

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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They Crucified My Lord

They crucified my Lord and King,
They nailed Him to the tree;
They taunted, and they jeered at Him,
As He died for you and me.

Though Pilate washed his hands, and said,
"I find no fault in Him;"
They desired a murderer instead,
To sate their evil whim.

They pierced His hands, they pierced His feet,
At last they pierced His side;
Out came the water and the blood,
The crimson, cleansing tide.

His body laid they in the tomb,
A stone rolled to the door;
The scribes and Pharisees desired
That He should rise no more.

But, lo, an angel from above
With great majestic power,
Rolled back the stone and sat thereon,
In early morning hour.

My Lord arose with victory
O'er death, hell, and the grave;
He holds the keys now in His hand,
He died our souls to save.

Now He lives! Praise God forever;
We shall see Him bye and bye:
When He comes to get His jewels,
We'll meet Him in the sky.

—Ulysses Phillips

The First And Second Resurrection

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, ..." Revelation 20:6.

We were "dead in trespasses and sin"—dead to God and with no hope in our souls of a first or a second resurrection. We fulfilled the lusts and desires of the flesh and mind. (Eph. 2:1-8.) We were under

the power of darkness and the devil, our father. (John 8:44.) We were just as a dead person walking about. But, praise the Lord, as we came to Him, confessing our sins with a godly sorrow and a broken and contrite heart, He "quickened us" by His Spirit and raised us up out of that dead tomb of sin and "made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." Thank God for the resurrection that took place in our hearts. We "put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Eph. 4:24.) We are a "new creature" in Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17.)

Jesus said, "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. When we are sanctified wholly and have taken part in the first resurrection we are then ready for the second resurrection. The second death will not have any power over us, which is for those who reject God and are cast into the "lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." Rev. 21:8. The first death refers to those who die a spiritual death. ("Sin revived, and I died." Rom. 7:9.) The Church of Smyrna had a promise from the Lord that they should "not be hurt of the second death." Rev. 2:11. They had had a part in the first resurrection. Thank the Lord!

"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28, 29. Now this is speaking of the second resurrection. This will take place in the last day.

In 1 Thess. 4:13-18 we read very clearly how things will shape up in the last day. The "Lord himself shall descend from heaven" and "the dead in Christ shall rise first." The dead in Christ are those who have had part in the first resurrection and are just asleep in Jesus (verse 14) or have died a literal death. They will rise from the graves in that "hour" that is coming, just a moment, or twinkling of an eye ahead of those who "are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord." While these are still in the air with the Lord (verse 14) they who "are alive and remain shall be caught up together in the clouds, to

meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord." This is the second resurrection.

Many teach today that there will be two literal resurrections in the end, but this is false. There is to be only one resurrection. They want to emphasize the words, "the dead in Christ shall rise first." Have you noticed that this is written for the comfort of the righteous and the wicked are not mentioned? I have talked to some and truly they wrest the scriptures. In Rev. 1:7 it is very plain, "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him." Surely this should settle that theory.

What a glorious truth is given to us about the second resurrection! The children of God rejoice at the thought of corruption putting on incorruption and mortality putting on immortality. (1 Cor. 15:50-58.) Bro. Paul calls it a mystery but flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God and a change must take place. Do we have faith for the change? Even though we do not understand how it can be done because it is a miracle of God, we do believe it will come to pass because the Bible says so.

Today we have insects and other forms of life in the world that have two kinds of bodies. We think of the wormlike caterpillar that wraps itself into an envelope forming a cocoon. Then later it comes forth from the cocoon a lovely butterfly. A miracle of God! The larva of mosquitoes live in water and are food for the fish, yet, the adult mosquito is food for birds. Tadpoles live in water, but when they change and lose their tail they live on the land. All this makes us know that God can work a miracle in our bodies.

Christ is "the firstfruits" of the resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:23.) He arose with a glorified body. Witnesses tell us they saw him. Just as He arose, we, too, will arise to be with Him throughout eternity if we have had part in the first resurrection.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.

Growth In Grace

I will first say the fallow ground of our hearts will have to be broken up, our sins forgiven, and our soul set free, to be in the right position to grow in grace. We will have to forsake worldly pleasure, have to forsake all, to follow Jesus. Our lives have to be hid with Christ in God. We must be all surrendered with our perfect trust in him. Luke 9:23, "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." The Lord wants us to forever abide in Him. St. John 15:5 says, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." Verse 4, "The branch cannot bear fruit of itself." All its strength and growth comes from the vine. So it is with our soul. We have to abide in the Lord so we can grow. Our lives must be wholly consecrated to God. 1 Peter 2:2: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may

grow thereby." Our growth comes by abiding in the Lord, and obeying His commands. In so doing we are as the Word says in 2 Peter 3:18: "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever." This is a life hid with Christ in God, a wonderful life of the Holy Spirit dwelling within our hearts. "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing." Psalms 92:14.

We feel thankful and grateful in our hearts that God has so provided a way by which His trusting children can stand true to Him. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Eph. 6:10, 11. God wants us to stand true to him regardless of the tests and trials of this life. We are planted in God by accepting the truth of His Word. Heb. 6:1, "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God." Oh, dear saints, if there ever was a time to stand firm for Jesus, it is now. Sin and wickedness is getting worse and worse in the earth. So, by God's help and grace, let us grow stronger and stronger in the Lord.

Matt. 6:28, "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin." Titus 3:3, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." Eph. 2:9, "Not of works, lest any man should boast." We are not saved by the good deeds we do, but we are saved by the grace of God through faith in Him, which is the gift of God. Heb. 3:6, "But Christ as a Son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end."

—Sister Josephine Taylor.

Girls Wake Up

At one time I was what they call a good-time girl. I loved all worldly amusements. I would walk for miles just to attend one dance. Pretty clothes, jewelry and make-up were things I took all pride in. I smoked one cigarette after another and my cursing was very unbelievable for a young lady.

I attended church at times while staying with my aunt. Things would still be that way, if God had not come down and taken me into His loving care. Before I was saved, I suffered a great hardship by seeing my dear mother killed at an ungodly drinking party. It takes things to wake us up.

I was under conviction for almost two years and finally God helped me to see that I was lost. I repented and found such wonderful peace—peace of mind, peace of knowing that some day all troubles will be over and I'll share peace forever with Him. I wish I had known Him many years before, but thank God I do know Him now.

I don't mean to offend or to judge, for God is our judge, but I was brought up thinking I could do all these things; but when I got saved, I found that all worldly pleasures had to go. Out of your homes will go T. V. sets, no more money spent foolishly on movies, dancing, jewelry, make-up, curled hair and etc. Your dress will be according to holiness and your thoughts clean and pure before God.

We will be dead to the things of this world as in 2nd Timothy 2:11: "If we be dead with Him, we shall also live with Him."

Clean yourself inside first and then out, then God will use you. I know! He has a place for all of us if we are willing to serve and obey Him.

God bless you, —D. P., W. Va.

Warnings To A Backslider

I was a lover of Television and would sit for hours watching worldly programs. I knew that the actors were bad morally because I read about them in newspapers and magazines, still I could not quit although I wanted to. Instead, it had a greater hold on me than before. But one night as I sat before the T. V. set, I sensed a strange presence next to me. I began to be afraid. Finally conviction came upon me and I felt as though I was going to die. I was under such conviction I got up and turned the T. V. off. I knew it was the Lord standing by me and warning me! For a while after that I was afraid to look at T. V. But I soon forgot about the incident and started looking at news. I told myself that wasn't bad because I read the newspapers. Finally I began watching worldly programs again. Then God gave me another warning! One morning after I had just opened my eyes, I heard Jesus say in an audible voice, "What about the times you're going to turn your back on Me?" A big lump came into my throat and I began to cry. "Lord, I never want to backslide." I didn't know I was already backslidden. That was the second warning Jesus gave me before His judgment fell on me!

