for the unrighteous to be cast into that unquenchable fire.

The Trinity was at the scene when John baptized one day: Jesus the Son of God, the Holy Spirit in a form of a dove, and God speaking out of heaven saying, "Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased." The communion between man that was closed the day Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden was again opened through Jesus. How wonderful that is to us today!

October 26, 1958

### TEMPTATION IN THE WILDERNESS

Printed Portion .....Matthew 4:1-11

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

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

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

4. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Memory Verse: In that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted. Hebrews 2:18.

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

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

All who live in the flesh have to undergo temptation. Jesus was no exception, and according to our lesson, he had some struggles with the enemy, but he won the victory. Today we can have the victory through Jesus Christ who conquered him. Praise the Lord!

According to 1 John 2:16 we are tempted through the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. We notice that the devil worked on Adam and Eve in this manner, also Jesus. Jesus was conqueror over the flesh and the devil, and we can be.

Jesus was starting out on his ministry and had spent forty days and nights in prayer and meditation. The devil came against him strong. He wanted to stop Jesus' ministry to souls who needed to be liberated from the devil. The devil would like to stop our mouths today.

We notice that Jesus answered the devil with Scripture. That is a good course for us to follow today. Also notice that three times the devil came hard against him, but each time He resisted the devil. Peter instructs us to resist the devil steadfast in the faith. When he comes, each time resist him and victory is sure to be yours. Do not be discouraged but continue to resist him. Jesus gives us power over the devil and He wants us to use it.

—Marie Miles