

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### *God Shall Wipe All Tears Away*

Many souls today are burdened  
 With a load of toil and care,  
 Burdened, too, with grief and sorrow;  
 Which seems more than they can bear.

Down their cheeks the tears are streaming,  
 And their hearts are pressed with fears;  
 There is hope if they could find it,  
 God can wipe away all tears.

But there must needs be repentance,  
 And a turning back to God,  
 From the paths and deeds of evil,  
 Where the wandering feet have trod.

Come to Him with true confession,  
 Come with trembling and with fears,  
 He will never disappoint you,  
 God will wipe away your tears.

Cling to Him, He will not leave you,  
 He'll go with you all the way;  
 Though you pass through tribulation,  
 God shall wipe all tears away.

—Ulysses Phillips.

### *God Does Control and Make Weather Conditions*

It is a biblical fact that God often punishes men for their sins and wrong-doings while they live upon the earth with the hope that they will receive correction and let their hearts be tendered toward God, to love Him more, or better. In other times He will permit Satan to buffet you for the benefit of others if He can find a vessel with a perfect heart toward Him. In 2 Chron. the 16th chapter and the 9th verse we read: "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars." In reading on in this Scripture we find that king Asa kept on doing foolish things and finally God allowed him to be dis-

eased in his feet and the disease was exceeding great. In this disease he did another foolish thing. He sought unto the physicians of earth for healing in place of the Lord, and Asa died. He died in a rebellious condition against God. How sad!

In the 15th chapter and second verse the prophet of God had warned Asa saying, "The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you." This truth spoken here is certainly true with every individual today, regardless of what false prophets teach. Every saved soul will do well to hearken unto this teaching.

God does not agree with sin in your life in any form. He does not look upon sin with any degree of favor. He hated sin so much that he gave his only begotten Son to the smiters and they heaped reproach upon him and so abused him that it seemed he was a man accursed and smitten of God. But the Scripture says 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." Isaiah 53:5. God allowed His Son to suffer all this abuse for others, even for us that we might have peace and favor with God our Father.

Before the flood God's anger was kindled against the people for we read in Genesis the 6th chapter and the 5th verse, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." God was sorry that he had created man and it grieved him at heart. Because of their sins and iniquities he sent a flood upon the earth and destroyed all but eight souls.

Sodom and Gomorrah were wicked cities and were filled with violence, evil, pride, and fleshly lusts until God sent fire down from heaven and destroyed them. When a nation was arrayed against Israel with a large army, God fought for His people by causing large hailstones to fall upon them, killing many, and drove them out of the country. Thus God proves that He is an avenger of His people. In Amos the 3rd chapter we read in the 6th verse where God asks a question in this way, "Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?"

King Herod had James killed with the sword, and had caught Peter planning to kill him, but God worked a miracle and delivered Peter out of his hand. Herod went down to another part of his country and made an oration to the people taking glory to himself, and God sent His angel and smote him. He was eaten of worms and died. In Eccl. the 8th chapter and the 11th verse we read, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." While God is merciful and longsuffering with man, yet there is an end and He will often use drastic measures to come upon some which will either cause them to soften their heart and quit wrong doing or will harden them and bring death.

Lately Oklahoma has been visited with tornadoes in different places and much property has been destroyed, houses demolished, and some persons killed and many others wounded or maimed for life. No doubt many of those who were in those tornadoes or close by would have a question in their minds which would be, "WHY, why, has such things taken place?" God no doubt allowed these things for different and varied reasons. They may have become careless and indifferent about attending meeting and prayer services or they may not have gone to meeting at all. Maybe they are not loving or serving the Lord. They may have had the devil's worldly television in their homes with all of its soul poison and dope, and by having the tail sticking up from their home they gave reason to be classed as one of the world, and in that way ever associated with the enemies' crowd. The world is the enemy of God.

Luke 13:2, 3 reads, "And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Here we can see plainly that God did not allow these men to be treated with evil because they were greater sinners than others around them, but as an example of his anger against sin so that others would take warning and repent of their wrong doings. It is just and upright with God to deal with His created beings as He pleases. He has a right to make alive and He has a right to kill. All of His dealings with mankind are justly, honestly, and uprightly done. Not one of His created beings has a right to complain or murmur against God. As poor earthly creatures, we should beg and entreat Him to have mercy and pity on us and to keep us from all the sins in the world that we might be a pleasure in His hand. He has created us for His pleasure and for His glory. He will cause us to be just and upright if we will continually yield ourselves into His hands without grudge or murmur.

Because of Israel's sins God ceased to let the rain fall upon the earth in answer to Elijah's prayer. Then He sent rain after three years and six months when Elijah prayed for the rain to fall. In Isaiah 30:30 we read, "And the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with

the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones." When the disciples were on the sea and the wind arose in a violent manner, the ship was in danger of being sunk, but the Lord spoke to the wind and the waves, and there was a great calm. The Lord has power to send disastrous storms and He can also still the storm until there is a great calm. In Amos 4:13 we read, "For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The Lord, The God of hosts, is his name." Read all of the 4th chapter of Amos and see what God is like and the power He has to do good, or cause destruction. Oh, that men would fear God and thereby begin to have real wisdom from above! In Isaiah 29:6 we read again, "Thou shalt be visited of the Lord of hosts with thunder, and with earthquakes, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire."

We read in 2 Chron. 7:14, thus: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Repentance does not only include confessing your sins, but it also means a turning away from them forever. In Micah 6:8 we read, "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Men should search their hearts in the light of God's Word and become obedient in word and deed. Flee from the high and lofty, the proud, haughty, vulgarly dressed or undressed worldly-minded, and Christ-rejecting people, and measure your life, ways, and deeds to harmonize with the teachings of God's Word, bear the reproach of the cross in this world, and wear a crown in the world to come which Peter says will never fade away. God resists the proud but giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourself down to walk with God in this world of sinners and He will receive you in that great Judgment Day. The Apostle John says, "And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness." We know that the world is in a pitiful state at this present time. It looks upon the saints of God as a very peculiar people, and oftentimes refers to them as ignorant fanatics to justify itself in its worldly, unrighteous ways. In 1 Peter 2:9 we read, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT." Let each one of us see that we walk in His light and obey His Word that it may be well with us. —Fred Pruitt.

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"The only treasures you may carry out of this world are those given to the Lord and His cause while living."

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"You pay for cigarettes twice—when you get them and when they get you."

## Remember Lot's Wife

Luke 17:32

Remember means to recall to mind, to keep in mind carefully or for a definite purpose give earnest heed to.

Jesus said to "Remember Lot's wife." Something happened to Lot's wife that Jesus wants you and me to keep in mind. Lot and his wife and daughters and their husbands were living in this very wicked city of Sodom. In 2 Peter 2:6-8 it tells us that the overthrow of this city and Gomorrah was to be an example or ensample to those who after should live ungodly. It also tells us that Lot was a righteous man dwelling among them and was vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked. Now God's plan was to deliver Lot and family out of this wicked place before He overthrew them. Therefore God sent two angels to hasten them lest they be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

Gen. 19:15-17 reads, "And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed." What solemn warning is given in these scriptures. It says, "while he lingered." Oh, dear ones, are we lingering back? too near the ways of the world, letting things creep into our life that is holding us back spiritually from serving God with our whole heart? Are we lingering back because husband, wife, daughter, son, or other loved ones won't come and go the Bible way? Is the world coming into our homes where it was once shut out?