A few weeks later I took sick—first my back, then my right leg and hip. Thinking it would pass I considered it lightly. Finally I couldn't walk, so I went to the doctor and then to the hospital clinic. The doctors gave me four to five shots in my hips, but the pain would not stop. For three months I had excruciating pain and all the medicine I took would not help me. I couldn't even sit down because of pain. I cried to the Lord night and day. "O, Lord, what did I do to deserve this?" I went to different places to be prayed for but God would not answer. The pain started to enter my brain, and by now it was so intense I thought to myself, "I can't endure any more. I'll just go away somewhere and kill myself." Then one day the pain was so great that I thought I would crack up. My husband and I knelt and prayed and that was when the Lord revealed to me that it was because of television I was being chastened. I have had many sicknesses in my life, but nothing like this. I never want to go through that again.

I repented in bitter tears for over an hour one day, as if my heart would break. I cried and cried and begged God to forgive me and take me back so I could have unbroken fellowship with Him.

This is the reason I am writing this, to warn other Christians who watch T. V. It is the most useless time-consuming sin-exciting instrument ever introduced into the home. It creates a covetous craving for the latest gadgets and forms of worldly pleasure. It is a cesspool of iniquity. 1 John 2:15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." The Word of God says the Christian abstains from all appearance of evil. 1 Thess. 5:22.

Those who preach the truth from the Holy inspired Word of God, preach against Hollywood and all movies. How can anyone preach against movies and not preach against Television? They are the same. The only difference is that you do not go to the theatre to see the movie now, as Hollywood, the liquor industry and tobacco companies have moved right into your homes with T. V. Television ruins the influence of a Christian, debauches the minds of children, inflames the lust of youth and hardens the hearts of sinners. The Word of God says that every born again child of God is a witness for Christ. Matt. 10:32, 33. We should let our light so shine before men that they may see our good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven, Matt. 5:16.

Certainly a Christian could not be obedient to this command of God and have T. V. in their home that glamorizes all types of sin—another cause of the backslidden condition of some today! How can we be ready for the Lord's return with our own minds filled with these lustful filthy things shown on T. V.? As He said He was coming after a church without spot or wrinkle, Eph. 5:27, I thank and praise God that He has delivered me and shown me, in time, the evils of T. V. I read of a lady who had a vision of the Lord's return with many of the professors hugging the T. V. and being rejected. Let this be a warning to all Christians who partake of the world.

1 Cor. 5:9-11, "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat." "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12. —Helen Mikal.

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Okla.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the Holy brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,—I felt that God would have me tell how He saved and sanctified me. Praise His dear name. He blesses me and keeps me by His power. I feel very well in body, praise the dear Lord, and I feel rich in my soul this morning. I am yet saved and much encouraged to live on for the dear Lord. Although I have many tests and trials, by the grace of God I am determined to press on until the crown is won.

All of you pray much for me that I will stay true and live for the dear Lord. And may the good Lord ever bless you is my prayer.

Your sister in Jesus Christ, —Sarah F. Brown.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

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

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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.

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P. O. Box 713, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
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The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor
1208 W. Mansur, P. O. Box 210, Phone BUTler 2-3244

Editorials

We are much pleased and rejoice in Spirit to see how the Lord is moving on the hearts of those who have been reading the Faith and Victory paper received through the three-month offer which ended with the March issue. Many of them want to know who sent their name in for the paper as they want to thank them for the kind deed. Some subscribe for a year and others for three years. It makes our hearts rejoice to know that we can be workers together with Him in getting this evening light truth to men. You who have sent the names in have been also a worker together with the Lord in supplying food for the souls of these dear ones and it will no doubt be the means of many souls getting into heaven. We can all be workers together with God.

We cannot supply you who have asked, with the name of the party who sent in your name for the three months' offer, for there were over 3700 names sent in and to hunt any certain name out of such a list would be a big job indeed and almost impossible to find it.

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When Mother Sarah Smith, who was a mother in Israel and traveled with D. S. Warner and his company for more than four years, was in a justified state she felt the need of the cleansing in a second work. She did not know what sanctification was, but read in the Word of God in John 4:18, "There is no fear in love: but perfect love casteth out fear." She sought the Lord for perfect love and kept consecrating and giving up to God's will until He gave her that perfect love and afterward she knew that she was sanctified wholly being infilled with the Holy Ghost and the power of God. When Jude wrote to the sanctified ministry he said they were sanctified by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ and called.

When I was justified and the sweet peace of God was abiding in my soul I did not understand what sanctification was but I felt the need of a pure heart. I read in Matt. 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." I sought and consecrated to God for a pure heart and by faith the Lord infilled me with the Holy Ghost, cleansing and purifying my heart and with that, made me fearless to do all the will of God. This experience agrees exactly with what Peter says concerning Cornelius and his household receiving the Holy Ghost for he said in the 15th chapter of Acts and the 8th and 9th verses, "And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith." In Rom. 15:16 we read where they were sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

According to the above testimonies we know that the second definite work of cleansing the sin nature out of the soul is accomplished by the incoming of the Holy Ghost and the result will be a perfect love in the soul, perfect holiness, a pure heart, and power

to witness for Him. That one will be sanctified by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ and called. Every justified person needs this experience. Consecrate yourself to God and present your body to Him as a living sacrifice and hold all on the altar, which is Christ, until the Holy Ghost cleansing and in-filling takes place in your heart; and then, and only then, will you be fully ready for service and work in your place in the body of Christ which is the Church of God, the pillar and ground of all the truth.

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, . . ." 1 Thess. 4:3.

The above text makes it certain that God wills our sanctification and the doctrine of Blood cleansing from sin is taught in two forms all through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. We want to give a few scriptures on this subject for it is the central and most important subject or doctrine in the Bible. When any one professing Christ is lame in his understanding of this doctrine or falls short of it by experience he will be mixed up on truth and will fail to have a clear vision on many other subjects of the Bible.

Obituaries

Mallisia Jane Wheeler was born in Austin, Texas March 1, 1880 and departed this life March 6, 1960 at the age of 80 years and 5 days. September 2, 1902 she was united in marriage to Henry D. Wheeler, to which union eight children were born, one preceding her in death. Shortly after their marriage they moved to the Bristow, Oklahoma community where she resided the past 45 years.

She was born into the Church of God and remained faithful even unto death. So kind, patient, and understanding was she, even to the end. We know that our loss is heaven's gain. She was an orphan child, and had a very hard young life, but spent her life for others. Besides raising her own children and being a faithful wife to her dear husband, she reared some orphan children, too, and remembered the poor all her life and was kind to all.

She is survived by her husband, Henry D. Wheeler, pastor of the Bristow congregation; three sons: Oscar T., Ferrill, and Flournoy Wheeler; four daughters: Virgie Cunningham, Martha Moore, Mary Mead, and Gertie Wheeler of the home, and who took such wonderful care of her mother; 13 grandchildren, and 20 great grandchildren; and many other relatives, friends, and saints.

Funeral services were conducted in Bristow, Okla. by Bro. Charles R. Smith, assisted by Bro. Richard Madden. She was laid to rest in the Oak Hill Cemetery.



Vown Deloy Gentry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gentry, born June 18, 1939 departed this life March 17, 1960 at his home in Rockford, Ill at the age of 20 years and nine months.

He is survived by his father and mother; two brothers: Troy of Greenville, Mo., and Eddie of the home; two sisters: Mrs. Hassie Palmer and Mrs. Eula Miller both of Rockford, Ill.; a grandmother, Mrs. Annie Gentry of Rockford, Ill. and a host of other relatives, friends, and brothers and sisters in the Lord. One sister, Cassie, preceded him in death.

He made peace with God and trusted Him to the end, leaving a bright testimony. Our loss is heaven's gain.

Services were conducted by Bro. Murphy Allen, assisted by Bro. H. Probst at Greenville, Mo., where interment was made. Text: Matt. 7:21; Rev. 14:13.

NOTICES

HENNESSEY, OKLA. CAMPMEETING

The Church of God at Hennessey, Okla., will begin their Campmeeting, the Lord permitting, May 27, and close June 5. All pray for the meeting that the Lord will bless souls and on all lines.

For further information write Bro. Claude Johnson, or Sister Ada B. Davis, Pastor. —Sister Willa J. Williams

ANNUAL SPRING REVIVAL, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

The Annual Spring Revival of the Church of God at 1381 Walnut St., Los Angeles, Calif., Lord willing will convene April 10 to April 17, 1960 or as the Lord leads. All are welcome. We desire the saints' prayers.

