

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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Faith Is The Victory

Encamped along the hills of light,
Ye Christian soldiers rise,
And press the battle ere the night
Shall veil the glowing skies.
Against the foe in vales below
Let all our strength be hurled;
Faith is the victory, we know,
That overcomes the world.

CHORUS

Faith is the victory!
Faith is the victory!
Oh, glorious victory,
That overcomes the world.

His banner over us is love,
Our sword the Word of God;
We tread the road the saints above
With shouts of triumph trod.
By faith they, like a whirlwind's breath,
Swept on o'er every field;
The faith by which they conquered Death
Is still our shining shield.

On every hand the foe we find,
Drawn up in dread array;
Let tents of ease be left behind
And onward to the fray.
Salvation's helmet on each head,
With truth all girt about,
The earth shall tremble 'neath our tread,
And echo with our shout.

To him that overcomes the foe,
White raiment shall be given;
Before the angels he shall know
His name confessed in heaven.
Then onward from the hills of light,
Our hearts with love aflame,
We'll vanquish all the hosts of night,
In Jesus' conquering name.

—John H. Yates.

Victory Through Obedience

"Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net." Luke 5:5. Obedience to God's Word will bring victory. God's Word instructs us how to act and do when we come to that place when human knowledge says it is impossible. God's Word instructs us what to do when we come to the end of our spiritual vision. God's Word instructs us to trust God when even it may seem that God himself has turned away from us. Oh, do believe God's Word! Obedience to God's Word is our only hope. As we learn to trust and obey there will be a rest in our souls that passeth all understanding.

Jesus came to the seaside and there Peter and his companions were washing their nets. They had toiled all night and had caught nothing. No doubt they were discouraged. Maybe there were bills that needed to be paid. Maybe there were customers they would lose through the lack of fish to supply their needs. No doubt things looked dark. Jesus knew all of this and He wanted to help these fishermen.

After He taught the people from Peter's ship He turned to Peter and told Him to "launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught." Peter, who was an experienced fisherman and knew what he was talking about, said, "Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing." In Peter's way of thinking they had come to the end of the way. According to natural laws there just weren't any fish biting then. This just wasn't the kind of weather or the right time. There just wasn't any use to try farther. He was likely troubled with thoughts like these—"We tried all the tricks we could think of with no success." "We have worked very hard and our bodies are tired and worn." "The night was long with many discouragements." "Our faith is weak." "We can't go back out there in our own strength and on our own wisdom." But thank the Lord Peter did not stay in that condition. Jesus had spoken to him. God's Word was out and it is true, forever settled in heaven.

God's Word has power for the weak, the faint, the weary, and the discouraged. Peter thought, "In the face of all I know and understand; I will go at your command. I will continue on. I'll fish some

more." Thank the Lord for Peter's faith which was alone in God's Word. He said to Jesus, "Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net." Oh, what victory came to Peter and his companions! The impossible was accomplished. Faith in Jesus' Word brought great, sweeping victory. Their nets were so full they broke. They called their partners and both ships were filled to capacity. Oh, what if Peter had not believed Jesus' words? What if he had given up and said, "There is no use?" What if he had given in to his human wisdom and knowledge?

Oh, my dear ones, God has victory for you, but you must believe His word. You must hold on. You must not lean to your own understanding or your own wisdom. If you feel forsaken, don't yield to that because God's Word says, "Be content with such things as ye have: for he had said, I will NEVER LEAVE thee, nor FORSAKE thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." Heb. 13:5, 6. Believe God's Word. Act upon it and you will have victory, for it says, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4. Again I repeat, obedience to God's Word will bring victory to you through every trying scene in life and will take you to heaven to forever be with our precious Lord and Saviour who loved us with an everlasting love.

—Sister Marie Miles.

Let God's Will Be Done

The Bible, the Word of God, is our guide. It gives us knowledge of God and makes us know God's will for us in this life. By reading it one will be led to heaven and to God which means immortal glory and bliss forever. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12. By this statement we know that there is no need of any one being in darkness and being lost. The life that Jesus lived here among men is clearly set forth in the Holy Book which has been written by men who were moved upon to do so by the Holy Ghost. If one will read the Bible with a sincere heart to do the will of God, it will be edifying to the saved man. It will cause godly sorrow to come upon the sinner which will bring about repentance and confession of sins to God who has promised to abundantly pardon every penitent sinner and at the same time He will give them strength and power to walk in His ways and keep His commandments.

God deals with the heart of man. In Romans the 10th chapter and the ninth and tenth verses of our Guide Book we read what the Lord tells us to do in order to be saved. It reads thus, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Every sinner who will do this will be saved. He will be kept

free from sin by walking in the light of His Word and obeying its commandments. The apostle John tells us that His commandments are not grievous.

The first step that a sinner needs to do in order to get saved is to acknowledge that he is a sinner and lost. Then he needs to come to God confessing and repenting, for Jesus told the Pharisee, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3. In Acts the 17th chapter and the 30th verse Paul writes this message to us, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." By this we know that it is needful for every man to see himself as a sinner and lost, and then to repent. By accepting the blood of Christ as an atonement for his sins he will have peace with God through Christ.

We read in Isaiah the 59th chapter and the first and 2nd verses thus: "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." When you confess your sins from a penitent heart, that will remove your sins from you and open up your heart to be justified before God by His blood. In the 53rd chapter of Isaiah and the 5th verse we read that he "was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." This scripture is a prophecy of the work of Christ for mankind. Peter tells us in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." In Acts the 3rd chapter and the 23rd verse we read, "And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet [Christ], shall be destroyed from among the people." God requires every one of us to hear his Son, Jesus Christ, otherwise the penalty of destruction will be passed upon us. In the 3rd chapter of John and the 35th and 36th verses we read, "The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Dear sinner friend, will you come to God today while His Spirit is convicting you of your need and showing you the way to be justified before God? In Isaiah the 55th chapter and the 6th verse we read, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." He is near you now, making you know that you need to be saved and is also showing you the way. In the 7th verse we read again, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." In the 7th chapter of Hebrews the same thought is expressed and it reads thus, "Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him [Christ], seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, unde-

filed, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens."

Jesus Christ bled and died upon the cross and was laid in the tomb and a great stone sealed the mouth of the grave, but God sent his angel and broke the governor's seal, rolled the stone away, and sat upon it. The brave soldiers who were watching the grave to see that no one came and stole the body away all fell down as dead men and Jesus Christ came forth a conqueror. He ascended up to heaven and led captivity captive, and is now seated at the right hand of God as our great High Priest and is interceding for us who shall be heirs of salvation. He wants to give us the Holy Spirit so we can hear his voice and be led of His Spirit into all truth and thereby be ready for the change from mortality to immortality and meet Him in the air and so shall we ever be with Him. This is a glorious thought and will be a reality to every blood-washed soul. Today is the day of salvation. Make your peace with God today and harden not your heart against the truth of His Word and Spirit, for they are His two witnesses that live and exist here in the world. Call upon the Lord while he is near; seek Him while He may be found, for the scripture says, "He that being often reproved hardeneth his neck [heart], shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

We exhort you in the name of Jesus to not put off the saving of your soul, for to decide for God is the most important thing that you can do in this life. Moses had respect to the recompense of reward and chose to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than to live in the pleasures of sin for a season. He made the wise choice. Lazarus, the beggar, chose God rather than the riches of this world, and when he died he was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom. The rich man refused God. He chose the riches of this world and went into torment and became a beggar throughout eternity. He cried for a drop of water to cool his tongue and he said, "I am tormented in this flame." He is, no doubt, still crying today for some water, but will receive none because in this life he made the wrong choice. Be a wise man and choose God and build on a solid rock foundation, that when the storms of life come you can stand; for God is able to keep that which you commit unto him against that day. He tells us to come unto Him, for He is meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your soul. Come unto Him in the Bible way. The soul rest and peace He will give will be glorious. The assurance of heaven with God will be a comfort and a satisfaction that will carry you safely through all the trials of this life. Be wise and heed the call of God.

—Fred Pruitt.