If these things are existing in our lives, let us take heed to the solemn warning in verse 17, "Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed." Heb. 2:3, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" As the angels were showing Lot and his family the way to escape the awful wrath of God back there, so today are God's true ministers pointing out the way to escape the coming wrath of God upon this wicked world. Read 2 Peter 3:10-14.

Now the words of Jesus, "Remember Lot's wife." As they were fleeing the city they were told not to look back. Did God really mean they were not to look back? Behind was destruction; ahead was safety. There were two sons-in-law back there. Lot and his wife had left their friends and things of this world back there. Surely, looking back wouldn't hurt anything. Jesus said, "Remember Lot's wife." Yes, it is true, Lot's wife did look back and verse 26 tells us she became a pillar of salt.

Dear ones, there is awful danger in looking back. Darkness is back there, spiritual death is back there, our loved ones who won't come are back there. But listen as the fate of Lot's wife and the awful destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is told for an example to the ungodly. Let's all take warning. This world with all of its wickedness is going to be consumed when Jesus comes back. 2 Peter 3:2: "But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." The path of God lies before us. Let us take heed and escape for our lives and not look back. Remember Lot's wife.  
—Bro. Earl Sharp.

## A Mother's Fatal Mistake

A mother came to a man when she heard he was going to visit a certain prison and she said, "Will you ask to see my son and tell him I sent you and that I love him?" He did. As he shook hands with the boy and told his mother's message, he said, "Damn her." Said he, "She had a house party, and the first drink I took that riled the big green-eyed serpent inside of me, that made me a fiend of hell for whiskey, was drunk at that party." People are playing with fire today and paying the price. Men who are interested in booze selling, are there for the money they can make out of it. The slave to booze has no liberty. He is powerless to break with it. The pens are full of those who abuse their personal liberty by stealing, rape and many ways.

Thank God there is a cure—a way out of it all. There are many that have found the way. Jesus said, "I AM THE WAY." He has broken the chains of sin for hundreds. Will you not, my friend, accept this wonderful Saviour as your personal Saviour? Jesus Christ gives life by faith in His finished work on Calvary over the sting and temptation of booze. The writer, a few years ago, lay a drunken bum on Toronto streets (Canada), when he heard the salvation message. There is power in the blood of Christ to set the prisoner FREE.  
—Benny Wilson.

## A TEEN-AGE CODE

1. Don't let your parents down. They brought you up.
2. Stop and think before you drink.
3. Ditch dirty thoughts fast, or they'll ditch you.
4. Show-off driving is juvenile. Don't act your age.
5. Be smart: obey; you'll give orders yourself some day.
6. Choose your friends carefully. You are what they are.
7. Choose a date fit for a mate.
8. Don't go steady unless you're ready.
9. Go to meeting regularly. God gives you a week. Give Him back some time.
10. Live carefully. The soul you save may be your own.  
—V. Chose.

"Cigarettes should be called, "Cancerettes."

—Dr. H. Berg-British Medical Journal.

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

**Editorials**

We can truly say as one of old, "Hitherto, the Lord has helped us," and so we move on with the printing work with a firm footstep, having our eyes fixed upon the Lord, and standing on the promises of God; ignoring the roaring of Satan and his crowd, doing always those things that please the Lord, and making the instructions of His Word the rule of life.

The Faith and Victory paper editors have always stood firmly on the solid Word of God, regardless of how others' misguided interpretations reflect on the truth. It surely means much to stand against the earthly spiritual kings that would use pressure against you to get you to compromise with them and thereby save yourself from some fiery furnace trials. The three Hebrew children could easily have given down to the king's commandment, and kept out of the heated furnace, but they had unfeigned faith in the true and living God and would not yield in the least but made it plain to the king that they were not careful to answer him in the matter and said firmly, "Our God whom we serve can deliver us, but if not, let it be known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image." The more you keep your eyes upon the Lord and your faith in Him, the greater will the Lord be to you, but the more you look at the devil and his raging and roaring the greater he will be to you and the Lord will seem less. Peter walked on the water as long as he kept his eyes on the Lord, but when he began to look at the angry waves and its roaring and raging he began to sink. In despair he turned his eyes back to the Lord and called for help. The Lord pulled him out of his trouble.

In the 8th and 9th verses of the fifth chapter of 1 Peter we read what Peter has to say in exhorting us to diligence and encouragement, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." If you can, by prayer and watchfulness, keep the devil walking and running you will be safe, but if you, through neglect, let the devil camp around, he will be sure to give you trouble. Satan is a spirit and he is walking up and down in the earth. When Satan appeared before God to get permission to put Job in a fiery furnace he told God in the 7th verse of the first chapter that he came from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. Satan may get permission from God to put you in the furnace to test and prove you, or for the benefit of others and their salvation. Satan is termed, by the Scripture, as the "prince of this world" in the 16th chapter of John's gospel. In Luke 10:19 we read, "Behold, I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." When Jesus

appeared upon the earth and began to teach the gospel of faith in God, Satan began to fall from his high and exalted position in the ecclesiastical heavens. When Christ arose from the tomb and ascended up to heaven He led captivity (Satan) captive, and gave gifts unto men to have power over Satan.

In the 2nd chapter of Ephesians the Apostle Paul makes it plain that Satan is a spirit and that unsaved people are under his influence and walk according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience. In the 3rd verse he says that unsaved people are by nature the children of wrath. We read in the last verse of the 3rd chapter of John that "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." In 1 John 5:19 we read, "And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness." It is pitiful to look out upon this world and see the multitudes that are rejecting Christ with a mere profession of religion. They are piercing His heart by this rejection by the wicked deeds that many of them are doing. Revelation the first chapter and the 7th verse says in regard to his coming, "Every eye shall see him, and they also that pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him." It will indeed be a sad day for all those who are rejecting Christ. Let us do all we can to get this gospel of truth out to this old wicked world of people before He destroys them with fire and brimstone. It is in hell that the worm will never die, but is always desiring to die. Let us put forth every effort we can to save the lost.

The Faith Publishing House publishers are doing all we can to get the gospel to men of every nation. A month ago we printed 16,000 tracts in the African language and sent them to South Africa. Just this last week we printed 20,000 more and sent them. We also send a lot of literature and New Testaments to West Africa. They are calling for the gospel in those countries. God helping us, we surely do mean to do all that the Lord lays on our heart to do in order that they may have a chance to believe and escape the awful doom of all lost souls. Pray for us as we labor on for Him and for precious souls who walk in darkness. Oh, that the light of heaven would shine in upon darkened souls!