For further information contact Bro. I. C. Chandler, Route 6, Box 37, Bakersfield, Calif., or Bro. T. R. Summers 207 E. 76th Pl., Los Angeles 3, Calif., Phone: Pl. 8-8319.

EASTER SERVICES AT COFFEYVILLE, KANS.

The saints at Coffeyville, Kans., will have special services on Easter Sunday, observing the ordinances of Feet Washing and The Lord's Supper in the afternoon. Sunday School at 9:45 a. m., preaching at 10:45, and also night service. Every one is welcome. Church of God Chapel, corner of Eldrige and Willow, Coffeyville, Kans.

—Sister Margaret Eck.

EASTER SERVICES AT GUTHRIE, OKLA.

The annual all-day Easter services will be held at Guthrie, Okla. The ordinances of the Bible will be observed in the afternoon. We will put our lunches together to eat at noon in the dining hall. All are welcome to come and be with us and enjoy the fellowship of the Spirit.

—Ira. D. Stover, Pastor.

OKLAHOMA STATE WORK WEEK

There has been announced a work week following Easter to repair the flood damage done on the pavilion, and repair or replace damaged benches on the Campground at Guthrie, Okla. The dining hall roof needs repairing and painting needs to be done. Come and help take care of your Campgrounds for the Lord. If you can't come, ask the Lord how you can help with finances. There is about \$100.00 in the treasury which will not go very far in taking care of the needs. The campmeeting will soon come with additional needs.

We thank the Lord and the saints for how they have helped in the past. We have enough "silverware" now, but we need individual serving trays and plastic glasses. Let each family help by buying for their own use and then leaving them at the dining hall. There is always need for tea towels, sheets (single), pillow cases, and bedding. It also would be good to can extra foods for the campmeeting and assembly meeting.

Send all offerings and supplies to Audney Davis, Rt. 4, Guthrie, Okla.

—M. Audney Davis, Treas.

CORRECTION

Please send any offerings to help pay for the chapel at Hoffman, Okla., to Bro. W. W. Crawley or Sister Earnestine Myles, P. O. Box 63, Hoffman, Okla. In the February issue a mistake was made by putting the name Earnestine Jordan instead of Myles.

REPORT OF NATIONAL CAMPGROUND AND MISSIONARY PROJECTS

Thirteen new camp tents (6 large and 7 regular size) for the National campmeeting have been delivered to Bro. Ralph Beisly, business manager of the campmeeting, at a total cost of \$468.32, according to information just received from him. The amount of \$329.35 has been received for the tents, leaving a balance yet due of \$138.97. The general response to this need is greatly appreciated, and we are confident that the saints know that their continued giving to this project until the debt is paid will be accompanied by the Lord's rich blessings in return. These tents will soon be placed in the storage room on the campground at Monark Springs (Neosho), Mo. to be used there for the coming National campmeeting, July 22-31, 1960.

Bro. Beisly also reports that \$45.00 has been received toward a new cook stove for the Monark Springs kitchen. This fund will need a substantial increase in order to procure a suitable stove.

The balance in the Church of God National Missionary Fund now stands at \$50.90, according to the treasurer, Bro. Beisly. This very essential fund should be remembered continually in the church's total giving. Whenever a congregation or an individual loses the "missionary" spirit (the burden to rescue souls from sin), they are losing the spirit of Christ, for His was and is definitely an active missionary spirit. If the Lord carries, it will soon be time for the evangelistic tent company and other missionary workers to move out into the ripe fields for the summer. There is a crying need for many more consecrated and qualified gospel workers in this world-wide field of perishing humanity.

Bro. Charles Smith, who has faithfully assumed the responsibility for the evangelistic tent work in the central part of the country ever since its inception, stated recently that he was still much burdened for this type of ministry, but that his time in this service would be limited this year on account of family responsibilities which will require him to be at or near home. May the Lord reward Bro. Smith for his past labors of love for souls, and may he enter every door of gospel service that is open to him.

When we pray, as Jesus requested, that "the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into his harvest," we should respond with Isaiah's prayer: "Here am I; send me." (Isa. 6:8).

Plans were made and contributions pledged for materials last year to build a wing on the east side of the tabernacle at Monark Springs, Mo. to provide adequate seating capacity for increasing attendance. Many more seats will need to be built, as well as extending the concrete rostrum at both sides. A SPECIAL WORK DAY has been set for Saturday, May 14, for all, who can, to come and work on this building project. If any can stay over a few days or week after that day to continue the work, your services will be highly appreciated.

You may send your contributions to the National Missionary Fund, debt on tents, or the National Campmeeting direct to Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kansas, and specify to what purpose it should be applied.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secretary

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Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure—
Save from wrath and make me pure.

When John saw Jesus coming toward him he cried out, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." The cleansing of that sin nature and death that passed upon all men through the fall of Adam was the work of Christ. Read the 12th verse of the 5th chapter of Romans. This was the sin that caused men to sin and that is why Jesus came into the world. It was to deliver men from that sin so they could live righteous and holy before him all their days. Luke 1:75. In a justified state we are forgiven of all our actual transgressions or from all the sins that we ever committed, and have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. But John spoke of sin in the singular number when he saw Jesus coming toward him. That sin nature is not something that we committed, but it was forced on us by Satan when Adam and Eve yielded to Satan's lies and transgressed the commandment of God. A Saviour was immediately promised from the seed of the woman, who would bruise Satan's head. Thus it is written in Psalms 68:18 and in Eph. 4:8, "When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." Through that sin nature the planting of Satan, the devil, had mankind captured and all had sinned and come short of the glory of God. The planting of the unrighteous seed of Satan in the soul of men brought them under captivity to him and meant death to the soul. But the mission of Jesus' coming and making the blood sacrifice was to undo the works of Satan and set mankind free from that sin by cleansing it away by faith in the all-powerful blood of Jesus. This doctrine should be taught and held before the people continually.

We read in the first few verses of Jude's epistle to the then sanctified ministry that they should earn-

estly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints. He said it was needful that he write this unto them. Let us read from the first verse of Jude and see what he says, "Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called." You notice he says, "To them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called." There were no doubt others who had ceased to teach the second work of grace, therefore it was needful for him to write to the ones retaining the truth to not fail to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints. The faith that was delivered to the saints which Jude refers to was no doubt the faith given to the 120 justified saints on the day of Pentecost for the receiving of the Holy Ghost and with it many other gifts for them to operate in their respective places in the body of Christ, the Church of God.

In the 2nd verse he says, "Mercy unto you, and love, be multiplied." When the cleansing takes place and you enter into the holiest of holies your peace and love can be multiplied. In the third verse Jude says, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should **EARN-ESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS.**" The reason for it being so necessary for him to write this letter was no doubt that some, even at that time, were letting down on its teaching. If Satan can get ministers to cease to teach the cleansing in the definite second work of grace he will succeed in doing away with the true gospel and the weight and power it has to save and to cleanse. Jude was stirred about the matter and saw the need of holding up this essential doctrine that Satan be defeated in his plans.

In the 4th verse we read what Jude further says. It was even more needful to write these things because some had crept in unawares and were going along as one with the ministry. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. Paul tells us to purge those things out. Some may wonder how such men could creep in unawares to all the others. This same thing happened in this Reformation. The leaders one time were humble men of God but gradually they began to love the best places and wanted to win the better classes as they called them, or men with money, position, and prestige. They began to put on adornment which heretofore they had taught against and were free from. They wanted a salary for their preaching and then they wanted Reverend before their names and then D. D. to follow. Then they had to have a pulpit committee to keep out any of God's little ministers who might get into the pulpit and expose them publicly, and so on they went. They became like the king Jesus tells about in the 14th chapter of Luke and the 31st and 32nd verses. This king had ten thousand soldiers and he was afraid to go against another king with twenty thousand soldiers, so he sent and compromised and made peace with the other king. These

men had trifled with the world and grieved the Spirit away and had no strength to go against the world. Therefore they just kept making peace with Satan and the world until the whole lump had been leavened with worldliness. As they were in the lead when in touch with God they had won the confidence of all the saints. Then, gradually, they became so defiled with the world that they lost God out of their hearts, became ungodly men; but this was unknown: most of the saints were unaware of their condition. Hence, they were won over by the devil to the world and its deceitful religious ways and their spiritual eyes were punched out and they became grinders for the worldly-minded, religion-loving people.