Are We Faithful?

We, as children of God, surely want to be faithful. We want to be in the place where God can depend on us in small things as well as great. When God permits us to go through some of the tests of life, the one that he gets the most glory out of seems useless to the human mind. One of the commandments that Jesus left on record reads thus: "Thou shalt love the

Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." When we endeavor to do this we will not be so easy to give up in our test. Young People, Young Mothers and Fathers! We are to go through the tests of life and come out with VICTORY, otherwise all we can say is that we went through them. We, as young saints, have some battles to fight and VICTORIES to win. If we just have been saved our problems seem to be real great and they are, but as we begin to grow and develop in God, our tests become greater and greater. The thing that matters most is that we make sure we conquer. We realize that in every one we learn better how to act in the rest.

It is right for us to have instructors and leaders, and wonderful to have saved parents as guides, not as props. We should learn this secret. We need them only as leaders and directors, but when we get our directions we should do our own fighting. Can we say we are faithful in face to face combat with the enemy? or when the bombs begin to fall and bullets fly, we try to hide behind a dear mother or faithful father to pray, trust, and get an answer for us? When poverty strikes us do we get in our secret closets and pray until we can fully rely on God to supply the need? or do we begin to put in requests "and not pray ourselves," letting mother fast and we keep on eating? Young people, when we do that Mother gets the victory, we don't.

We have the privilege of receiving the blessing ourselves. Matt. 25:21, "His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things." God has our lives planned for us. We must yield to him, that He might make of us what He wants us to be. Luke 16:10 says, "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much." Too many times we hear the statement, "I wish I could be something for God." Have we stood up where we could, and been soldiers? or have we lowered our convictions to please a weaker one? Do we carefully follow and do the things that we hear over the pulpits from God's anointed servants? or do we lightly esteem it? Do we make sure to get out of our difficulties and disasters the lessons that God tries to convey to us? or do we barely make it through, saved? and sometimes don't make it through? If so, we are not faithful. May God help us as young people to be "patient in the depths of trial, that my Saviour I may please." May God bless you. —Vivian Hattley.

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EVANGELISTS' TRAILER DAMAGED

Bro. and Sister Sam Abbott are full-time evangelists and God is using them to be a blessing to many souls. Do you want a part in this work? A few months ago their house trailer came loose from the car and turned over causing much damage to it. It will cost several hundred dollars to have it fixed. They need their trailer very much in going from place to place holding meetings. Sometimes there isn't room to stay in homes and also they need a quiet place to be where they can pray and instruct those who come to them. Ask the Lord what He wants you to do to help. Send all offerings to Bro. Sam Abbott, Church of God Minister, Box 223, Thayer, Mo.—Ed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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Editorials

By the leadings of the Holy Spirit and the grace of God the work at Faith Publishing House is moving along nicely. To be a worker together with God is a very pleasant vocation in this life, even though the devil's snout appears at times in the tests and trials of life. Yet, we find it as Paul did, that His grace is sufficient to so sweeten things that the rough places are made smooth, so we glide along with Him with our feet planted firmly on the devil's head rejoicing in our Saviour's love who was resurrected from the dead and ascended upon high and led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men. Bless his holy name forever.

The Lord works out things in such a lovely way for His consecrated children. He is planning and working out things for our good and his glory far ahead of any thing we know about. When the good things come to pass in life we then can see the big hand of God has brought it about by His superior wisdom and knowledge—wisdom that is all hid from our viewpoint of matters at hand.

Just recently the Lord has provided, through His consecrated servant, sufficient funds to purchase a folding machine for the Faith and Victory paper. It is a Brown folding machine and has been shipped to the Lord's Print Shop from this Company operating in Cleveland, Ohio. This machine will fold, trim and paste the Faith and Victory paper and put it out ready to use at the rate of 1800 per hour. The cost of the machine was nearly three thousand dollars and is all paid for. We give God praise and thanks. His big hand has been working on this for some time and now He has brought it to pass. All the money that He puts into our hands to use is put right back into His work of getting the gospel to men by the printed page. All that the Lord has allowed us to have in this life of temporal things is being used in the furtherance of the gospel. When the Lord moves on any of His consecrated servants to send means here to the Lord's work you may know that He is using you to help carry out His plans to get the gospel to men by the printed page. When we have needs here in the print shop we tell the Lord about it and He talks to His servants and they obey Him and God's plans are being fulfilled.

This work is a faith work as the name implies, and the devil is far too weak to stop its flow of salvation truth to this world. When the enemy comes around to brace himself against His work the Lord gives him a lash by the whip of His truth and he is gone. One time he was so whipped that, in symbol, I could see him fly away and light on a dead tree, looking back sick and moaning. Away down in the hollow one of his mates answered him and tried to sympathize with him to encourage him, but he himself was sick and his feathers lying down low. It made me think of a time when I was on the train enroute to a place of meeting and we ran into flood waters and one could see nothing but water, water everywhere, on both sides of the train. Two women went into hysterics and each one grabbed the other and was trying to calm one another. They had a squalling time for

a while and caused others to look upon them with amusement. To keep in mind that Satan was fully beaten and whipped by the Son of God over 19 centuries ago when He arose from the tomb, and that the devil is whipped today, should be life and comfort to any consecrated soul who is doing the Lord's work. In the 12th chapter of Isaiah and the last verse we read, "Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee." When we are firmly standing on the promises of God we have a perfect right to shout long and loud even as the Israelites did when they had gone around the wall of Jericho seven times and they obeyed God, blew their trumpets and shouted while the walls were yet standing. The walls came tumbling down. When God shows His mighty power and strength, the devil droops around like a sick chicken and his weakness is seen by all for he is put to an open shame. Jesus our Captain rides on a white horse with a bow in His hand and a sword to use which glitters as the Word of God with a crown of victory on His head. He is the BIG ONE and we are the little ones.

Brethren, let us go forward with a firm tread, facing every opposer with the breast plate of righteousness and holding in our hand the shield of faith with a firm grip on the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. When we do this in the will of God He will make even our enemies to be at peace with us. Your enemy is oftentimes your friend in disguise. Jesus called Judas his friend and in one sense he was his friend because he was aiding Jesus in carrying out the plans of God for Him. Pilate spoke quite bravely to Jesus and said, "Knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?" But what was the answer of Jesus? Listen to what He said. "Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above." The devil has power to do nothing except as God permits him. We surely are safe in the hands of God with the puny little devil subject to God's will. He could not touch Job until he got permission from God. Neither can he touch you unless God permits him to do so. The same mighty God that permits Satan to touch you has power to drive him from you. Oh, troubled soul, rest in God and let the devil rage and roar, for he belongs to a class of defeated souls. He is on the way to perdition where the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched. Stay on the Lord's side and be safe.

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The campmeeting season will soon be on again and we are thankful to see so many campmeetings to be held during the summer season. Every saint should arrange, if possible, to attend one or more of these campmeetings. It is good to get together in fellowship with the saints of God and to meet one another face to face to exchange heavenly thoughts and edify one another. A campmeeting is a good place for souls who are lost to find Jesus and be saved by the power of God. We generally try to attend three campmeetings: Hammond, La., Monark Springs, Mo., and the one here at Guthrie. It does our souls

good to see the many saints together rejoicing in the Lord and also to see the Lord anointing His ministers to preach the Word, and above all to see the altar fill up with seekers after God whom the Lord saves and puts grace and glory into their hearts which causes their faces to shine with glory from above.

Obituaries

Sister Annie Lee Sherman, the daughter of Preast and Lucy Wilcox was born Nov. 25, 1910 at Hawkinsville, Ga., and departed this life Sat. March 5, 1960 at her home at the age of 49 years, three months, and nine days.

In 1910 while in infancy she, with her parents, moved to Boley, Okla., where she spent her childhood. In 1933 at Bristow, Okla., she was united in holy matrimony to Mr. Archibald Sherman. To this union eleven children were born.