How pleasant are those days when the sun is shining brightly and the cool breeze is blowing softly and vegetation and trees are growing and thriving! On a day like that this one loves to be out of doors viewing and enjoying the wonderful works of God which came forth out of the earth for man and beast by rain and sunshine. At this writing God has favored the people of Oklahoma with rain and sunshine and He is treating them all alike in this respect, the just and the unjust. In some places lately it has not been so pleasant for Oklahoma residents, for the wrath of God in tornadoes has come hard. Much property has been destroyed and many people crippled and

others killed. The wind, which is so much of the time pleasant, cooling, and nice, blew extremely hard and twisted about, showing how easy it would be for God to turn pleasant things into ugly, wrathful, destruction. Oh, that men would learn to humble themselves before God and give thanks to Him for the pleasant things of life so He would withhold His wrath. When God does permit Satan to put you in the furnace, just meekly submit to His will and be more thankful for the good things that He does do. It seems that God has to use drastic measures with some before they will learn the lessons they need in order to please God. Do not murmur or complain against God for any trial or test that may come your way, but search your heart and see if there be any neglectful or careless way about you or lying within you.

Brethren, I am persuaded that God's ways are always right whether they seem good to us or otherwise. Daniel loved and obeyed the Lord just as much before he was thrown into the lion's den as he did afterward. Peter was sleeping as soundly while bound in jail and was to be excuted the next day as he did when there was no furnace to face. Paul and Silas sang and praised God when bound in jail in the stocks and God saw their faithfulness. He went into action and their bands fell off, and the jail doors were opened. They did not become frightened and run away, but stayed right there and were the means of the saving of the jailer and his household. Let us love and praise God while in the furnace just the same as out of the furnace.

Let us not become weary in well doing, for we shall reap if we faint not. There are many that run well for a season, but when the thorns of life come their way they begin to faint and lose their zeal for God and His cause. Many Christian experiences start out good. They give of their substance to the furtherance of the gospel and otherwise do deeds of love in Christ's name, but as time goes on, their first love grows cool and their giving is much less and in time just practically ceases. Paul tells us it is good to be zealous for a good cause. We are also exhorted to be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Oh, the lethargy that settles down upon many souls! In the last two verses of the 15th chapter of 1 Cor. we read, "But thanks be unto God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

In the 2nd chapter of Revelation we can read what the Lord has to say about the Church at Ephesus. He first told them of the good things that they were doing and then said He had somewhat against them because they had left their first love. He said that they had fallen and needed to repent. Oh, brethren, let us hold that fervent spirit of serving the Lord and not let a lethargy overcome us or allow a cooling-off spirit to get possession. When in that condition it will be hard for you to discern clearly. In this case you are likely to be drawn to some compromising, fainting, drifting, and luke-warm religious professor.

Oh, the need of keeping filled with His love divine which will keep the spiritual eyes open! The faith that worketh by love will cause us to have a lively interest in pleasing the Lord who has purchased us with His own blood.

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### *We, The Aged*

Our life's journey will soon be over:

We've almost reached the end of the way;

We then will see our Saviour, Jesus,

What will He to our souls have to say?

Will it be, "Come ye blessed of my Father,"

Or, "From my presence forever flee;"

Will we be cast into outer darkness,

Or will He say, "Come unto me"?

"Come unto me all ye that labor,"

Meaning come unto Him in humble prayer,

Confessing to Him all our short comings,

Praying Him to guide us over there.

Our dear Saviour is waiting, waiting,

Hark! listening for our faintest cry,

He is listening, sick, sad, weary souls,

He is near you, He is ever nigh.

—Written by Dolly Williams.

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### **Obituary**

Avie Maggie Owens (Breckenridge), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Owens was born Oct. 25, 1883 at Humensville, Cedar County, Mo. She departed this life April 17, 1960 at Okarche, Okla. She came to Okla. with her parents in 1906. She was united in marriage with Roy Breckenridge Nov. 22, 1911. To this union seven children were born.

In 1939 she heard and accepted the truth as taught by the ministers and teachers of the Church of God and was baptized. She was a faithful and loyal Christian; a kind and devoted wife and mother. The family moved to Kingfisher, Okla. in 1945. There she lived a humble and consistent life. Her desire was working for the Lord. Her motto: "Let heaven be my home." Her health began to fail about two years ago, but in her condition she was patient and kind unto the end.

She leaves to mourn their loss her husband, Roy Breckenridge of the home; four sons: Ralph, Luther, and Howard of Kingfisher, and Erron of Oklahoma City; three daughters: Miss Alscene Breckenridge, and Mrs. Hazel Herbison of Kingfisher, and Mrs. Lucy Harris of Los Angeles, Calif.; five grandchildren; five sisters; five brothers; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Sermon by Ulysses Phillips. Lesson: St. John 10: 1-18. Thought: third verse, "He calleth his own sheep by name." Burial in Morrison Cemetery, west of Hennessey, Okla. "We sorrow not as those who have no hope."

There is a shining mansion, somewhere beyond the blue,  
A blessed habitation prepared for me and you.  
No earthly wealth can purchase or make that place secure,  
It's only for the righteous, who to the end endure.  
No sin can ever enter that home of holy bliss,  
Here we must follow Jesus in perfect holiness.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I have received the little magazine, Faith and Victory, and I like its teachings perfectly because they're Bible doctrine. I am past 80 years old and much afflicted and weak in body at present. Jesus has often touched my body with healing power, and I know He is ever the same. I'm not asking for more years of life, but healing in my body for the time my Lord may yet leave me here. So please agree with me for sufficient healing to keep me able to wait on myself. I have a severe hurting in the back of my neck and high blood pressure. Also I have other complications and trials.

May God bless your labor for souls.

A sister in Jesus,

—Jasie Dixon.

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints far and near,—This is a prayer request for a lady that works near me. She had severe trouble with the veins in her limbs. I told her about the Lord's healing power. She listened attentively. I told her I would pray and ask the saints to pray that God would heal her. She thanked me. The next morning the swelling had gone down considerably and she was very happy and said she needed to get a little closer to the Lord. She is a good-hearted woman.

Your Sister in the one body,

—Ora Horn.

(If any would like to write her ask us for her address. —Ed.)

### **Campmeeting Notices**

#### **CHURCH OF GOD NATIONAL CAMPMEETING**

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, July 22 to 31, 1960, on the camp grounds at Monark Springs, Mo. which is five miles east of Neosho, Mo. on Highway 86.

We extend a hearty welcome to all who can attend this meeting, to come and enjoy this gathering of God's children where we will be able to feast upon the precious Word of God and lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise unto Him. In this meeting you can receive salvation from sin, sanctification for complete cleansing, and divine physical healing for the sick and afflicted. Come expecting to receive a real blessing to your soul and to be a blessing to those about you. We are expecting God to send His Spirit-filled and Holy Ghost-led ministers to preach the truth of His precious Word. Then if we walk in the light as He is in the light we will have fellowship one with another.

Those coming by bus or train will find it necessary after arriving in Neosho to either take a taxi-cab to the camp grounds or phone the Monark Springs grocery store asking for some of the saints to come and get you.

Meals will be served in the dining hall, financed by free-will offerings and donations of meat, fruit and vegetables as the Lord supplies.