It is a sad state indeed. When the Spirit of God is grieved away and you have no God in your soul, you are an ungodly man no matter how much your mind may retain of truth or how pious and nice you seem to be, or how well you may be able to preach, or how many people you may be fooling. If God is grieved away, you are an ungodly man and your vision of spiritual truth has been perverted and you reason yourself and others astray. Any doctrine or teaching that will lead you closer to the world and its ways is a devil's doctrine and is from beneath and not from above. Jesus told the disciples even when they were in only a justified state they were not of the world, even as He was not of the world; and He told the religious Pharisees of His day, "Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world." The Pharisees were a self-righteous people and had no God in their souls. We have many of such in our day, teaching, for doctrines, the commandments of men, men who have lost out with God. They have crept in unawares to many, appearing as angels of light. Beware! Brethren, we are just human vessels for God and we need to watch and pray and live very meek and lowly before God.

It could be possible that we have some among us who are not clear on the second definite work of cleansing and will creep in unawares to us and in time lead many astray. Any one who has had the second definite work of cleansing in his soul and then goes back on it and does not teach cleansing of the sin nature, has surely received a strong delusion from God that he may believe a lie and be damned. You should drop such a teacher as that, for you can never reform any one who has received such a delusion. The blazing truth is going forth in these last days and many are being gathered into the truth; but many more are being gathered into deception to be burned. The warfare between right and wrong is raging today in the ecclesiastical heavens and some bright lights are going down never to rise again. We should walk in the light while we have light, lest darkness come upon the soul.

Malachi, the last prophet who prophesied 400 years before Christ came, said, in referring to Christ and His works, "For, Behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of

hosts, that it shall leave them neither root or branch." But in the next verse (4:2) it says, "But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall."

The old literal temple that Solomon built was a type or shadow of the spiritual temple or sanctuary which the Lord pitched and not man, Heb. 8:2. The literal temple or tabernacle had two parts. Into the first part of this tabernacle went the priests to "accomplish the service of God." Hebrews 9:6, 7. Their sins were forgiven which made them holy, but having that sin nature caused them to sin again and again so that they had to continually offer up blood sacrifices to get forgiveness. The other part, which was termed the Most Holy, was divided from the first part by a curtain or veil and no one was allowed to go in it but the High Priest (which typifies Christ) and he, only once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people. When Jesus hung upon the cross and gave up the ghost, behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake and the rocks rent. When Jesus shed His innocent blood as a sacrifice for our sins and sin the veil was torn apart and the Most Holy place was opened to all mankind and now, by faith in the blood of Christ, one can not only get cleansed from all his transgressions and be justified, but also can go in the Most Holy place and be cleansed from that sin nature which was passed upon us because of the first Adam's transgression and which brought spiritual death to him and his posterity, which death includes us today. When cleansed from that sin nature we become like Adam and Eve were before they sinned, and at that time had communion with our Father in heaven. This is an Eden state.

The crossing over the Red Sea typifies our justified state in getting freed from our enemy by putting a Red Sea between us and him. The Israelites were happy when safe on the other side and saw their enemies drowned in the sea as God let the waters come back together. The crossing over the Jordan River typifies our sanctification. The Jordan River was overflowing her banks and rushing down in a mighty stream, but when the priests bearing the Ark of the Covenant stepped down into the water, that mighty forcing stream of water backed up and left the ground dry for the Israelites to pass over on dry land. It was held back by the mighty power of God. It was a greater miracle for God to hold back that mighty on-rushing stream of water than it was for Him to part the still waters of the Red Sea. Therefore, our sanctification, which the Jordan River typifies is a greater work than the work of justification. It makes our salvation complete and we become members of His body—of His flesh and of His bones. Eph. 5:30. Hebrews 2:11 reads, For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren."

In different places in the New Testament we find the scriptures referring to the two works of grace. In John 10:10 we read, "I am come that they might

have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." You have life in a justified state, but when you are sanctified you have it more abundantly. Jesus told the woman at the well, recorded in the 4th chapter of John that the water which He would give a man shouldst be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. At that time they could only be justified, for the Holy Ghost had not yet been given. In John the 7th chapter and the 38th verse it says, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." He spoke this of the Spirit which they could not receive at that time as Jesus had not died, risen, and ascended. The blood had not been shed at that time for the cleansing, infilling of the Holy Ghost. It brought a much larger amount of water than a well of water. That well of water which you receive in a justified state will spring up or burst forth in rivers of water when you are sanctified wholly.

In John the 15th chapter and the 3rd verse we read what Jesus says to his justified disciples, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." In other words the disciples were keeping all of His words that they understood and had power to do so, and in that sense he pronounced them clean even in a justified state. They were bearing the fruits to a certain extent in a justified state. In the 2nd verse we read, "And every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth [or cleanseth] it, that it may bring forth more fruit." In your cleansed, sanctified state you bring forth more fruit but all of the same kind.

In 1 John and the 1st chapter we read where John was writing unto the children or young converts who were in a justified state. He said in the 4th verse, "And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full." They had joy in a justified state, but he wanted them to be sanctified so they would have more joy. He goes on to say in the 7th verse, "But if we walk in the light, as he [God] is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." You notice the word, sin, is in the singular number and has reference to the sin nature that passed upon all men. If a justified man will walk in all the light that God gives him he will naturally grow in grace up to the place where he will feel the need of the cleansing and he will be cleansed from that sin as he, by faith, believes in the blood to cleanse him.

Now the 8th verse, which so many stumble on, is all clear when you get in harmony with the thought which is upon the heart of John, the writer. It reads thus, "If we say that we have no sin [(Notice the word, sin, is in the singular number) to be cleansed from], we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." In the next verse he writes very plainly of the two works of grace by saying, "If we confess our sins [plural number], he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." That sin nature in the heart of man that causes him to commit sin is an unrighteous thing and has to be cleansed out by our faith in the cleansing power of the blood of the Lamb of God.

In the 5th chapter of 1 Thessalonians and the 23rd verse, Paul, after telling justified folks how they should live and abstain from all appearance of evil says, "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." It says, "The very God of peace sanctify you wholly." The same God that gave you peace in a justified state is now to do another work and that is to sanctify you wholly or to cleanse you completely and to preserve you blameless, soul, body, and spirit until Jesus comes and changes this vile body and fashions it like unto his glorious body. Read Philippians 3:21.

In the first two verses of Romans the 12th chapter we read, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." You notice in this verse it says, brethren, which would indicate that they were already in a justified state. He also says, "By the mercies of God..." The same God that had mercy upon you and saved you wants to do something else for you and he is teaching you how to get in a condition so God can do the cleansing for you. In the 2nd verse he tells them not to be conformed to the world so that we can prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. You will find in a justified state you will not be able to prove to God's satisfaction that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God, but you will need that cleansing of the sin nature—destroyed by faith in the all-powerful blood of the Lamb of God. Yes, dear brethren and sisters, every justified person should go on to perfection by presenting their bodies to God as a living sacrifice.

In this article we have used only a small portion of the scriptures in the Bible which refer to the double-cure grace: the cleansing from our actual transgressions to be justified before God, and then the second work of the cleansing of the sin nature to be wholly sanctified before the Lord. —Fred Pruitt.

Testimonies

Miss.—Dear saints,—We certainly are thankful to still be saved and living for the Lord. He has been so good to both of us and we do thank Him for it all.

While we were attending the Guthrie Assembly Meeting this past year, we promised the Lord we would send in our testimony if He would give Doyle steady work. After we had been home for about three weeks Doyle got work in the oilfield here in McComb, Miss. We surely are thankful and feel that the Lord just worked everything out. Do pray for us to be examples for the Lord wherever we are.