It was there at Bristow in 1934 she heard the gospel taught by the ministers of the Church of God, accepted it and was saved. She lived a Christian life for many years. Through the many tests and temptations of life she lost this experience with the Lord. In January, 1937 she, with her family, moved to Bakersfield, Calif. and there made her home until her passing. Here in Bakersfield, she again renewed her covenant with the Lord and lived a victorious life until the end.

She leaves to mourn her passing a devout husband, Bro. Archibald Sherman; seven sons: Robert and Luther of Los Angeles, Archibald, Jr., Charles James, Willie Ray, and Donnie Roy of Bakersfield, Richard Orville Lee, United States Army, Franksfort, Germany; four daughters: Mrs. Jessie Mae Trotter, Ethel Mae, Rada Louise, and Iola Salinas Sherman all of Bakersfield; nine grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in the saints' chapel in Bakersfield by Bro. I. C. Chandler assisted by Bro. Ostis Wilson and Bro. E. J. Trotter and others.

Leui E. Kye was born in Wichita, Kansas, May 5, 1940. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Kye. He was loved by many.

He leaves to mourn his passing a mother and father, one brother, three sisters, and two grandmothers: Mrs. John Taust and Mrs. Douie More of Wichita, Kansas.

Sermon by Bro. L. Williams, using text: Titus 2:1-13.

At Leona, Texas, Minnie Hanks, daughter of James and Jennie Hanks was born. There she received her early education. On March 15, 1884, at Houston, Texas, she was married to Ned Jackson. From this union five daughters were born, two of which preceded her in death. She passed away March 25, 1960.

She was a faithful member of the Church of God.

Survivors are: Mrs. Teresa Robinson, Dallas, Texas, Mrs. Helen McNeil, Washington, D. C., Mrs. Lenora Hubert, Colorado Springs, Colo.; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Services by Bro. Lewis Williams assisted by Bro. Woodrow Warren and Bro. Sam Barton. Text: Matt. 9:24.

The angels came with silent tread
And gathered 'round our darling's bed;
Unto their shinning home above
They bare her in their arms of love.

We'll meet again, where comes no night,
We'll meet again in realms of light,
We'll meet our loved among the blest,
Farewell, our darling, sweetly rest.

CAMPMEETING DATES FOR 1960

(Watch for particulars of these meetings in each issue)

Hennessey, Oklahoma	May 27 — June 5
Hammond, Louisiana	June 24 — July 3
Jefferson, Oregon	July 1 — July 10
Green Pastures, Oklahoma	July 8 — July 17
Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri (National Campmeeting)	July 22 — July 31
Guthrie, Oklahoma (State)	Aug. 5 — Aug. 14
Myrtle, Missouri	Aug. 19 — Aug. 28

JEFFERSON, OREGON CAMPMEETING

We, the saints at Jefferson, Oregon, plan, Lord willing to have our campmeeting July 1st through the 10th.

Ministers of the Lord's choosing will be here to bring the Word. The meeting will be run by free-will offerings. We have cabins and all will be cared for that can come. All are welcome. Come praying for a feast to your soul.

For further information write Bro. Noah White, Jefferson, Ore., Rt. 1, or Emma Busch, Scio, Ore., Rt. 2 Box 218.

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT MANSFIELD, MO.

Our annual all-day meeting will be held, the Lord willing, the third Sunday, May, 15th. We invite all the saints who can, to come and be with us. The chapel is located 14 miles north of Mansfield, Mo. on Bro. Edd Tombleson's place.

For further information write Bro. Murphy Allen, Box 352, Mansfield, Mo., or D. A. Gibson, Seymour, Mo.

ALL-DAY MEETING AT JENA, LA.

The fifth Sunday of this month, May 29, the saints at Jena, La. will have all-day meeting. They would be glad if the Lord would impress someone to continue the meeting on through the week. For further information contact Bro. Merrill Williamson, Pastor, Rt. 1, Box 41B.

WORK DAY ON NATIONAL CAMPGROUND

Remember that the work day on the campground at Monark Springs, Mo., will be on Saturday, May 14th. May we see you there?

Is Hell The Grave?

By Roger Burke

The question, "Is hell the grave?" may seem unnecessary to people who have been taught from childhood that hell, in the Bible, means a literal, burning, everlasting place where the souls of the wicked shall be punished after death for their sins. But since the latter part of the nineteenth century many religious "cults" have arisen which have been sweeping across the earth, spreading the doctrines of "soul-sleep" and "total annihilation," so effectively that many millions today are thoroughly convinced that hell is merely the pit in the earth where the dead body is buried. Surely, with this doctrine being spread all around us, we need to say with Paul: "What saith the scriptures?" for only by looking into God's Word can we know the truth.

The entire system of no-hell religion is based on three small words: **Sheol**, **Hades**, and **Gehenna**. These

three words are those which are translated "hell" in the King James Version of the Bible. Those who teach soul-sleeping claim that these words mean literal graves or places of death. But they forget that a word is only a symbol, with no meaning whatever except that which those using the word attach to it. Therefore, we must consider how the Bible uses a word before we can say what meaning was imparted to it.

First, let us consider the word **Sheol**, which is used in the Old Testament wherever we read the word "hell" in the King James version. Benjamin Wilson, an eminent authority on the Bible says in the **Emphatic Diaglott**: "Though **Sheol**, in many places, may signify **keber**, the grave, as the common receptacle of the dead, yet it has the more general meaning of death; a state of death; the dominion of death." We shall see that the latter phrase, "The dominion of death"—the world of departed spirits—is the most accurate, by the following verses. All quotations will be taken from the King James version, but the original word "sheol" will be substituted for "hell."

The first place in the Old Testament where **sheol** is mentioned is in Deuteronomy 32:22. "For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest **sheol**, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains." Here we see that God declared that, because His people had sinned, **sheol** was to become a place of fire where His wrath would be poured out upon them. No literal grave has fire in it; therefore, **sheol** must be something else.

Psalms 9:17 tells us what class of people are going to **sheol**. "The wicked shall be turned into **sheol**, and all the nations that forget God." How can this be the grave? **Sheol** is designated as a place where the wicked and those that forget God will be sent evidently in punishment for their sins. Apparently, the righteous will not go there, for no mention is made of them. Yet, do not all men die? Are not all buried in a literal grave—both righteous and unrighteous? Most certainly, yes. Therefore, since **sheol** is a place where only the wicked shall go, it cannot be the physical grave.

In the grave the body is unconscious and has no life, but it is not so in **sheol**, for David wrote: "Let death seize upon them [his wicked enemies, verse 3], and let them go down quick into **sheol**: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them." Ps. 55:15. Notice he said, "let them go down **quick** into **sheol**." In 1604, when the King James version was begun, the word, "quick" meant "alive," or "living." By this we see that people are alive in **sheol**—that is, their souls are alive. **Sheol**, then cannot be the grave, for only dead bodies are placed there, and the souls are not there, for they return to God (Eccl. 3:21; 12:7), for Him to reward or punish.

Proverbs 27:20 teaches us that **sheol** is not a physical place. "**Sheol** and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied." If **sheol** was the physical receptacle of dead bodies it most certainly could be filled. Often in cities new cemeteries must be established because all available space has been

used up in the existing ones. Yet sheol cannot be filled. This is because the spirits of the dead, being without bodies, do not take up physical space, thus there is always room in sheol, and it cannot be filled.

When the dead body is put into the grave, all life is past—there is no physical sensation or “feeling” whatever, but it is not so in sheol. “The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of sheol gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.” Ps. 116:3. Here we see that sheol is a place of pain. Since there is no pain in the grave, sheol is not identical with it.

In the Song of Solomon, 8:6b, is found another proof that sheol is not the grave. “Jealousy is cruel as the sheol: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame.” At a first reading this may seem to deal only with jealousy, not sheol, but notice: how does Solomon say jealousy is similar to sheol? It has coals of fire and flame! Thus a parallel is drawn. If sheol had neither flame nor coals of fire, why would Solomon have made such a comparison? Obviously, he would not have done so if sheol was not a place of fire. Since, as we saw before, the literal grave contains no fire, sheol cannot then be synonymous with it.