The tents will rent for \$5.00 each, steel cot including mattress, \$1.00, and space in dormitories, \$2.50, which includes steel cot and mattress. Let none stay away who are unable to pay. Come and you will be cared for to the full extent of our ability. Those who can, should bring bedding, for the nights will be cool, especially if we have rain. Those desiring tents, cots or spaces in dormitories should send their orders AT ONCE to the undersigned.

For further information, please write to Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Coffeyville. Contributions for the meeting should also be sent to this address.

**HAMMOND, LOUISIANA CAMPMEETING**

The Hammond, La. Campmeeting will, the Lord permitting, begin the last Friday in June which is the 24th, and will run through the 3rd of July. We are looking forward to having a good meeting and expect the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing. Those who can, should bring their own linen and towels. We extend a welcome to the saints everywhere and to others who may be interested in the truth and the cause of God.

Hammond is located on the Illinois Central railroad about 60 miles north of New Orleans and 40 miles east of Baton Rouge. We also have Greyhound Bus service. The campgrounds are about three-fourths of a mile from the I. C. Depot in the southwest part of town on White Street. Those arriving and wish someone to pick them up may call 917, Bro. Warner Forbes, or 3007, which is my number.

—Bro. Max F. Williamson.

**HOFFMAN, OKLA. CAMPMEETING**

We, the saints at Hoffman, Okla., plan, Lord willing, to have our campmeeting June 24 through the 3rd of July. The meeting will be run by free-will offerings. Please bring your linen if possible. We invite all who can to come and be with us. For further information contact Bro. W. W. Crawley, Okemah, Okla., or Bro. Felix Taylor, Rt. 1, Morris, Okla. or Sister Earnestine Myles, P. O. Box 63, Hoffman, Okla.

**CAMPMEETING DATES FOR 1960**

(Watch for particulars of these meetings in each issue)

Hennessey, Oklahoma	May 27 — June 5
Hoffman, Oklahoma	June 24 — July 3
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
Dover, Oklahoma	Sept. 2 — Sept. 11

**NOTICES****ALL-DAY MEETINGS AT VERA, ILLINOIS**

There will be all-day meeting every 4th Sunday of each month at the saints' chapel in Vera, Ill. Vera is three miles north of Vandalia on Route 51 and then one mile west. It is plainly marked on the highway signs.

Please pray for the work here. God is very definitely leading. Anyone coming from a distance is welcome to stay in our home. We live in the third house west of Rosamond, by the big government grain bins.

—Vivian and Arthur McClain.

**REPORT OF LOS ANGELES, CALIF. MEETING**

Our annual spring revival of the church of God at 1381 Walnut St., Los Angeles, Calif. began the 10th of April and ended on Easter Sunday. The preaching of the Word of God was rich from beginning to end, and refreshed, encouraged, warmed, and corrected without fear or favor. One soul found deliverance from sin and another found the help needed to press on to the end of her journey. Others were seeking help on different lines. On Easter Sunday Bro. Chandler preached a sermon on Easter and what it really meant to the saints, of Christ's resurrection from the cold tomb, pointing us to our pentecost where we would receive power over all the powers of

the enemy. This meeting will be long remembered for the good instructions and strength and strong decision to press on in spite of all oppositions of the enemy.

Bro. Chandler was assisted by Bro. Ostis Wilson and Bro. Clarence Hattley. May God ever bless their labors.

We are still going forward with our cottage prayer meetings here in Los Angeles, wherever we can find an open door. The Lord greatly encourages us to carry on this line of work so we can glean out souls for Him. These meetings are every Tuesday night, and we solicit your prayers that souls will be enlightened and brought out into the clear light of the gospel, for we find many are stumbling around in darkness.

Your Brother,

—E. M. Zinn.

**EVANGELISTIC TENT WORKERS NEEDED NOW!**

An urgent, immediate need is for an established minister to assume the responsibility of taking the tent out this summer in meetings. Many are calling for the gospel, and who will go? Whoever takes it will need helpers—singers and gospel workers. Can you say with the poet, "Since Jesus gave his life for me, should I not give Him mine?" The Lord has provided a trailer house and a new truck to haul the tent and seating equipment. Shall we let these remain idle all summer?

If you have some of the Lord's money to help in this work, send it to the treasurer of the National Missionary Fund, Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kans.

—Lawrence D. Pruitt

**AUGUST BIBLE LESSONS**

We do not print a paper in August so that the workers can have time to attend the campmeetings; but we do print Bible lessons. They are sent to Sunday Schools who are on our listings, so if any individuals want them, please get your order in early so we can get you on the list. Better do it now, or you might forget. If you are a paid subscriber, you will not need to pay any more. —Ed.

**AID FOR TORNADO VICTIMS**

Bro. and Sister T. T. Mason, Rt. 1, Box 295, Bristow, Okla. and Sister Ozener Zachary, P. O. Box 63, Hoffman, Okla., who is a widow with three boys, were the victims of a tornado disaster on May 5th. Their property was either badly damaged or destroyed. If you wish to help them materially, God will surely reward and bless you.

"Many wise Christians are not going to need a will. They intend to know how their money is used and to have the joy of giving it away."

**Testimonies**

Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—If you will recall, I requested you saints to pray for me three or four weeks ago as I had lost my voice. My vocal cords were very bad and also my nerves. The Lord completely gave me my voice back. My vocal cords are completely healed and my nerves are much improved. The Lord gets all of the praise.

I surely thank you saints very much for praying, and also thank you, Bro. Pruitt, for those tracts.

Please pray for me. I have infection on my left lung and also in my throat. I'm expecting the good Lord to heal me. Thank you for prayer. May the Lord bless you.

—Lottie Hilton.



Mo.—Dear saints, friends, and loved ones,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am so happy this morning I feel like writing my testimony for the paper. Although I am not well in body, I feel good in my soul and that means most to me. One day I took a severe hurting in my chest and it seemed it wouldn't stop. I kept praying for the Lord to undertake and then I had my daughter pray for me. I told the Lord if He would take the hurting away, I would tell others about it. I've not been privileged to talk to very many since I've been sick so I thought the best way to tell it would be through the little paper. The hurting has never come back, praise the dear Lord! He is so good to me. The next day I was not feeling well and could hardly be up, but the Lord touched my body and I felt well again.

I surely thank the Lord for giving me strength to be in all-day services at Myrtle the third of April. My soul rejoiced because that day, in Decatur, Ill., my youngest son and his wife got saved. Let us all pray more earnestly for our children and loved ones that need salvation. God is on His throne to hear and answer prayer.

Your sister in the truth, —Katie Marler.

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Oklahoma.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere,—I thank the Lord for being saved and living for Him. My chiefest aim is to please Him. I want the Lord's approval upon me at all times, for we know not the hour the Son of man may come. I thank the Lord for His many blessings to me and my family. He is always near when we need Him. Surely He is our present help in time of need.

I was almost deaf for a month. The saints offered prayer in my behalf and the Lord healed me of that condition. Truly He is good to us in every way. I have heard it said many times that the crown is not to be given to the strong nor the swift, but to him that endureth to the end. I desire prayer that I will endure until the end and be just what He would have me to be.