Christian love, —Doyle and Cynthia LaCroix

Mo.—To the dear saints of God,—God bless all of you dear saints for your prayers for me when I was so sick. No one but dear Jesus knew how I suffered. But, then, our dear Lord and Saviour suffered very much for us. I thank God for healing me. I told the dear Lord if He was

through with me to take me home to glory, and if not, and if He had more work for me, to heal me. Everybody was very good to me. I had lots of company and phone calls, letters, and cards and gifts. My daughter came first at nights when I was so bad. She wasn't well. Then they got a woman to stay at nights with Sister Wilson until I told them not to keep her any longer. I could go to the bath room by myself. I have gained six pounds. Sister Wilson and my daughter don't want me to go home yet but I have been asking the dear Lord to let me go home whenever it is His will for me to go.

Time is going so fast. Soon the flowers will be blooming, yes, and so many precious souls going to a devil's hell. Oh, I am thankful for a promise of a home in heaven. I think of all of you very often. Some day we can meet around the white throne of God. There won't be any tears there. I love Jesus. Oh, that great love that binds God's children together!

Your humble sister, —Mary Whitmore.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. This finds me much encouraged to press on for the Lord. Surely there is nothing in this sinful dark world that appeals to me.

I have been saved now for almost two years and surely do appreciate what the Lord has done for me. I realize I am so unworthy of even one of His blessings to me, but yet each and every day His blessings fall upon me.

The Lord dealt with my heart when I was a very young child. I turned the Lord down time and time again. When I was around eleven or twelve we stopped going to meeting regularly. Year by year my mind went farther away from God and I went deep into sin. Very seldom did I ever give God a thought.

After finishing high school I came to Tulsa to go to Business College and soon after, started going to the Nazarene Church. I was saved at one time while in the Nazarene Church, but it only lasted a short time. I spent many miserable days seeking peace but could not seem to find it. On June 5, 1958 I knelt at an altar of prayer in the little chapel on the Sapulpa Road and God spoke peace to my soul. I consecrated my life to the Lord on August 10.

I have had many trials and battles since starting out for the Lord, but He has stayed by me through them all.

I truly do love the Lord today with all of my heart. I desire to please Him in this life above everything. I am also very thankful for the saints of God. They are precious to me.

Pray for me that I will be faithful.

Christian love, —Daisy Lilley.

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Mo.—Dear saints everywhere,—We have felt for sometime that we should send in our testimony, as it has been awhile since we have written to the little paper. However the Lord has been very dear and precious to us all this time. He has brought us through many tests and trials and we are expecting Him to bring us through every one He permits to come our way and give us the victory again and again. It is truly precious to trust in the mighty hand of our great God.

At the time of the Guthrie Assembly Meeting our little boy, who is past five years old, was ailing in health. We did not know just what was wrong but he did not have an appetite, and was getting very thin and pale. We had the ministers to anoint him and pray for him. The Lord wonderfully touched him and gave him a good appetite and he has drunk milk, more than he has ever done since being weaned from his bottle.

Also the dear Lord protected the children and me from taking the flu. We took our stand in Jesus' name, to protect us from it. He witnessed to my heart that He could protect us from it, as well as heal us after we got it. So we stood on that, with His grace. This happened when Murphy came down with it. We also had been in Bro. and Sister Gibson's home while they were so sick with the flu at different times. So it is marvelous what the Lord can and will do for His children. Our hearts are full of thanks and praise unto our dear Lord. We desire your prayers that we be true to Him.

—Bro. and Sister Murphy Allen.

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Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and the saints everywhere,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. We thank the Lord for His saving and keeping grace and that we have been privileged to meet so many of His dear saints and to feel the sweet fellowship that is manifested among God's dear children.

We are inspired to press on in the service of the Master. Truly the need is great. The Lord laid a burden upon our hearts to open up a place of worship. We have rented a large hall (all modern) that we open up for all-day services once each month. The Lord blessed with a good attendance on the opening day. Bro. Probst and two brothers from Decatur, Ill., Bro. Porter and family from Granby, Mo., and Bro. Dollins from Springfield, Mo., Bro. and Sister Abbott of Thayer, Mo., some from Lynn, Vichy, St. James, and Lebanon, Mo., and many from Rolla, Mo. came in and enjoyed the services. The Lord blessed throughout the day. It was wonderful to feel the sweet spirit of the Lord in our midst. Many were melted to tears. Bro. Abbott brought the morning message and it was real food to our souls.

We praise God for his glorious Church—pure and spotless. Oh, dear saints, we cannot accept anything less than John saw coming down from God out of heaven.

We desire the prayers of the saints everywhere that God will send ministers among us, able men of God with a vision, a burden, and a passion for souls that the healing balm may be poured out that our wonderful Saviour has so graciously blessed us with. Many of the saints need encouragement and inspiration to press on in a world where iniquity abounds. The love of many will wax cold, but pray for us that we may be a channel through which God's love and mercy may flow out to others, and that we may live so close and keep intact with him that we are able to meet any crisis that Satan might bring our way. He is out to get every soul that he can. In Heb. 10:35 we are told not to cast away our confidence. In Heb. 11 we find that Moses chose to suffer with the people of God because he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. Yes, Christ was the reward offered up for our sins. Let us show forth great respect unto Him. Let us exalt the Christ and let us lift him up that others might behold him: high and lifted up in all His beauty and glory and majesty.

This is the sincere prayer by ones who have found Him most precious to their souls,

—Bro. and Sister Ernest Engle.

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Ohio—Dear Sister Marie and Bro. Pruitt and all the others at the Print Shop,—We just love you one and all. We feel like the Lord would have us to write our testimony to the Faith and Victory paper to tell of a few things the dear Lord has done for us. He has done many things, but time and space won't permit us to tell all. I

surely do want to say I love the Lord with all my heart. I am saved from sin and walking in the truth and light of His Word. I was born into the Church twenty-three years ago, and praise the dear Lord I am still in it today, and the way grows brighter and brighter all the way.

I would love to tell of a few times the dear Lord has manifested Himself to heal my body. I have been afflicted much, it seems like, but the dear Lord says in His Word "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Psa. 34:19. Praise His dear name! I have surely found Him to be a present help to me in every time of need. As some of the dear saints know, I would have spells of passing out in meeting, but through faith and prayer God would always raise me up. Praise His dear name. I feel like God has healed me of them. About two weeks ago, at meeting one Sunday morning, I had a sharp pain in the back of my head. It went down and around my heart and I got to where I could hardly breathe, but God was on the scene. The dear saints were there, too, to pray and intercede with God for me. Oh, the saints here at Dayton are surely precious to me. I just love them, every one. I didn't have to suffer very long until God touched my body and I was able to stay through the service.

The following week I had some weak spells and would suffer much at times, but God would always come to my rescue and raise me up. The next Sunday at meeting again I took another very bad spell. My husband helped me up to the altar and the saints laid hands on me and prayed for me. The Lord just definitely touched my body and I walked out of the meeting house without an ache or pain. The next morning I was very weak in body and the enemy presented cancer to me. I knew that now I would have to have more faith so I got my Bible and began to read how God gave the old prophets faith, and where He said without faith it is impossible to please God I said, "God, I want to please you; give me that faith to where I can be healed of cancer if it is cancer. Whatever it is, Lord, you can heal me." Then I went down on my knees in prayer before the Lord and began to pour out my heart to God. I began to search my life and asked the Lord to show me if anything was standing in the way for the healing. I was willing to do whatever the Lord showed me, and He showed me I had spoken harsh at times to my husband and children. So I called them all around me and asked their forgiveness. You know, dear ones, when your body is weak and you are going through a deep trial then is when the enemy works the hardest.

I told the dear Lord if He would heal my body I would write my testimony for the Faith and Victory paper. I feel like this morning God is going to heal me. My faith is stronger this morning than it has ever been, through this affliction. I do desire the prayers of all of God's people that I will always stay true and be faithful to him until He calls me to come up higher. The Lord said in one place in the Bible that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. I am seeking Him daily for all I need in this life to be a vessel that He can use in His service. I will say, too, I have asked the dear Lord many times when in prayer to let me live to see some of my children saved or all of them before He calls me out of this old world. Dear ones, I believe He is going to do that for me, so everyone that knows the worth of prayer pray for our lost children.

There is much more I could say, but I feel like the Lord is pleased with what I have said. May the dear

Lord bless each and every one of you in His service is our prayer. God bless everyone.

Your sister in the One True Way, —Dovie Abbott.