As a final witness to the truth about sheol, let us consider Isaiah 14:9, 10. “Sheol from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? Art thou become like unto us?” This tells the king of Babylon that sheol “stirreth up the dead for thee.” The Hebrew word translated “the dead,” is **Rephaim**, which means “departed souls.” Thus we once more see that sheol contains souls of men. These souls were able to speak also. The grave does not contain the souls of men, nor do the bodies in it have the power to speak. Is it not then plain that sheol is not the grave?

Now let us consider what these verses from the Old Testament have told us about sheol:

1. It is a place of fire (Deut. 32:22; Cant. 8:6; Isa. 14:9).
2. The wicked go there (Ps. 9:17).
3. Those in sheol are alive (Ps. 55:15).
4. Sheol is an evil spiritual place which can never be filled (Prov. 27:20).
5. Sheol is a place of pain (Ps. 116:3).
6. Those in sheol can speak (Isa. 14:9).

From these facts we can draw an absolute, positive, seventh conclusion: **sheol is not the grave!**

To The Young People

(ESPECIALLY THE TEENAGERS)

I know this is out of the ordinary, but I, as a sinner, would like to write a letter of warning to the young people who are at the age where they are considering marriage and to the younger set who are just beginning to date.

I was born and reared in the Church of God, and have known the truth all my life. Through the years

I have heard the older saints warn the young people about dating worldly boys and girls. I, like a lot of young people, thought their ideas were old-fashioned and perhaps thought they were narrow-minded.

When I was 15, I turned against the belief of the Church and started dating a man six years older than myself, who had been married before. Within five months I had done something I thought I never would have done. I married this man, and at the age of 16 I was in double marriage. My marriage was very troublesome and I was very unhappy! For two years I lived a miserable, lonely life except for the comfort I got from my daughter. At the age of 18 I was another statistic in the teenage divorce courts. I just turned 20 last month and already at this young age my life is ruined unless God is merciful once again. My daughter is almost three, and I have the responsibility of rearing her completely upon my shoulders.

I feel like maybe someone can benefit by my mistakes as I am not “an old lady” who doesn’t understand you, but I am one of you who has experienced the heartaches and heartbreaks of defying the truth. I am deeply concerned about the young people, being young myself. I know what is in store for each and everyone unless you live a close consecrated life with God, who will continually protect you from the pitfalls of Satan. Let me tell you from experience: there is no fun or enjoyment in sin. What pleasures there are last only momentarily. The majority of the time it is a hard, lonely, and miserable life, crammed full of disappointments and troubles.

I have lived a saved life and I have lived in sin, so I can speak for both, and believe me, there is nothing better than a clear conscience and the contentment of knowing you have a friend who will never leave you nor forsake you, no matter what comes or goes. You ask why I don’t give up my life of sin and get saved? The devil gets you so involved and so mixed up sometimes it seems almost impossible to pull away and straighten out your life. I hope I haven’t passed up my last chance to get saved, and I hope any of the young people who might read this will remember me in their prayers.

I trust this will awaken someone who may be faltering along the way and I hope someone might benefit by my mistakes.

Sincerely,

—Beverly Appleton.

Undress

I feel the need this morning to cry out against the undress of those who call themselves saints. If a person is a saint of God he or she will have the love of God in their soul and will want to do the commands of God. By doing this we will have to obey from the heart what God’s Word tells us to do.

Now that spring is at hand and summer will soon be upon us again, we will see much undress in the world. The very first few warm days here, upon the streets of a small town we see the girls, yes, old and young, going in shorts. Oh, dear ones, it seems people of today can hardly wait to expose themselves to the eyes of the men.

We find in 1 Tim. 2:9 that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety. Oh, dear ones, where is the shamefacedness of the women of today? Even some among the saints are becoming more like the women of the world each day. They are fallen, and are taking up with the ways of the world.

Last fall the ones who desired the plain hose for their children could not get them because there wasn't enough demand for them. But thanks be unto God, we who make an effort to get the cotton can still get them in white and tan and not some flashy color. The cotton and nylon in tan are heavy and nice. As long as there is a will to please God, He is going to make a way. Praise God!

The ministers should cry out against undress and keep it out of their own homes. There is a great falling away today of people who claim to be in the true Church of God. We find in the scriptures where it says if the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! Oh, dear ones, I plead with you to come back to the old paths and follow after God by doing and living by the whole Word of God. If we don't, we will miss heaven.

You will not find an old true Mother in Israel wearing her sleeves almost to her elbows or her dress skirts coming to her knees or just barely below, but they will be almost to her ankles so as to cover up when she leans over or is sitting down. The neck and collar will be up around her neck not exposing herself. She will also be wearing heavy hosiery, not the thin nylon type.

The scripture did not say to dress modest only in the winter months as some do, and to go as the world in other months while it is hot. This is how many are doing. If we fail only on one point, we are told by God's Word that we are guilty in all when the Judgment call comes.

We plead today for you to come to the ways of God and be ready to meet Jesus in the sky.

—Sister Norma Allen.

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Testimonies

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere,—This morning I'm saved and much encouraged to live for the dear Lord. Truly I mean to make heaven my home. I feel led this morning to send in my testimony. I want to thank the dear Lord for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. A few weeks ago I was so sick I could hardly get up or down. My little four-year old daughter said to my other two children, a girl, six, and a boy, three, "Let's pray for Mommy," and they agreed in prayer. The Lord certainly came to my rescue. It's just wonderful how the Lord hears and answers prayer. We are serving a wonderful God. It's a blessing to live so close to the Lord that when we call upon Him for help He won't fail us nor forsake us, but He will surely answer prayer. The Lord has healed our bodies many different times.

I ask the saints to pray for me that I can continue to rear my children in the fear of God and pray that they will continue to trust in God for their every need. I have terrible headaches. Truly the Lord has eased them many times, and I know the Lord can heal, so I'm looking for

complete healing for this. So I ask the dear saints to remember me in prayer that the Lord will completely heal me if it is His will. I also have some unspoken requests. I also want to thank the different saints for their prayers in my behalf.

Your sister in Christ,

—Josephine Pannell.

Ill.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—I feel that I must write and tell what the Lord has done for me. He has done many things for many years, but a few weeks ago I was sick with pains in my stomach and side. There are no saints near me to pray for me, so one night I called on the Lord myself and asked Him to heal me and take care of me. The next morning the pain was all gone, and there was only a little soreness. Now He has taken that away. I thank Him with all my heart.

Please pray for me that the Lord will strengthen my body and heal me entirely. I am an old lady and need all your prayers.

—Sister V. Rheude.

Okla.—Dear precious saints,—My heart is rejoicing in the God of my salvation this Lord's day morning. The Lord has been so merciful to save and sanctify my poor unworthy soul, I'll never cease to praise Him.

A month ago we were privileged to have meeting in a home we had never been in. When all were exhorted to testify it seemed I owed those people my testimony because I realized I might never see them again. I testified how the Lord had not died in vain for me and about how the peace of God in my heart meant more to me than anything. That very day the devil started trying to destroy my peace. Praise the Lord, this morning I'm praising Him for His peace still in my soul and it still means everything to me.

During this time Jeanie, my daughter, took seriously sick. Oh, how precious it was for her to trust the Lord because she wanted to, and how wonderfully God healed her! She is back in school and gaining weight. Thanks to the dear saints who sent cards from different places and were so good to us at this time. It was such an encouragement to us. Then Jeanie had had planter's warts on her feet and were so sore she could hardly walk at times it seemed. We had requested prayer several times but they were getting worse. While she was in bed some sisters came by one night and prayed and they prayed for her feet also. Jeanie said they were healed, so last night she just scraped and dug those things off as the Lord had just dried them up.

Dear ones, our hearts are surely rejoicing in Him. The Lord said in His Word, "Is any thing too hard for the Lord?" Pray for me and my precious unsaved loved ones which are many.