We have some unspoken requests before the Lord. We desire your earnest prayers that the Lord will work to His honor and glory.

I want to say that the Lord has really brought about a change in my life. He has caused me to put off the old man and behold, all things have become new. I can't praise Him enough for the wonderful plan of salvation. The Lord saved my soul March 6, 1958. I thank Him for a pure and clean way of holiness. Truly I do enjoy living for Him. His blessings are sweet to my soul. Pray for us that we be true and ever keep faithful.

—Bro. Herbert H. Henderson.

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#### TESTIMONY OF A PRISONER

When I found myself behind bars one thought overpowered me, and that was to take my own life by the most effectual means that could be found in the penal institution. I ground up glass and beat it up in water and took it. I felt some glass stay between my teeth and I pushed them in with my finger and took more water. I wouldn't eat now, thinking that one who is going to die doesn't need to eat. I settled now to wait for death, when my intestines would rupture. After three or four days I realized that it hadn't taken effect. Then I took a solution that they used as disinfectant in the penal institution, but it didn't do anything to me.

A certain day when I was brought out to make a legal deposition I saw a new opportunity. Cautiously I approached the sergeant with the purpose of taking away his pistol and killing myself with it, but the sergeant noticed it, put his hand on the catch of the pistol, and

made me keep my distance. Then I realized indeed that I had failed, and that if I insisted, I would only succeed in getting a beating from them.

In these conditions I was found when an evangelist came, Bro. Federico Gonzalez, and I heard him preach the Word of God. I felt that a rush of light entered into my heart, and new thoughts came. I didn't know how to read or write, so that I only heard the preacher, but the preachings took place weekly and new purposes were found within me. I decided to deliver myself to the Judge of the universe, as King. I asked Him for pardon, and Christ pardoned me, for His sacrifice was for me, and for you, if thus, reader, you will do it.

Christ says: "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out." So then today I feel myself strengthened with the life of His Word. He says: "My word is life." Thus then I live in this new life with a great interest to console others with the comfort with which I have been comforted. Today, reader, my greatest desire is that you may accept Christ as your Saviour and your Healer. He says in Psalms 103:3: "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities: who healeth all thy diseases." What a heavy burden sin is, but the Lord has said to "cast upon me your burdens." If your sins are red like scarlet, they shall be white as snow. Thanks to God that I feel myself free from the burden which my weak body could no longer bear. Thus in His time my help came with great power.

In the prison I commenced to do the work. I distributed tracts, and I talked to others of the salvation which there is in Christ Jesus. On a certain day I felt in my heart that now they would give me my liberty, and it was so, for one day they called me to tell me that I was free. I was only to present myself to the judge in Obregon City. When I went to the judge he asked me to whom, and how much money I had given, to which I answered that I had delivered myself to Christ, and that He had done this. It is a difficult thing for a sentenced prisoner to be set free without completing his sentence or there being a bribe as a medium. So then I answered the judge that if they thought there was some mistake, to return me to the prison. The judge marvelled at how it was that I obtained my liberty without completing my sentence, nor paying a bribe. But I can answer like the blind man of the Bible, "I know not how it has been, but before I was blind, and now I see." So today, I only know that having been twice a captive, physically and spiritually, now I am free, free through the sacrifice of Christ, twice free. Christ says: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

The power of God is so great for I, being a gambler and a drunkard with comparison, was transformed in heart by Christ so that now I only feel desires of doing His holy will. In that I used to run over the state looking for card playing, now I want to go over it speaking to souls of the marvel so great which the Lord has done for me. Glory to His name! Amen. —Ramon Valenzuela Maldonado.

(We have just received from Bro. Valenzuela this testimony of his conversion to Christ. He has now learned to read and write, and is continuing on with much grace in the way of the Lord. —F. E., June 21, 1959.)

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Mich.—To all the saints and readers of this testimony, Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. We feel it would be pleasing to our dear Lord to write our testimony of the gracious dealings of Him who died for us, and how He has worked in our behalf. Oh! what a wonderful Saviour! We have gone through some hard places, but the dear Lord came in time and delivered us out of the hands of man. Praise His blessed name forever!



Last summer sometime our daughter, Sister Aneita Corteway's children contacted a skin disease somewhere. We often wondered if it was an allergy or whether it was the Scabies. We have never known definitely of anyone contacting this disease from them, from the very beginning until now. My daughter and her husband finally took it also.

It was on the 2nd of Nov. when the children were sent home from school. Then on the 4th of Dec. our son-in-law received a letter from the Board of Education saying that Marvin, David, Sharon, and Jerry would have to be readmitted to school by the school nurse or doctor, as being free from any skin rash. If these conditions were not complied with by Dec. 14th, 1959, in regard to any or all of the children, they were notified that a petition would be filed in Juvenile Court alleging that the children were neglected children (as defined by the Juvenile code) because they were children "whose parents refused to provide medical care necessary for their health or well being." Of course they didn't know of the MIGHTY POWER OF GOD.

Soon after this they took the children to see a skin specialist. When this doctor first looked at it he called it an allergy then later said that he would swear in court that it was Scabies (a very contagious skin disease). Soon after this our son-in-law (Hubert Corteway) was examined by another skin doctor to see if he had Scabies also, and it was said that he did. Hubert reported to his place of work according to requirements and so lost his job for six weeks. All of us would like to say right now, how much we appreciated the earnest prayers of the saints and the letters of encouragement, and also the saints' help in a financial way. We surely thank God for His people. They are the best people on earth. Praise our God forever more!

Just before Hubert lost his job Bro. Gibson came to Kalamazoo to encourage and pray for them. We called Guthrie, Okla. for prayer at different times, and wrote out for prayer at different places. The condition began to get better. (David, who was in a terrible condition, made a great improvement.) Yet, they just didn't get complete victory. It was hard for us to understand for God had healed many, many times before of many things. God had performed some real outstanding miracles on our bodies in answer to prayer. But in all of this we believe the dear Lord had a purpose. We believe it was meant for our good and the good of others and that God wanted others to learn of this wonderful truth of the TRUE CHURCH OF GOD, who might never have heard of it otherwise.

Now a little later we went to the Court House and gave one of the court officers the paper which was the doctor's statement that they had Scabies. Our daughter told this fellow that they could take everything she had, her home, children, and ALL else she had in the world and she wouldn't fight back, but that she must OBEY GOD. She gave him scriptures to read showing him that we couldn't trust in physicians. While she was talking she began to cry and the Lord put a real message on her heart for that man's soul. He told her that even if she did convince him that she was right that he would have his job to do. Then 2 Chron. 16:12, and 13 were read to him.