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Cuba—To all the dear readers of the Faith and Victory,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I do thank and praise Him for this wonderful salvation that makes me to be in His great family. I praise Him because I can say He is my Saviour, Sanctifier, Keeper, and Healer. My highest aim and desire is to be kept clean and humble for His appearing. Each day I prove His loving kindness to me and His presence is so real to me that I can talk to Him and tell Him all my troubles, and things I could not tell any human being. He blesses my soul and gives sweet peace and joy. I have never seen or heard of anything I would exchange for the love of Jesus. I have proven Him for so many years and He has never failed me. By His all-sufficient grace I mean to make heaven my home where I will meet with loved ones gone before. But best of all, I will see Jesus face to face and be with Him through countless ages of eternity.

Dear fellow saints, let us keep our eyes on Jesus that we lose not the reward awaiting us. It will be worth all the worry and troubles here to hear the "Well done" from Him and not just for a short visit with Him, but to be there through the countless ages of eternity.

Sinner friends, will you not make up your minds, and seek Jesus before the day of "too late?" Think how He suffered on that cross for you, how His precious blood was shed. Will you let it be in vain? What will you do when you see Him coming with His holy angels; when that trumpet shall sound and all shall have to stand before Him, where will you be? Let Him save you now and be ready to meet Him before it is too late. May the Lord bless these words to some precious soul is my prayer.

One who loves this clean way, —Sister Rose Maxam.

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Okla.—Dear saints scattered far and near,—Today I am saved and living to all I know to please the dear Lord. One Sunday morning I took sick with gas pains. Something I had eaten was making me sicker. The pains seemed to be moving toward my heart, but the dear Lord did not let them reach there. We decided to call on some of the saints obeying the scriptures, "That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 18:19. "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Matt. 21:22. He does not want us to worry or be anxious about things for He says, "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 am thankful to the Lord for the suffering I have gone through at various times, for after I suffered a while the Lord helped me. He has helped me to know of some things I needed to move up on. I had need of more patience. This was brought to me while reading James the fifth chapter. The Lord knew of my willingness to do better. During the day I did not attend church services but while meditating on his Word and singing songs, He just rejoiced my heart. It is wonderful to know we have a Saviour who will help us and come to our rescue just in the time of need.

I still have symptoms of the gas, but I'm holding on with faith that the Lord will remove the symptoms. I can eat some of all the foods I cook. I can sleep at night and do not have to get up and sit up as I once did. To God I give all the glory and honor. I just thank the saints

for their prayers. I also thank the Lord for His loving kindness to His trusting children.

Read the songs in the Evening Light Songs, pages 303 and 309.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister Vera M. Hawkins.

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear sweet name. Surely He is a wonderful Saviour to me. I am much encouraged to press the battle on to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in our blessed Saviour who has suffered on the old rugged cross for a poor sinner as I was. I was very much stooped in sin and worldliness. How thankful I am He once saw fit to turn me from the awful sin and the crooked paths of this old dark world! How glad I am to know how to trust Him for both soul and body!

Just night before last I began feeling badly in the early morning hours. I began tingling in my hands and feet, and as I lay looking to my Lord it began to go over the most of my body, so I got up and started to walk. My legs felt weak. I lay back down and I felt no better, so I dropped out of my bed on my knees and promised God I would testify to healing through the Faith and Victory paper. He came to my rescue, praise His holy name! What would we do without our blessed Lord? I thought about calling you good people at Guthrie, but I hated to disturb the man who hadn't been in from work long and who was sleeping close to the phone. I had a little attack of it this morning but my trust is in God. I had a touch of the flu and my stomach and back and throat bothers me. Please pray that God will completely heal me.

My home problem stands as it has for four years or more, but my trust is in God. I pray God to bless you precious saints everywhere. Surely we are living in the last days. I pray God to stir precious souls.

One who loves the Lord,

—Mrs. B. Rumfelt.

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear Saints and readers of the Faith and Victory,—Greetings in Jesus sweet name. I am very thankful I am still saved and trusting the Lord for all things. I love Him more and more. He's been very good to me. I can just see how the Lord blesses us. Each day He gives us grace and faith to walk in His strait and narrow way. We desire to be more like Him. I am thankful I have victory in my soul today.

The dear Lord is blessing me much in my body, although I am still weak and can't be on my feet much. I have much to be thankful for. The Lord has healed me of flu and other afflictions recently. I now have a cold in my chest but the Lord is taking care of it and I am much better today. Praise the dear Lord! I can see more and more how the dear Lord answers prayer and takes care of His children. I don't think I could get along without Him. I thank the Lord for all the saints. They mean much to me. I thank all the saints and loved ones for the get-well cards and the encouraging letters I received. Each one was appreciated very much. I also thank Bro. Pruitt for requesting prayer for me through the Faith and Victory. My son told me when he got home from the Assembly Meeting how the saints prayed for me so earnestly. I told him I was surely thankful for their prayers and I could just feel the effects of them on my body.

I can never thank and praise the Lord enough for saving my soul from a life of sin and leading me to the one true Church. The dear Lord taught me how to live free from sin and trust Him for both soul and body long

before I ever met the true saints. His precious Word and Spirit was my light and guide and still is. Yet it is still precious to meet with the true saints in worship where we can sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus and hear the truth go forth in its fullness. The saints here at Senath planned to go to Myrtle last Sunday for all-day meeting, but the weather was so bad we didn't get to go. We trust it will be the Lord's will for us to go next time.

We had a call last night about mid-night for prayer for Sister Dollie Williams' daughter-in-law. We all got up and had prayer for her. We trust the Lord has heard and healed her body. It seems this affliction on my body has caused me to have more sympathy and concern for the sick and afflicted.

Dear ones, keep praying for us. We pray much for the saints and the work at the print shop. We desire every need to be supplied. We also have some unspoken requests for prayer. We also desire prayer for our unsaved loved ones.

A sister in the Lord, —Katie Marler.

o-o-o-o-o

Miss.—Dear saints of God,—I am happy to say I am still encouraged to fight the battle through, by the help of our dear Lord. He has wonderfully blessed me in many ways which I thank Him very much for. Pray that I will hold out faithful and true until he calls me home.

—Bessie Raynor.

o-o-o-o-o

Ky.—Dear saints at Guthrie,—I greet all of you in the precious name of Jesus. I am very thankful that I am still saved and ready for the Master's use, whatever it may be. I want to serve Him and do all I can to help some lost soul to see how good the Lord is to all who serve Him and do His will. My heart is set on things above and not on worldly things. This world has no attractions for me; for I don't want the things of this world, but just want more of the love of God in my heart and be pleasing to Him above all else. He means very much to me. He has been very good to us and I want to serve Him with all my heart.

I really do enjoy the little Faith and Victory paper and the tracts. I mailed several of the papers last week and sent tracts in most all of our Christmas cards. I still send some to others I think of that need the Lord. I just think sometimes how I would like to really help someone to see and know the love of God and how great His love is and what a mighty God we serve. I wonder sometimes why people can't see His love and mercy He has for them, even the sinners, to spare them from day to day. They don't seem to be interested in their own soul, the most important thing of all. To just think of the great love of God means much to me. I just get a blessing to think of His love and how great it is to my soul. Praise His dear name.

I want to thank you dear saints for your good prayers. I have no sign of diabetes at all any more. I do know the Lord has touched my body and I want to thank Him for that. There is nothing too big for my Lord to heal. There is nothing impossible with Him. I am having trouble with my feet and I ask your prayers that the Lord will heal them.

With Christian love, —Mrs. J. T. Roberts.

o-o-o-o-o

Miss.—Dear saints,—In Jesus' dear name I greet you. I promised the Lord if He would heal my knee and a few other afflictions I had I would write and testify to His kind healing favor to all who believe Him. My knee is

better, for I can walk on it again. To God be all the glory. I did not go to a doctor. The ligament back of the knee seemed to be pulled or hurt some way and it seemed the knee bone was out of place. For three weeks I could not walk or put any weight on it.

God has done so many things for us, but I will not take up space to tell of all. I still want to trust Him and go all the way with Him. I don't see how people go on and not even think about the Lord or thank Him for His goodness to them. Oh, we have so much to thank Him for.