—Frances Perkins

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Calif.—Dear saints one and all,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am saved and sanctified and satisfied with God's way. A while back when I was very sick I promised the Lord if He would heal me I would write my testimony and send it to the Faith and Victory paper, so He did heal me and I surely give Him the praise. After I was healed of the flu I hit my hand against something and sprained the thumb on my left hand. It hurt some at the time and then quit hurting for a while. In the afternoon it began again and got so bad I called for prayer and the Lord wonderfully heard. Then in a few days I had another test. I started to wash and my washer sounded like it was coming apart. I did all I could but it just kept on. I said, "Dear Lord, I have done all I can. Will you make it run right?" And I began to thank the Lord and it did begin to run well.

I have so much to thank the Lord for! Well, I have one more healing to tell you about. I got sick with my throat and it got so bad I called some of the saints for prayer. I got some relief and then it got worse and it seemed at times I would get to where I couldn't breathe. I thought I had been calling, but something would say, "Call, and I will answer." So I sat down and wrote a letter to Jefferson, Oregon and one to Guthrie, Okla, and before morning I was healed. Oh, praise the Lord!

—Sister Alpha Daniels.

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Okla.—Dear saints abroad,—I am encouraged to go all the way with the Lord. He is so real to me tonight. I was sitting here thinking how good the Lord has been to me and my family and I felt impressed to write a testimony telling the people about it. The Lord has healed me of a broken arm and several types of illnesses and I am looking to him for all my afflictions, both for soul and body. I have many trials but the Lord is always ready to help us in all the trials and troubles we have.

I was having a very hard trial a few days ago. I said, "I just can't go on," but the Lord spoke to me and said so plainly, "Fight on." I said, "Yes, Lord, I will," and He sent some encouragement to me the next day. Thank His dear name! He is so good to us if we will only let Him be. Sometime it is our fault if we don't get the help we want.

I have unsaved children and loved ones I would like for all the saints to remember in prayer and I also have an unspoken request.

Your sister in Christ, —Sister Perkins.

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La.—To the saints,—I am thanking the dear Lord for His love to me, and also the dear saints for all they did for me in my time of sickness. I was very sick with flu and double pneumonia pleurisy. The saints here and my dear daughter-in-law took wonderful care of me. I can never thank them enough and also the saints at Midway, Shreveport, Kentwood, Mo., and Okla. were sweet to me, sending cards and some flowers, and offerings. God bless each one and most of all I thank them for their prayers. I am gaining strength each day, and have been up for five or six days. The Lord is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Praise His name! He still hears and answers prayer. Thanks again to one and all.

Pray for me, —Sister Catherine Simpson.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—I love the dear Lord and I feel like He is leading me to tell about some more of His blessings and goodness to my family and me. I want to ever be ready to tell of all the blessings God bestows upon us from time to time. I am shut out of active services but God is still keeping me saved and is teaching me some of His great lessons. I have learned that by being shut out of active services that God can still give great soul food to feast on. My determination is to live close to God so that I can always hear His sweet voice. He has certainly been feeding my soul with heavenly food. I believe the Lord will be pleased for me to tell the last time I was in service. It was, as near as I can remember, in the month of July, 1959. God's strong hands are still keeping me saved, sanctified, and truly satisfied in God's way because God's way is best for me. I mean heaven at any cost.

When there was so much sickness in our neighborhood with the flu the dear Lord really protected our family. One of the children had a cold and the little girl next to our baby girl was sick for a week, but the good Lord saw

fit to heal her and protect the baby and the rest of the family from that illness. I surely do thank Him for His goodness to us and I'm going to do all I can to help others see God as I have seen Him. If the dear Lord hadn't kept the flu from spreading among the family it would have been a great burden with six small children to care for. Our oldest child will be eight years old in April and our baby is four months old. I can surely see the goodness of God in protecting His trusting children. His promises are all true. If we trust God He will carry us through.

I need your prayers, so every one pray for me that God's will be done through me. I have an unspoken request I would like the saints to pray for, that God will work out for me.

Your sister in Christ,

—Clara Barnett.

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Tenn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere,—I give this testimony that all honor and praise may be unto the Lord. In the latter part of May or the first of June of last year, 1959, I was scratched on my right leg just about two inches above the ankle by a kitten, or rather, that is what I supposed started it though I had other scratches from briars, etc. In two or three weeks it became infected, but I still worked on. About the 28th of June I became sick with chills, weakness, etc. for a few days. The leg then began to inflame rapidly, the inflammation reaching to four or five inches of my knee. The sore spread, and had a very bad color. I wrote for prayer and it gradually got better though I had an awful hurting in it at times when I had to be on my feet a lot. By the first of Sept. it seemed to be all healed except a small sore about as big as my thumb nail. On Sept. 9th I took real sick, much worse than in June, with chills, a dull feeling in my head, and was so sick at my stomach all through the night. For three days and nights after that I had no rest or sleep. It seemed as if my body was a complete wreck. My husband and others begged me to let them call the doctor, but I said, "No, the Lord can heal. He is just the same yesterday, today, and forever."

In a day or so the leg began to inflame, and the inflammation spread over my knee. It was so full of fever I could hardly bear the bedclothes to touch it, and at night I would let it lie outside of the cover to keep it cool. The high fever caused the skin from the sole of my foot to above my knee to peel off. It was of an awful color, sometimes a bluish, purple red, and all sorts of appearances. I again wrote for prayer. A minister came and anointed with oil and prayed. The inflammation began leaving and gradually went away. I was up in three or four weeks doing most of my work. I have been up all winter doing my work and going wherever I needed to go.

I do not know all about my sickness, but I do know my leg was badly infected. The Lord knew all about it as He numbers all the hairs on our head. He says in Exo. 15:26, "I am the Lord that healeth thee." In 1 Peter 2:24 we read that by his stripes ye were healed. In Matt. 8:16 and 17 we read where He healed ALL that were sick that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." I never used any medicine during my affliction, either outside or inwardly. To God be all the glory.

—Ella Runion.

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Idaho—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I have been affiliated with the Church of God (G. T. Co.) since 1914. I have seen it deteriorate until the Lord said, "Come out of her." I am "come out" never to return. I do not mean God's real spiritual Church, for I recognize it completely. Your paper takes me back 46 years when the Gospel Trumpet

was like your Faith and Victory. God is faithful to guide those who are true to Him.

God bless you and keep you steady on the strait and narrow way.

Sincerely,

—Myrtle Shell.

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Ore.—Dear saints at the Lord's Print Shop and abroad. I greet you all in Jesus' dear name. I can report victory in my soul and body this morning. I promised the Lord if He would heal my leg of the terrible affliction I had on it I would write my testimony through the little paper. Only the Lord knows what I suffered. It seemed the bare nerves were near the skin of my whole leg and especially below the knee. It hurt day and night, but at night it was almost unbearable. Below the knee it looked like I had sat near an open fire and felt like it too. I could hardly stand my stocking on it. It was so tender and the bone ached too, that I couldn't sleep and just dreaded to go to bed. As I said before, only the Lord knows what I suffered. I prayed by the hours at night, and one night I said, "Lord, surely this great suffering is for some purpose," and He said, "Yes." Then He showed me how this no doubt was caused from a dislocated joint somewhere which pinched the nerves. The whole body was suffering from it. Then he showed me that that is the way His body suffers when one joint is out of place. I said, "Oh, Lord, I know I am no more than the little finger in your body," but a little finger out of place can affect the whole body, even the head (Christ). So I searched my heart diligently and asked the Lord to search it, but He showed me nothing then.

Then another night He talked to me about some joint that was out of place. I asked Him what I could do about it and He showed me I was to pray.

I surely thank Him for what He has done. He has healed my leg. It is real tender yet below the knee, but there is no pain, praise the dear Lord. Oh, how I love Him! and by His help I mean to serve Him the rest of my days.

Dear ones, pray for my unsaved loved ones.

Your sister in Christ,

—Emma Busch.

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S. C.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings to you and all of the dear saints at the Print Shop. I just have read over the last Faith and Victory paper. It brought good encouragement to my soul. While I am shut in I surely do enjoy reading them. They go right along with my Bible, praise the Lord!