Then a court summons was brought to the home, telling them to appear in Probate Court at a certain time. Jan. 15 was the day we went to court. They told us we could have a lawyer and a jury if we wanted to, but Aneita told them she had her case in God's hands. Then it was while we were in court that Aneita read some scriptures and made her stand for God known again. Dear ones, I want to tell you that our religious freedom is fast tighten-

ing up. Now when the Judge gave us the verdict that day in court he said he wouldn't expect Aneita to put medication on the children on account of her belief, so he said he would make the children temporary wards of the court. He said he felt it would be better to send them up to the contagious hospital ward until the doctor discharged them but that even then they wouldn't be allowed to go home to their parents until their parents got a written statement from a physician stating that they were also free from the Scabies. Oh! dear ones, this was a heart-rending scene.

When the doctor went to the hospital to examine the children he found David had improved a lot since he had last seen him. David told him that "we haven't done a thing; only trust the Lord." The dear Lord had performed miracles on their bodies before they ever got in that hospital. They were much better before they went there, praise our God! These children were not used to taking medicine and we believe this to be the cause of David's convulsion and both the other children were sick one night. The next night they told their mother they threw the pill away and that night they said they were not sick. One time the children were reading and praying before going to bed and the nurse came but let them finish with their worship before she put them to bed. It was encouraging to know those dear children were having their worship even if their mother wasn't there to tell them. Before these children were taken from their parents they were taught that some day the world might get so wicked that they might be even taken away from their parents, and that they needed to know how to find God and read and pray for themselves, because if this should happen, their Mama wouldn't be there to help them. So when this came to them, they knew what to do. It pays to teach the children how to pray, dear ones.

After the children were in the hospital around six or seven days the Judge sent for Aneita and Hubert to come to the court house for a preliminary hearing so they could also take Marvin (who had quit school) and the baby, Mark. After the first three children were in the hospital a little over a week they were released to us by the judge through answer to prayer. We did thank God for this.

Before the children left our home one night their mother and daddy came to see them and the mother took very sick and was in awful agony. We called the saints at Guthrie, Okla. and Seymour, Mo., for prayer and there were prayers here, too. God came to our rescue and wonderfully healed her. I believe it was almost instantly. What a mighty God we serve!

Now I think it was just before the last two children were released from the hospital that Hubert received word from his place of employment that if he didn't get back on his job at a certain date (within a few days), he would lose all of his priority that he had gained in 14 years. If they hired him again he would have to start right from the very beginning. But in order for him to get back on his job he had to have a written statement from a doctor proving that he didn't have Scabies. Both he and Aneita were examined but the doctor said that it was of her opinion that the dermatitis present was occupational and not due to Scabies. Yet Hubert's superintendent was not satisfied with this statement because the skin specialists had told him he had Scabies. More tests were taken. In five of these tests there was no evidence at all that he had had the Scabies, but in the sixth a burrow was found, but no Scabies. So, praise God, it looked like he had had it, but if he did the dear Lord had surely healed him in answer to prayer. Oh, dear ones, God is never too late

and never too early. Hubert was permitted to go to work the next day and, praise God, he didn't lose any of his priority and even got his old job back. Oh, may we never forget what God has done for us in our time of need.

That evening we visited the judge at the court house and showed him the statement which had been approved by his superintendent at work. Amazed, the court officer said something like this: "Well, I believe you knew how it all was going to turn out any way, didn't you?" We felt that by that statement he knew that God had done all these wonderful things for us. The judge then turned over these precious children to their parents that evening without any strings attached. A letter from the judge that week released them completely. Oh, dear ones, we have such a compassionate Saviour. Don't be afraid to trust Him. JESUS NEVER FAILS.

We hope this testimony will help to encourage someone else to trust the dear Lord in time of need. One of my favorite scriptures is found in John 11:40. It says, "Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" This scripture has been an inspiration and encouragement to me many times. Praise the dear Lord!

Your sister in the Lord, —Eva Wilkins.

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Calif.—Greetings to all of the dear saints and workers in the Faith and Victory home,—I am thanking and praising the Lord for hearing and answering our prayers. I sent a request for prayer a short time ago to the Faith and Victory paper and it's just wonderful how the dear Lord has touched my body and brought me through a severe attack of stomach flu. Today I am feeling stronger and able to do all my work. I have planted a garden and have flowers also. Yesterday while I was having my worship the scripture came to me in Isaiah 40:31. It says, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Truly that is so. All our help comes from the Lord. I have gone through several tests of sickness the last year or two, but I feel this affliction has drawn me closer to the Lord. At times I can feel the sacredness of His presence, knowing that He is dwelling richly in my heart. Amen.

I ask an interest in your prayers that I will be able to do a little more for the cause, much or little, that God will bless my efforts.

—Annie McKinney.

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Ohio—Dear saints,—I thank God for His wonderful love to me. I still thank Him for the miracle He performed for me in giving me my job. I talked with one of the parents on the phone and she told me of her physical condition. She had suffered off and on with her heart racing. Her daughter was ill, too. I told her of the power of God to heal. I wrote to someone for prayer and our little group of saints prayed and fasted for these needs. The woman called me and told me how God had stopped the heart racing, and had put her on her feet again. She had had this condition for about 18 years. Her daughter had suffered a long time with asthma and other allergies, and she was able to go back to school. Pray for them. She said she would like to be saved and her daughter, too.

Last night after retiring my teeth began to ache on one side, some of the lower ones and one of the upper. I believe in fully trusting God. I lay in bed and prayed, but the pain didn't stop. I got up and prayed then went back to bed. I still couldn't rest. I got up again and went downstairs and anointed myself and it eased. It was almost midnight. I started to call one of the saints,

but it was late, so I just prayed again. I sat down and read my Bible and went back to bed. It seemed to start hurting worse. I tossed and turned. I laid the open Bible on my face. Sometime in the morning the Lord put me to sleep. I woke up before day and God had healed me. I surely praised Him this morning. Rejoice with me for the mercy God has extended to me.

Pray for me that God will keep me and use me to tell souls of his wonderful power to save, sanctify, keep, and heal.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister Annie Stills.

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Calif.—Greetings to the saints and readers of the Faith and Victory,—I am saved and very much encouraged to press on. I can't tell you how much I enjoy reading the Faith and Victory paper. I can report victory in my soul over sin.

April the 27th, Bro. Trotter prayed for me and the Lord healed me that very night. The next day I planned to go to work, but when I got up I was a sick woman. I began to cry unto the Lord to heal my body so I could go to work. I got on my knees twice, besides talking to Him all the time. My husband was gone for a little while, and when he came back I was still undressed. He said, "I thought you were going to work?" I said, "I am going," but I did not tell him how sick I was. So I got dressed and told the Lord all my needs. There is no one able to work but me, so I went to work believing God would heal me and He did. I am so glad I know how to carry all my needs and all my sicknesses to the dear Lord. He is my all and all.

I want to say I lost my mother 21 months ago, my husband was in the hospital nine and one half months, and my son, Leon, was hospitalized one year and eleven months, and 26 days, and the saints and my friends tell me I look like I hadn't seen a weary day. I told them my trust was in the Lord and He knew I had no one to pay my bills, so He took care of me. I told some if I had wearied on top of my troubles I could never have made it. I asked the Lord to help me not to weary. All this happened since 1958, and I am still going by the help of the Lord.