I like to read all the good testimonies in the Faith and Victory paper. They help me to trust God more in this evil time. We meet lots of people, but so little is said about the Lord. The famine is on: not for bread or meat, but for the hearing of the Word of God. People go to hear the preaching, but it is mostly entertainment for about 25 or 30 minutes after all the other matters are talked over and a few special songs, and etc. It brings no conviction on people to want to get converted or made a new creature of God's creation, the old man changed into the new man or woman to live a new life in Christ. I want a closer walk with God so I can be a soul winner for Jesus.

Pray for me and also my daughter. She has a backache all the time and has seven children with lots of work to do. She loves the Lord. I have other pressing unspoken requests. Please pray that the Lord will work it all out to His glory. Money is needed in one. Request that God will supply the need. I know I am saved and sanctified, and I want to endure to the end. —Sister J. Strickler.

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Okla.—Greetings to the dear saints of God everywhere,—I feel like writing my testimony in the Faith and Victory paper this morning. I thank and praise the dear Lord for being saved and cleansed from sin or sanctified. He has been good to me down through the years. The past year I've gone through many trials, some with victory, but I thank God that I am holding to God's unchanging hand this morning. I praise God for the love I have in my heart for God and His people, and also those who aren't God's people. I know I love God because I am doing all I can to obey His commandments, and His commandments are not grievous.

I thank God for His healing power. Dear saints, because I have stood on God's promises about healing, my grown unsaved daughter when sick asks for nothing but prayer. I do not go to the doctors or hospital for check ups, for I know if I live true to God He will check my soul and body whenever need be. Praise His dear name!

Pray for me that I will live this life and let my light shine, and not cut a shine or make believe. Pray for my son, Willie, who has an ear infection and is losing his hearing in his right ear. He, too, trusts God for healing, but is not saved. The Lord healed him last year of a broken vein in his leg. Pray for my unsaved children.

—Ora Horn.

o-o-o-o-o

La.—Greetings to all the saints,—I want to give my testimony to the glory of God, and for the encouragement of others. I don't feel that it is right to experience a real blessing and not tell others about it. Some of you know about the affliction I experienced in the later part of 1959 which was a serious issue of blood. I went to my knees and told the Lord about this. I told Him He knew also about this and that I wanted Him to have His way, but that I would like to stay a while yet and do some more for Him. When I got up from prayer I went out to my son, John's house. I told him the circumstances and then told him that I might not be with him much longer but

that I didn't want to do anything but trust the Lord. He said, "Daddy, I will not bother you." Then I put out some prayer requests by mail. After a bad hemorrhage on the third day I felt like the Lord instantly healed me. Praise His dear name! Then I did some telephoning to head off these prayer requests and told that the Lord had instantly healed me. Since that time there has been no issue. I realized that God had done the very thing for me that I had asked Him to do, and that was to let me stay awhile longer and do some more for Him.

I don't feel worthy of this wonderful blessing bestowed on me. I surely do appreciate it, enough so, that it has truly caused me to have a deep desire in my heart to glorify Him in every way, and to be a help to others. I have been meditating, reading, and praying day and night and the Lord is blessing me. Praise His wonderful name! I really enjoy meditation on the things of God.

I want to say, too, that I have just finished reading Bro. Fred Pruitt's book on the New Testament Church and Its Symbols. I want to say that if you have never read this book, you should read it. If you are strong against heresies, and against many other ungodly things, you will be stronger after reading this book. Also, Bro. D. S. Warner's book is wonderful on the Church of God. Any one can get these books very reasonable at Faith Publishing House, and you will never regret reading them. They will greatly encourage your heart and will help you appreciate the fact that we really have inspired men of God to write these books and give Bible proof on everything they write.

We can't know too much about the Bible truths and there is no excuse for anyone not knowing what he or she needs to know if he will try. God is holding us responsible to know the truth on all lines. He said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matt. 5:6. He also said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31, 32. The Lord has blessed me to realize the great need of knowing the truth as we need to know it. If we don't know the truth as we need to know it, then we are most likely to be overtaken in some so-called no-harm thing. That will cause us to go to a devil's hell after all. Now we read in 2 Tim. 3:7, 8 of a people who are "ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth," and are "men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith." So we see there is no heaven for this kind of folk. We have to come to the knowledge of the truth in order to know how to please God in all the walks of life, and to know how to lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us. (Heb. 12:1.)

The Scripture in Matt. 13:41, and 42 says, "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." I don't want to be in that bunch, do you? Well, let's be sure, then, that we don't offend in any thing from the top of our heads to the bottom of our feet, because just as sure as we be found wearing something that is an offence, we will be cast away. The Word of God tells us to "neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin." Rom. 6:13. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." Heb. 2:1. "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it."

Heb. 4:1. "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire." Heb. 12:28, 29.

Pray for me,

Bro. J. S. Green.

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Mo.—Dear Brothers and Sisters and sinner friends,—I just want to tell you what the dear Lord did for me last Thursday. I fell and hurt my arm, and suffered much from my wrist to my shoulder and in my neck. I just fell on my knees as soon as I got into the house and began calling on God to heal it. I knelt and prayed several times and just kept calling on God and He heard and answered and did give me ease and relief. It was wonderful how the Lord blessed. There was no one near to pray for me and no way I could call anyone, but the Lord, who is always present, was here with me. Dear brothers and sisters, if you are out alone and get sick or get hurt, don't get discouraged, and don't fear or get weak and think you have to have other help, but just put your case in God's hands and call upon Him, believing He will come to your rescue.

He has done much for me and is such a precious friend, my refuge, my strength and my all. Let us all hold fast to the Saviour and tell the story of Jesus and His love.

Two years ago I fell, and that time I hurt my side and it was awful suffering. I didn't know if any ribs were broken and I did not have a doctor, but I felt that there were some broken. Anyway, it was awful suffering. The Lord blessed me then, too. That time I sent to Bro. and Sister Wilson's for an anointed handkerchief and was healed. I have been healed of other afflictions, but the greatest miracle was when He saved my soul and took away the great burden of sin which caused much sorrow. He dried my tears and gave me peace and joy and songs of praise in my heart. I feel like David of old. I can say He lifted me up also out of a horrible pit, and put a new song in my mouth. Praise His dear name!

Dear brothers and sisters, let us magnify His name together and tell others what a wonderful Saviour we have and what He can do. And my sinner friends, I can recommend the Saviour to you. He loves you. The devil will make you think you can't get saved or live right, but don't listen to him. God's Word tells us he is a liar. You make your decision to turn to God and He will lift you out of sin. He is a great deliverer. There is help and there is salvation for all. He loves every one of you, and is not willing that any should perish. (2 Peter 3:9.) Seek Him with all your heart. Jer. 29:13 says, "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." No matter what your sins are, or how great or how deep they might seem, do as the prodigal son did. Make your decision to arise and go to the Father. Turn from sin, confess, and repent. The Lord will forgive you, and give you peace and joy and satisfy your longing heart which nothing else will satisfy. No real contentment or satisfaction is attained when you are in sin. May the Lord talk to every one and may he not turn Jesus away, but turn to Him before it is too late.

Dear brothers and sisters, pray for me. My desire is to do all I can to help others. Pray for the Lord to help me.

Your sister,

—Becky Barnes.

—o—o—o—o—o—o—

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—I want to testify to what God has done for me. First He has saved

and sanctified my soul. Then He has healed my body three times this winter. The last time I had, suddenly, sharp pains in my stomach and side. By 10 o'clock that night I was in such pain in my side it felt like an abscess had formed. I thought it might have been my appendix. I told my daughter to call Guthrie, Okla. and have the saints pray for me. As soon as they got the message and had prayer I got relief. Praise God! He is a present help in every time of need.

I am very glad He included healing for His people when He died on that old cruel cross. He says, "With his stripes we are healed." Oh, think how they beat Him till the blood ran from His wounds. Oh, how He suffered for us! He says, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Ps. 34:19. Oh, how I love Him for what He has done for me, and will do for all who will put their trust in Him. I will be 79 years old next month and yet I am well and happy in His service, ready to live or ready to die.

God bless every one who reads this.

—Sister O. K. Myers.