The Lord is very good to me in time of trouble until my heart cannot express it. It means so much to have joy in the Lord. Trials, persecutions, and temptations, and such things are needful. "If need be," says Peter, "ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations." Why are those things needful? Because they are the trying of your faith; and your faith is increased by being tried.

I want to ask the reader to open his Bible to 1 Peter 1:6-9 and read. I pray God to help your soul to see and to help me to describe to you the wondrous beauty my soul sees in these texts. In verse six we learn that heaviness through many temptations is a necessity in the Christian life. This is an established law between causes and effects. Certain causes produce certain effects. These effects may become causes to produce other effects. Now trials and persecutions produce an increase of faith in our hearts. This we learn from verse seven. This increase is more precious than gold. Ofttimes it is very difficult for Christians to see the worth of a trial. They can see the value of gold but they cannot see the value of a trial. They look on things temporal and not on things eternal.

Trials increase your faith and the result of having your faith increased is told us in verse eight. Jesus you have not seen, but now, by faith, you look upon Him who is not seen and you love Him, and by believing in Him whom you see not, or by an eye of faith, you make Him real unto you and you rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. Praise the Lord.

My dear friend, when we begin to dig down in the Word of God our heart just rejoices. We are sucking honey from the Rock. Praise the Lord. While I am writing this testimony my cup of joy is running over.

To see what God can do for His children I would like to ask the reader to please turn in his Bible with me to the 3rd chapter of Colossians and read the whole chapter, and pray as you read. Then read the 12th chapter and the 12th verse of Hebrews. My friends, there is much good from the Word I would like to give you, but will spare the space for someone else.

I want to ask all the saints everywhere that when they pray to please remember me.

Your saved brother in the Lord, —Eddie Driggers.

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Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the workers and saints scattered abroad,—Greetings in the name that is so dear to our hearts—our dear Saviour and King. All glory be to His name for full salvation from sin! I am very glad to report victory over all the powers of Satan. Oh, I am very glad He called after me and my heart heard and answered and He helped me to choose to love, serve, and follow Him. I love Him today more than my life. He has been more than heart could think or ask in my behalf.

Some five years ago I had a pimple come on my nose, and it grew and the top would get knocked off (by accident) and it would form a scab larger than before. This went on year by year and my children and friends would chide me to do something about it as they thought it would give me trouble. I told them I was trusting God completely. When it became about the size of the end of my finger it got malignant and issued pus. I had quite a battle for Satan told me, "Yes, your grandmother died with cancer, and so did your father, and you will too." But with Holy Ghost boldness and faith in God I told him (Satan) this is none of your business how or when I leave this world, and he had no part nor lot with me, and God took my decision for final and healed me completely. All praise and glory be to His precious name! Oh, how glad I was to be healed of that awful thing that would eat one up by inches, slowly and painfully. Oh, Jesus surely is the best physician one can have. He never fails His trusting, believing children. I couldn't begin to tell of all His goodness to me. In all kinds of sicknesses and trouble He is more than able to deliver.

I thank God I am standing for all the old-time truth as taught and practiced by the Word of God and the old-time saints. Praise His holy name for ever! I am doing all I know to keep His commandments, and do those things that will please Him. Truly these are perilous days, but we are fully equipped with the Word and the Spirit of God to fight the good fight of faith as our Bro. Paul did. We must if we hope to make it in and see His face in peace. Oh, it is so well worth while to be faithful to our blessed Lord. He is mighty and so worthy of all praise and glory.

We pray for you there at the print shop and for all the saints scattered abroad. We are so glad to have Bro. and Sister Sell here in Redondo Beach with us, formerly from Neosho, Mo. They go into Los Angeles to

services on Sunday. We are all the saints here in Redondo that I know of. There are so few people like this humble way. I took a doctor's wife to meeting with me one Sunday and she said when she wished some more entertainment she would let me know and go with me again, but I didn't relish her making fun or of her amusement of God and His dear saints, so I didn't ask her any more to go with me.

God bless you dear ones there and doubly reward you for your faithfulness and service. Pray for us and ours as we pray for you and yours.

Yours, saved to serve till He calls us home,
—Georgia V. Morton Zinn.

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Oregon—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I do thank my God for the way He cares for us and that we have proof that He is still watching over us. I am still putting my trust in Him and living for Him in every way I know how. He has saved and sanctified me and has often healed me or someone in my family.

Last Friday night, some time after I went to bed, I got an awful pain all across my stomach until I could not rest in any position. About midnight I started vomiting. I was home all by myself but I kept calling on the Lord to give me relief and each time I vomited the pain was a little less. By morning the pain had all left except for a spot in my right side and I called my son and also my neighbor who also called dear Grandma Ridgway, and all earnestly prayed for me. Sister Travis soon came over and later on my daughter-in-law came and stayed with me so I wouldn't be alone. It was only a short time till the pain was gone but I was too tired to get up until the next day. I do not know what it was, but from the way it acted and the location of the pain, I thought it was appendicitis, but I do know that my God came to my rescue and healed me of this affliction. Praise His dear name.

Pray for me that I might ever keep in the center of His will.

Your sister in Christ, —Hilda A. Nielsen.

Ill.—Dear saints and readers of the Faith and Victory, Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. We have felt a burden to write our testimony to the paper ever since our darling son passed away, but it seemed our hearts were so heavy with sorrow it was hard to write. We are much more encouraged in the dear Lord. He means much to us.

We wish to try to express our thanks to every one for their prayers and all the nice cards and letters. The saints have been a great comfort to us. Bro. Probst and Bro. Murphy Allen were very faithful to read and pray with us. Words cannot express the encouragement they were to us during the passing of our darling Loy.

Loy left a wonderful testimony. He said several times that if it was for anyone's good he was willing to suffer. He also said, "Mother, don't cry, I'm happy."

There has been several souls stirred and some have been saved and we are expecting more to be saved. It has stirred our own souls to be more prayerful.

We are thankful for the blessings of the Lord. The enemy tries to bring dark pictures to us but we know the Lord is merciful to us and He won't let anything come upon us only what is for our good. Pray for us that we will always be true.

With Christian love, Bro. and Sister Arthur Gentry.

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Oklahoma.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all of God's saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I want to thank the dear Lord for His saving grace and His healing power,

and I want to thank all of God's people that prayed for the healing of rheumatism or something that hurt my knees and legs. I could hardly walk for several years. Last winter it spread almost all over my body. There was a deep pain in my left side around my heart, but I went on for the Lord. I was never afraid of what might happen to me. I kept packed up and ready to go without any warning. Thank God, He healed and took away my pains. Praise His holy name. My knees are still a little sore but, oh, how good He is to me to take away the pain. I'm expecting the soreness to also go away. Keep praying for me.

Your brother in love and the grace that keeps us saved,
—Dan LaFaver.

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Ill.—Dear saints,—On Feb. 13 in prayer I asked God to send us some meat if He would be pleased to do so. I also asked Him to send us a miracle. I love to see God perform His wonders. At 6:30 a. m. a dear neighbor came in to use the phone and brought us a nice fat hen from the deep freeze. Oh, our God is so great and good.

After breakfast my father had a bad attack with the hernia and by noon was very bad. Then God brought a beloved sister in Jesus from fifty miles away. She brought fresh eggs and fresh frozen fish. She did not think my father would live. We prayed once but he grew worse. His pain was very intense. I told him he must yield his mind and will and life to God and be willing to go when God called him. This he did. We then called on God again to have His way, live or die, but to please take away the pain. God answered instantly and he rested so quietly that he soon fell asleep. Being 95 and 5 months he still wants to live as long as he can. This requires much love and grace from God and is one of the great hard lessons of life every saint must learn before they can enter heaven: "patience." God knew how I needed to learn that lesson. "Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:4. (We must not be lacking in any of the holy characters of God.) Patience must be added to faith and knowledge, and will be after we have entered the experience of sanctification. "Impatience" is so often ascribed to bad nerves, but I found out Satan was at the root of my impatience and my bad nerves. Praise God, He has a perfect cure. Pray for me that I may press on. How good and perfect are all His ways. My father slept till 4 p. m. and when I went to him there was not a sign of that large hernia except a handful of shriveled-up skin lying on his side. That was a miracle as it had not ever been completely gone for over two years. It had never been as large as it was at this attack. He was ready to get up and eat, and he praised God for delivering him from the pain. He was very weak a few days and needed to be helped about, but was stronger soon and able to walk most of the time with the help of a chair or cane. God gave us a blessed time of fellowship with much prayer and exhortation from the Word.