I have a mole under my left eye and I asked the Lord to please stop the growth and He did. He has done many other things for me. I don't see how I could make it without the dear Lord. I want to be faithful in all things. Pray for my husband and me. I want to keep in God's will at all times. I am working five and sometimes six days a week. I have friends who tell me if I don't drop some of this work I will find myself lying on my back. I tell them that the Lord is taking care of me. I am not trusting myself. My husband is not able to work yet. I ask the Lord day by day to keep me in His care and keep self dead. Dear ones, let us be true and faithful to God because the end is near at hand. May God bless you.

Your sister,

—Jettie Mae Phillips.

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Oklahoma—Dear saints of God and friends,—I'm still saved and very much encouraged to live to please the dear Lord. Truly God is good to me. I love Him with all my heart and I'm finding out a lot about how much He loves me. He is doing so many good things for me that I cannot write or tell one-half of His blessings.

I was washing at Mother's on Friday, April 22, and as I was wringing a pair of jeans the baby started crying. Not thinking, I turned away to fix her bottle and somehow this pair of jeans hung in the wringer. I released them by taking the top part off completely, not realizing it would be a great task to put back on, or that God would have to

work a miracle before it could be fixed. I prayed that evening, but God didn't see fit to answer prayer then, so I had to finish wringing my clothes by hand. I asked two of my brothers and one of my sisters and all three tried to fix it without success. When my husband got off from work he also tried, but we just had to leave it from Friday until Wednesday of the next week. The children and I were praying for the dear Lord to help me fix the wringer or let someone fix it without costing a big price. On Tuesday night I had quite a burden after receiving a letter from my sister saying they hadn't found the piece which we thought was lost. I prayed earnestly to the dear Lord asking Him to work a miracle. My faith was strong in the dear Lord and He gave me many encouraging promises to stand on. So I took God at His word and held on to Him in prayer, asking that He keep my faith strong, for I knew I depended entirely upon Him and not man. I left everything in God's hand.

On Tuesday night the Lord gave me this scripture in a vision: John 2:23. Now when Jesus was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name because they saw the miracles He did. When I read that verse I praised God because I knew he was going to work things out for his good. The children and I went to spend the day with Mother on Wednesday. I went in and tried to fix the wringer again, but I couldn't, so I had special prayer, asking the dear Lord to help me. He did answer prayer. My sister thought I had lost a small piece out of the wringer but the Lord showed me that I was trying to put it on backwards. Praise the dear Lord for His wonderful blessing He bestowed on us. I have washed about five baskets of clothes since the Lord gave me knowledge to get the wringer in perfect condition. All who read this pray earnestly for me. I need your prayers and I want to please God in every way.

Yours in Christ, —Sister Clara Barnett.

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Ore.—Dear Sister Marie,—I greet you in the precious name of Jesus this morning. I am still praising the Lord for Salvation—full and free. It is wonderful to be saved in these busy days. People are rushing here and there seeking after the things of this world, neglecting their souls' salvation. The song comes to me, "Time for business, time for pleasure, Time to revel on in sin— Will you not take time for Jesus? Oh, invite him to come in." I believe the devil is pleased to have people so busy, madly rushing into eternity. Oh, I pray God to wake people up to their awful lost condition. I feel my time is very short. I do want to spend every minute of it for the Lord, and what little money I have to help get the gospel to the lost. I am especially interested in the missionary work to foreign countries.

God bless you all there at the Publishing Office. Remember me in your prayers, that God will use me in His service some way.

Your sister, —O. K. Myers.

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Calif.—Greetings in Jesus' precious name.—I am thankful for God's love and many blessings. He has been very near in my trials of this life and has never failed when we needed Him. I find the victory is ours if we claim it in Jesus' name. In January of 1958 I had a bad stroke around 8 o'clock in the morning. I was very close to leaving this world. Brother and Sister Stover were here in Pomona. They were called and also Sister Manuel, our pastor. They anointed and prayed for me and the Father heard and answered. I have trusted the Lord for 48 years for healing. In the next two days I had four

strokes. They were not so hard and lasted longer, but the Lord said enough, and I was able to go home from my daughter's in a week. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! Praise His name.

In March of 1960 I took the flu or a bad cold. I had a very bad cough then and my heart was causing trouble at times. I was anointed and I began to feel better. I don't know how I could live without the help of my God. I am feeling very well now for which I give the Lord all the praise and honor.

Pray for me that I always live so I can be an example.  
Your sister in Christ, —Eliza J. Fields.

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Mo.—Dear saints abroad,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I am encouraged to go all the way and live for Jesus. I was very sick last week. I could not stand up or sit down. I suffered when I lay down, so my husband called Bro. and Sister Wilson to pray for me. A few minutes later the Lord healed me all over. I surely thank the Lord! He has healed all of my family. Please pray that my husband will get work.

Your sister in Christ, —Mrs. Earl Freeman.

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S.C.—Dear Sister Marie,—I am saved for which I do thank the Lord. I thank all of you for praying for me. You showed that you are interested in a soul. Thank the Lord I am much better now. I was in bed a week with that snakebite and it is not well yet, but I can walk. When I wrote to you for prayer I was in misery. It was on April 1, that another lady, some girls, and I went in the woods to get cane for yard brooms. I haven't seen the snake yet, but the other lady saw it.

When it first happened my neighbor took me to the doctor in a hurry. When I got back home my misery had just begun. I didn't go to the doctor any more.

Oh, these tracts are so good! Thanks very much. I mean to take the Faith and Victory as long as I live. It is a very good paper. I mean to do my best in winning souls to Christ. If it is the Lord's will that this world last, I surely will take advantage of the three-month's subscription offer this Nov. I have done it before, but by the help of the Lord I mean to do more for the Lord.

This is from one who loves the Lord,—Sister E. J. Lee.

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

Ga.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings to you and all the saints at the print shop. I have been led of the Spirit of God to send in my testimony. Truly I am thanking and praising God for the dear friend who had the Faith and Victory sent to my home. Truly this little paper is bringing many blessings in our home, and not only in our home but also in our Sunday School. I'm thanking the dear Lord for that day when I humbled down and let Him have His way in my soul. He made me to know from that day until now that through faith there is victory. I know that He is still that great Healer because He has healed my body many times and also those of my family.

Please pray for me and my loved ones that we will forever trust the loving Saviour who is able to do all things.

From your humble Sister in Christ,—Geneva Williams.

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

Okl.—Greetings to all the saints,—Today we will give you a report on Carol Ann Barton. Thanks be to God, she is doing fine. Her cast has been changed twice and her hip joint has stayed in place. Oh, we give God all the praise. At the last cast change they took it off the leg up to the knee and how happy Carol Ann was to get her foot out so she could wear both shoes. She said,

"Grandpa, see shoe on?" She will be three years old August the 20th. She has never had any pain with this 17 weeks in a cast. At first they said she would suffer, but we prayed for God to ease the pain and after a few days she hardly ever had any. God is so good to his children if they will only trust him.