Spiritual Suicide

Think how wonderful our nation
And how peaceful it could be
If each prayed, and searched the Scriptures
As much as they tuned in TV.
It's amazing and appalling,
How the Lord is so denied—
Many have exchanged their Bibles
For that so-called TV Guide.
Murder pictures—children watching,
Programs often base, obscene.
Many juvenile delinquents
Can be traced back to the screen.
Pastors many are bemoaning,
Small attendance Sunday nights;
Careless members, home and watching
Special programs, or the fights.
Surely, this must grieve the Master:
All this tendency to crime,
As He notes "the wasted hours"—
How and what we do with time.
With this grip upon our nation,
Midnight hour, so very nigh,
Yet we lull to sleep our conscience,
Mid a "Rock-Roll" lullaby.
Spiritual suicide is certain
If continued in this way.
How we need to search the Scriptures,
More and more we ought to pray.
There would be tremendous difference,
(To this you may not agree),
But our GREATEST spiritual robber
Is none other than TV.

—Sel.

Conviction always gets a response. No man comes under the influence of the Holy Spirit without being changed. He is either better or bitter afterwards. His response either cuts him loose from the world to God or cuts him loose from God to the world.

The Auction

The auctioneer who had been searching through the other items that were to be sold suddenly found the next item that was to go up for bids. As he held it up for the people to see he said, "What am I bid for this object that, while neglected by its owner, is of great value, for it never ends?"

The devil spoke up hurriedly and said, "I bid worldly music, fame, and honor of men, and possible fulfillment of all your selfish ambitions."

The Lord, seeing that this was a very high bid, but realizing that this object was priceless said, "I bid happiness divine and freedom from sin."

The devil, not wanting the Lord to receive this valuable thing said, "I bid wealth, worldly pleasures, and popularity."

The Lord, going still higher and higher said, "I bid peace, rest, blessings, salvation, sanctification, and the only happiness that can ever be found on this earth. As my final bid, I bid entrance into the Church of God and finally heaven."

After a few seconds of silence the auctioneer asked, "Is this the last bid?"

The devil, his head down and his face showing the great disappointment he felt because he could not have such a valuable object to take to his home in hell said, "Yes, that last bid was higher than anything I could ever bid."

So this little story has a happy ending. The Lord purchased and saved from hell this priceless treasure, this precious SOUL for His very own.

—Ruth Ellen Linden.

PRAYER REQUEST

III.—My heart is under a great burden about an important need. Please request that all pray with me.

—Sister Lettie West.

BIBLE STUDY

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

April 3, 1960

TEACHING THROUGH PRECEPT AND PARABLE

Printed Portion Matt. 5:1-2, 17-20; 9:14-17

5:1. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, 17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

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

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

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

9:14. Then came to him the disciples of John, saying,

Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?

15. And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast.

16. No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse.

17. Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.

Memory Verse: Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom. Matt. 4:23.

Practical Truth: Jesus the Son of God was the master teacher of all time, whose authority still abides.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lessons for a few Sundays will be based on the Sermon by Jesus on the Mount. Jesus was truly the master teacher. Jesus spoke only those things that the Father, God, brought to his mind when He taught. They were not words of human wisdom but the Word of God speaking through him.

Pauls tells us that the law was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. Gal. 3:24. There are many types and shadows in the Old Testament that were fulfilled in Christ. Under the law a spotless lamb was slain and while the person stood there watching the lamb wreathing under the hand of death he knew God would forgive him for his sins. He had to come every year and offer that lamb. But when John beheld Jesus he said, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29. He was a Lamb offered once and for all. That part of the law was fulfilled.

The Pharisees and scribes of that day were like people today who have self-righteousness. The Bible says our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. Isa. 64:6. Morality won't count with God. We must be born again. We must have the righteousness that comes down from God in our souls and life. We must put new wine in new bottles and not try to patch up our lives. We must be a new creation in Christ Jesus. It will take some fasting and praying to hold on to the righteousness from God.

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April 10, 1960

THE STRENGTH OF HUMILITY

Printed Portion Matt. 5:3-5; Luke 14:7-14

Matt. 5:3. Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Luke 14:7. And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them,

8. When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him;

9. And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room.

10. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may

say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

11. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

12. Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors; lest they also bid thee again and a recompence be made thee.

13. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:

14. And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Memory Verse: Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. Luke 14:11.

Practical Truth: When we manifest a humble spirit God is pleased and others will accord us greater respect.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Several years ago in a service, a sister arose and under the anointing of the Holy Spirit commented on four words of a song. They were, "Humility, thou shoreless sea." I never forgot that exhortation. How true it is that we can never get to the depths of humility. Humility is not what the world calls "tact." It is not what psychology teaches. It is not a front put on for the moment, while inside there is a different attitude. That would be pretended humility. The humility that comes from God is from the inside out. Truly it is a shoreless sea. More and more can be ours as we sink down in the love of God. Self must be crucified. We live, yet not we, but Christ lives in us. The more conscious we become of the greatness of God and our helplessness, the more humble we become. Humility never feels it deserves anything. Humility counts all things coming its way as blessings. Pretended humility lets one know it is taking the humble side. Humility never works aggressively, and never steps on others to lift itself up. Humility exercises faith in God to work things out, and not for the person's pride. Humility and meekness are not a weakness, but an attribute from God that brings the finest and noblest life on earth to man. "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble." To find God we must become humble and broken with a contrite spirit. To keep God we must continue that way.

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April 17, 1960

THE RISEN LIFE

Printed Portion Col. 3:1-15

1. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

4. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

5. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6. For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7. In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10. And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13. Forbearing one another and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Memory Verse: If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17.

Practical Truth: Because Christ died and rose again, we may rise into newness of life.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We have a precious lesson today. Those who have truly been risen with Christ can know what a change was wrought in their hearts when they became a new creature in Christ Jesus. We have been "translated from the power of darkness into the kingdom of his dear Son." Col. 1:13. A resurrection has taken place in our hearts. We were dead in trespasses and sins, but God, by His Spirit, has quickened us and we have become alive. Our affections have been changed. We love God and He is supreme in our hearts and lives. Only those who die to the world are alive with Christ. Only those who have crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts, have risen with Christ to a newness of life.

Most of our lesson consists of a setting forth of ways and means of seeking things which are "above." Our lesson emphasizes the things we need to "put off" which were in the life when we walked after the lust of the flesh. When we "put on" a heart of compassion, kindness, humbleness, meekness, longsuffering, a forgiving spirit, and most of all, love, we are living a life that is not earthly, but is of heavenly origin.

Without the resurrection of Christ, we could not enjoy the virtues of a risen life with Christ. Man could not hold Him in the tomb. He arose with victory in His wings and is sitting on the right hand of God interceding for you and me today.

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April 24, 1960

RIGHTEOUSNESS AND MERCY

Printed Portion Matt. 5:6, 7; 13:44-46; 18:23-33

5:6. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

13:44. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

45. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:

46. Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

18:23. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

31. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33. Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

Memory Verse: Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Matt. 5:6.

Practical Truth: Righteousness and mercy are characteristics of a true child of God today.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

This world needs righteousness and mercy manifested before it. Much sham religion and false Christianity is in the world today. Not many today are hungering and thirsting after righteousness and that treasure or pearl of great price. They are satisfied with a counterfeit. Many have a head knowledge of Christ and not a heart belief. False preachers will say, "If you just believe that Jesus is the Saviour of the world you will be saved." The Bible says the devils believe and tremble. (James 2:19; Matt. 8:29.) It takes a heart belief that will bring godly sorrow which works repentance before we will be accepted. When individuals see the holiness of God they can see their need of becoming holy as He is holy. Isaiah saw his need of God after his vision of God and heard the words, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts." (Isa. 6.) He felt deeply his need and said, "Woe is me! for I am undone." God then took his iniquity away.

The last part of our lesson is a parable given to Peter after he had asked the question about how many times we are to forgive those who sin against us. We are as the poor servants who could not pay the king the huge debt of \$7,500,000.00. (Bible Margin.) But the Lord does not want us to go out after we have been forgiven of so much and try to get someone else to pay us who owes us just \$18.00. If we do not show mercy we will not obtain mercy in the end.

—Mrs. A. Marie Miles.