Sunday night I wrote: "God answers prayer. He sends us food and performs His miracles." On the next day our kind neighbor came in with a pan of several kinds of freshly butchered meat their son in the country had given them to butcher. Yes, God cares! Yes, He sees and knows all—every need! every heart's desire. The Word tells us our Father and Saviour get joy and good pleasure when they are given the privilege to work out their will and plan in our life.

Being isolated so many years I have to depend solely on God to keep me fed spiritually. For a good many years

He had no trouble raining down a delicious food called manna, to feed the people of Israel in the wilderness. Once He sent flocks of quail; he gave them water out of the rock. God has not changed. He can send both temporal food and spiritual. The Word of God is our chief spiritual food. We are told to "eat it"—take it into our soul and let it work in every part of our body. It will nourish us.

In a careful study of all the words of Jesus we cannot fail to notice the word "witness" is the key of all of them. Witnessing was to be the main work of the whole church in this whole world throughout all ages. "Into the world" includes every Christian's personal world, for it takes all the personal worlds of all the Christians scattered abroad on earth together to cover the geographical world. The whole world is to be the field of the whole church. Witnessing is the main work of the whole church in all the world. Jesus commanded the gospel to be taken to every creature in all nations. At the very center of the method and life of Christ and the apostolic ministry was the personal face to face appeal to the lost. This was God's plan! Christ's method! and Jesus said, "Go ye." The command is to every believer who has been baptized. Mark 16. The purpose of my message is to endeavor to win lost souls to Christ. You ask, "How can this be done? This does require some impelling incentive to get people to do what is difficult. The church has impelling incentives that should cause all to go back to the New Testament Church methods. Outside of it being a command God expects each one to obey. There is the awful certainty that "the end of all things is at hand." Time is nearly run out. Millions have not yet heard the true gospel even once! Shall we not stand guilty before our Judge, knowing and having the truth and the way and refusing to obey God's command to go?

My heart is stirred. God has shed a bright light down upon me and made me to know I am laboring in His field, as I have seen in a vision, where people of all ages, even small children and old and aged people, toiled through the heat of the day to gather in the dead-ripe golden grain. But we must hasten for darkness is setting down and soon no man can work. God's presence and blessings are very great.

Jesus so loved you that He gave His whole life to redeem you. Won't you give Him your whole life? Will you not dedicate your whole life to His service—the work so dear to His and the Father's heart? "Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." James 5:7, 8.

May God help us to search our hearts and lives and see if we have been faithful in God's command: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." "Ye shall be witnesses unto me." Acts 1:8; Luke 24:45-49. I truly feel God has moved in a mighty way to stir me to my duty and God-given privilege. Are we too weak? powerless? not well enough acquainted with the Word? What is your excuse now? What will your excuse be at the Judgment? God has made provision for all that any soul needs to do His will on earth. 2 Peter 1:1-13. "Ye SHALL receive power AFTER that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8.

Pray for me, dear saints of God, that I be and do all He has commanded of me. I do earnestly pray for every child of God and sinner on this earth.

The very least of His, I am your sister in Jesus,

—Ada Scanlan.

So—"Drop a word of cheer and kindness,
In a minute you forget:
But there's gladness still a swelling,
And there's joy a circling yet;
And you've rolled a wave of comfort
Whose sweet music can be heard
O'er miles and miles of water
By just dropping one kind word."

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"God knew we needed something more
Than budding earth and sunlit sky,
So He gave us friends
To lift our hearts and spirits high.

God chose to teach the wondrous art
Of "comfort" and cheer without end,
By giving to the fainting heart
The precious gift of FAITHFUL FRIENDS."
—Chester and Dorothy Lindgren

God's Building

"Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are. While I was with them in the world I kept them in thy name." (John 17:11, 12). This prayer of Jesus to the Father signifies one family and one church in the name of God—the Church of God.

Membership in the family of God is by a spiritual birth. "For the spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." Rom. 8:16. Jesus said, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again." Being born of the flesh makes one a member of his father's family. Likewise, being born of the Spirit (God is a Spirit), makes one a member of God's family. When men originate a denomination, it is only a human invention, but when God brings forth by His Spirit it is all of God. Paul said, "For we are laborers together with God. Ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." (1 Cor. 3:9).

"But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon." "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11. "For who is God save the Lord, or who is a Rock save our God?" Ps. 18:31. "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord." Eph. 2:20, 21.

In the last text we notice that the apostles were foundation stones, all of them, including Peter. Since all the apostles were foundation stones, this did not give Peter any preeminence over the rest. However, Peter's name signified a stone—Cephas—a stone. Christ is the only Rock underlying all the foundation of God's Church. Other foundation can no man lay. Only one building can stand on one foundation.

Christ said, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church was his purchased possession or property. All organi-

zations built later are without Christ as their foundation, and must perish in the final judgment.

"Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:7, 8. There is no excuse or reason for being deceived if we take heed to this scripture. "The flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you they are spirit and they are life." John 6:63. The Spirit of God will give the sincere, honest man the true light on "the Church of God." "When he the spirit of truth is come he will guide you into all truth." John 16:13. When men pretend to worship, and do not worship God in spirit and in truth, they are not worshipping in an acceptable manner. Jesus said, "The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:23, 24.

The New Testament clearly sets forth the one true Church of God. The New Testament saints in that time believed in only one church, and that was "the church of God." "Feed the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood." Acts 20:28. "The church of God which is at Corinth." 1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1. "Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God." 1 Cor. 10:32. "Despise ye the church of God?" 1 Cor. 11:3-22. "Beyond measure I persecuted the church of God and wasted it." Gal. 1:13.

No one can possibly be a firm believer in the Bible without believing in the church of God. Paul makes this statement: "For I have not shunned to declare unto you ALL the counsel of God," and this included the doctrine of the church of God. "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood." He taught here the church of God and the power of the Holy Ghost. It is clear which church is of God—it is the one that Jesus built. —T. J. Bowers

A Billion

The word billion is a popular one in modern parlance. But have you ever stopped to think what a billion of anything really is?

Perhaps this comparison will help. If you were a billionaire and decided to give away your money at the rate of \$1000 a day, it would take nearly three years to give away your first million.

But since a billion is 1000 times a million, it would require 3000 years to distribute the entire billion.

If you transfer this million to the category of years, it is a staggering thought. Eternity, which you begin the minute you are born, is endless and a thousand million years from now it will still be in its beginning stages.

Keep ever before you this vast perspective. Life will assume a dynamic purposeful meaning, and you will gladly endure any sacrifice here in order to insure for the hereafter the happiness God wishes you to enjoy with Him for all eternity.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21. —Sel.

"What Will A Man Give In Exchange For His Soul?"

I deem the soul of man to be the most important and most neglected part of the human body. When God breathed the breath of life into our bodies, we became a living soul. Have you ever tried to analyze the human soul? It does not consist of flesh or blood. If it did, man, with all his knowledge of science and medical theories, would be trying some way to dispose of it, so they could go on in their sinful ways and be sure of heaven. The soul can only die a spiritual death. It can not be severed or crushed to alienate it. It will always belong to that man or woman to whom God first gave it. It will live on and on after this fleshly body hath decayed. The soul lives on throughout eternity.

What are you going to do with your soul? It is up to each individual while he has life and breath to decide that question. You can repent and forsake sin and live unto righteousness and gain eternal life in heaven, or live on in your sins and trespasses in this life and reap the reward of damnation. Hell will be your destination if you choose it so. May God stir every heart to escape for his life and ask himself the question: "Oh, soul, where art thou going to spend eternity," or "what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" —Edith Wall.

Our Dear Old Folks

"Honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee." Eph. 6:2, 3

Many a weary mile they've gone,
Dawn till dark, and dark till dawn;
Oft' the midnight oil they burned.
While life's lessons hard they learned.

Now the "windows" have grown dim;
Tottering the weary limb;
They must trust another's eye—
Lean on loving arms near by.

Like a taper burning low,
Flickers now life's evening glow;
And they'd rather stay at home—
Gone is youth's desire to roam.

Furrows steal across the brow;
Gentle hands are folded now;
Softly, too, the twilight song
Comes from voices once so strong.

But—the fond heart still doth beat
With a love more true, more sweet,
Breathing forth a fervent prayer
For the children wandering—where?

Soon, how soon, their kindly eyes
Will close to wake in Paradise—
We shall be the old folks then,
And their trials better ken.

—Annie Lind Woodworth.

"Liquor is our country's Enemy Number One—the devil's best friend and God's worst enemy."

—Federal Judge E. Y. Webb.

"One cigarette has nineteen different poisons which get into the blood stream, making heart action difficult."—Dr. John Kellogg. "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy which temple ye are." 1 Cor. 3:17.

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BIBLE STUDY

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

May 1, 1960

THE PURE IN HEART

Printed Portion Matt. 5:8, 27-37; Luke 9:61-62

Matt. 5:8. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

27. Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

28. But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

29. And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

30. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

31. It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:

32. But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

33. Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

34. But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

35. Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

36. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Luke 9:61. And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

62. And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Memory Verse: Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Matt. 5:8.

Practical Truth: If we are pure within, our outward life will also be pure and good, though watching and praying will be needed.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Your heart is the real "you." Your heart is your inmost self, stripped of all pretenses before God who sees you as you really are and not as others think you are. The heart of man was in its original state made pure. There was no impurity in it, since it was made in God's image. But Satan entered into it and ever since man has had to have God purify his heart and help him keep it pure. Man's part is to "keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Guard every thought. Resist evil thoughts as soon as the enemy presents them.

Jesus brings out the fact that an impure heart is the cause of adultery, which leads to broken homes. He gets down to the very source from which springs the outward act. He goes on to tell us that if a person sees or has something in his heart that causes him to sin, to get rid of it. Renounce any inner or outward sin and exercise great vigilance to keep clear even if it may be as severe as cutting off the hand or plucking out the eye.

Jesus repeals the putting away of the wife according to the old law. (Deut. 24:1.) Jesus says that unfaithfulness on the part of the wife causes her to put her own self away. He then makes it very plain that if one marries again while his companion is living he commits the sin of adultery. Rom. 7:2, 3.

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May 8, 1960

THE PEACEMAKERS

Printed Portion Matt. 5:9, 21-22, 38-48

9. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

21. Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

22. But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

38. Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39. But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.

41. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

42. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy.

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

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

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

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

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

Memory Verse: Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Matt. 5:9.

Practical Truth: Peacemakers are a great asset in every realm where they are found.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

A peacemaker is one who strives to promote peace between individuals or nations. God is a God of peace. God wants his children to be filled with a love and care for all people. We cannot have any dislike, contempt, and of course no hatred for any person. Raca is an Aramaic word expressing contempt or "empty-headed." Fool is still a stronger expression. Let us look past the things people do and have a love in our hearts for their souls which are to live after death somewhere. It is our duty and should be our desire to in some way help that soul make it into heaven if we can. In our lesson Jesus is trying to get us to forget ourselves and those things we think are our rights and always have a care and concern for the other person so we can help them in some way make it into heaven. Jesus points out that our heavenly Father loves the wicked and evil. He shows goodness to them by giving them food, sunlight, and many blessings.

Jesus tells us to "resist not evil." Do not retaliate through acts of violence done to one but rather suffer the same thing again, hoping in some way to be able to help him see his need of doing better. Jesus wants us to return good for evil. "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." God's way is best and leads to peace in our soul. God's people never try to get even by returning evil for evil, but only good.

May 15, 1960

THE CHRISTIAN IN SOCIETY

Printed Portion Matt. 5:10-16; 13:31-35

5:10. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

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

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

15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

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

13:31. Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:

32. Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh

a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

33. Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

34. All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them:

35. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

Memory Verse: Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matt. 5:16.

Practical Truth: A person who has been transformed by Christ will help to produce a transformation in others and in the social order.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We are living in a world of spiritual darkness because of sin. All of us who are filled with the Spirit of God are lights. You may say that you cannot help anyone, yet think of how a very small light in a dark room shines out. You have spiritual influence going out far beyond your own knowledge. Our part is to keep prayed up, and the divine love of God burning brightly upon the altars of our hearts so God can cause that light to shine out farther and farther.

God's church with its many members who are filled with spiritual light is like a city set on a hill. It cannot be hid. That was the greatest comparison of that day to be used, but today the world's largest four beacons are at the top of the Empire State Building in New York. On a clear night this beacon can be seen by airborne passengers 300 miles away, and by observers on the ground at a distance of 90 miles from seven states.

The light that shone out from the faith manifested in God by those who trusted God to heal the typhoid fever that was received at Monark Springs Campgrounds shone to more than seven states. One wrote that they saw it in the papers across the ocean. So, dear ones, let's be strong in the Lord and be ready to let His light shine out through us at any time. Through persecutions this is accomplished. That is the reason a blessing is pronounced upon all who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

May 22, 1960

SINCERITY IN RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Printed Portion Matt. 6:1-13

1. Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

2. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

3. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

4. That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

5. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11. Give us this day our daily bread.

12. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen.

Memory Verse: The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. 1 Sam. 16:7.

Practical Truth: Our religious practices are worthless unless they are sincere.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Sincerity is a true part of every child of God. We cannot grow in the Lord or in our work for God unless we are sincere. Sincere means to be true, honest, genuine, upright, pure, real, and not falsely assumed. We must be honest in our hearts before God. When we pray we pray because we feel the need of prayer. When we praise the Lord we praise Him because we genuinely are thankful and our hearts are touched. We give because we feel the love of God leading us to do so and we feel in our hearts a real desire to help the cause that has been presented before us. All that we do we do it with a true motive behind it.

You might fool some people but you cannot fool all the people all the time. You cannot fool God at all. He sees right down into every heart. Everything is open and naked unto Him. Jesus told the Pharisees one time "Ye are they which justify yourselves before men: but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God." (Luke 16:15.) A hypocrite is one who pretends to be something that he is not. He will try to justify himself before men. What counts is what God thinks of us and not men. We want to live, act, and do to please God and not men. If we are pleasing the Lord then we will be pleasing the true saints of God who are walking in all the light. Be sincere in all you do.

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May 29, 1960

TREASURES IN HEAVEN

Printed Portion Matt. 6:19-21, 24-34

19. Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

24. No man can serve two masters: for either he will

hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

25. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26. Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27. Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28. And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29. And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith;

31. Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32. (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Memory Verse: Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt. 6:20-21.

Practical Truth: Even the poor of this world may so lay up treasures that they will be rich throughout all eternity.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Are we as interested in laying up treasures in heaven as we are working for the things of this earth? This may be a heart searching question but it is a very important question. Jesus' command is to not lay up treasures here on this earth, but to lay them up in heaven. We lay up treasures in heaven when we attain those graces which will continue beyond this life and when we win souls for Christ and otherwise help our fellow men. No fire can destroy it, neither can thieves break in and steal it. Heaven's treasures will always retain its full value. When this old world is on fire and all earthly treasures are destroyed we will have treasures that are safe. They will last forever.

Jesus has told us to seek first the kingdom of God and then all the things that we need here will be added. This is true and if followed it will bring all that the heart can ever desire. Oh, that our young people would follow this receipt given by Jesus for true and lasting happiness in this world and the world to come.

Jesus is trying to get over to us that we are not to worry. Worry has killed more people than anything else. God wants us to trust him completely. Trust Him for everything. Trust Him when things are going wrong and we are eating the last food in our house. Trust, trust, and then continue to trust. This is what God wants us to do. Peace of soul and mind is yours if you obey.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.