I want to tell you how God touched my body with healing. I have had arthritis for several years, but my trust is in God. Lately my arms became almost helpless. I could hardly lift a thing. So I told the Lord He had given me arms to use, and in His name, I would use them right on. I had a lot of pain for a while, but, thank God it is so much better. Do remember me in prayer.

—Sister Barton.

o-o-o-o-o-o

S. Dak.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and Sister Marie, Greetings in the blessed name of our precious Lord. Thank you for your good letters of encouragement. The Faith and Victory paper is such an untold blessing. What would we do without it, we who are isolated and far from the church gatherings? Bro. and Sister Gibson write regularly. How thoughtful and precious are the true saints!

We live twelve miles from town, so I have not been able to get there very often this winter to distribute tracts and the Faith and Victory papers. This Wednesday morning, my husband is going into town early, and I am to meet with Sister Eldeen for a season of prayer, the Lord willing. Please continue to pray that the Lord will make it plain to us about a suitable place to meet for prayer and the reading of the Word.

I have been praying that the floods will not be so bad there. May the dear Lord keep His protecting hand over you and keep you in health is my prayer. God bless all of you.

Love and prayers,

—Sister McFarling.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear saints at the Print Shop and everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am very thankful to be saved, sanctified, and satisfied in the strait and narrow way. It has been several months since I have written my testimony. I feel led to write what the dear Lord has been doing for us. When I was with my daughter in Louisiana her baby had some kind of kidney trouble. We all became very much concerned about him. Sister LaCroix called Guthrie and several of the saints at Jena to agree in prayer for him. Bro. and Sister Merrill Williamson came. We all prayed and the dear Lord heard and instantly healed him. We give the dear Lord all the praise. Oh, it is so wonderful to trust our blessed Saviour.

One night while I was with my daughter I started to get up but got a catch in my back. For awhile I couldn't get all the way up or lie all the way down except with much pain. I kept looking to the Lord and He soon came to my rescue and touched and healed me completely. Thank the dear Lord forever! Today I cooked some beans my son had left from planting and as he was here working I thought I would give him some for his dinner. I told him they were some he had left from planting. He told me we should not eat those beans, for they had been poisonously treated for insects. He said it read on the box they were not for cooking purposes, but they had poured them out into a paper sack so therefore I didn't know they were poisonous. But the dear Lord knew how to take care of us. I surely thank and praise His sweet name as I know I wouldn't be here and in this true way if it hadn't been for His great love and mercy. The desire of my heart is to live to please Him and do more for Him in the future.

We surely do thank all the dear saints for their prayers in behalf of Cynthia and Doyle's baby. We pray

the Lord will bless and reward each one according to His riches in glory.

I have some unspoken requests I would like for all the saints to agree in prayer with me concerning them. Pray for us here, that we will be faithful unto the end.

May God bless each one there at the Lord's Print Shop in every needed way is our prayer.

With Christian love,

—Mrs. Effie Miller.

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## Campmeeting and Assembly Meeting Blessings

We often hear such remarks: "We had a wonderful meeting," "That was the best campmeeting I was ever in," "I was richly blessed in that assembly meeting," and etc. Does everyone talk like that? Are you sure YOU got all the blessings you could have gotten? or did you let someone else carry away a blessing God would liked for you to have had? We have also heard it said that we get out of a meeting what we put into it.

"Oh, yes," some one might say, "I gave so many dollars and a sack of potatoes," "some canned fruit," "a few dish towels," "some supplies," etc, or, "I sent Bro. — money to come to campmeeting." Praise the Lord! That's all good and very necessary. Camp and assembly meetings need money and supplies. But who cleaned and prepared the grounds and buildings for the campmeeting, and kept them clean during the meeting? and cleaned up after the meeting was over? Did YOU receive a blessing for doing some of that? "Oh, no, Bro. and Sister — have done that for years. They know how to do it." "The rest rooms are done by Bro. and Sister —, they are used to carrying out the trash and scrubbing those places." Yes, they did "what they could" and took home some extra blessings for having been faithful servants for Jesus. "For inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these," Jesus said, "ye have done it unto me."

Did YOU give a helping hand in the cold dark morning—or in the heat of the day, in the kitchen? "Oh, no, the same sisters do that all the time. I wouldn't know how much oats to cook and I could not stand to wash dishes with the sweat dripping off of me." But down in the dust of humility some work, with songs of praise going up to God and blessings increasing.

Who came to campmeeting with so many of his own burdens it took most of his time and the ministers' too, until neither had time to be burdened for lost souls? Or did you come "prayed up" and with victory in your souls and able to say, "Lord, what may I do to be a blessing in the meeting?" PREACH, instruct the youth or children, help sing specials or some other MENIAL task? The devil might say, "Oh, you won't get to preach. This Bro. or that Sister and some others will be there and you know the people want to hear them." Maybe the devil was right on some of this. Perhaps GOD wants them to preach. If you are filled with the Holy Spirit maybe He will use you to exhort or to give a God sent altar call following a God sent burning message while conviction is still on the sinner. Maybe your duty will be to do the

baptizing, or you may be needed only to be a servant at the Lord's supper. (Oh, what a sweet blessing that brings.)

The Holy Spirit might lead you to do personal work among the young people or others between services, or teach in their meeting, or in other children and youth meetings. What! a minister teach? Take his time to TEACH? Doesn't the Bible say he must be "apt to teach"? I am fully convinced that if more Holy Ghost ministers took more time and interest and more burden to give special instruction to the youth during our campmeetings we would see God's "church of tomorrow" growing and increasing and coming right up to the Bible standard in every way.

Go to campmeeting or assembly meeting praying in the Spirit, rejoicing in the Lord (because of His love bubbling over in your heart), serving one another in the true beauty of holiness, and you will return home overflowing with blessings.

"A volunteer for Jesus, a soldier true; others have enlisted, why not YOU?"

May God bless His great cause is my humble prayer. —One who has served and is blessed.

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## A Burden For The Young People

I am saved and living for the Lord to all I know and understand, and am learning every day. I have a burden for the young people. I have carried this burden for some time now. I thank God for the burden. There are so many of the older saints leaving us and so fast that I shudder when I think of everyone going in to eternity and leaving only the young people to carry God's work on. I hate to think of it because there are so many of us who are not yet qualified to carry the work on—dealing with the people of this world. Too many prayers are being prayed for us when we should be out in the vineyard working and praying ourselves.

We don't have to be preachers to work for God. (I am thankful I found that out in time.) The wheat is ripe to harvest and we all can't operate the combine, but we all can take part and really do our share. The Lord has blessed me to know the importance and greatness of our mission in this world as saints (not just preachers). Christ said we are the salt of the earth. Matt. 5:13. We are the salt of society. Salt preserves food from corruption and seasons it, making it wholesome and acceptable. So dear young people, we are to purify the society in which we move. We must set a good example and counteract every thing that has a tendency to lead to corruption. This is why our Christianity must be genuine and pure. The salt which has lost its savour is professed Christianity which is really worldliness, only under the name of Christianity.

I thank the Lord for those among us who are ready to work for God full time and with a pure heart. All the motives must be for the right, and you must love only the good to have a pure heart. A thing is pure when it has no admixtures of other substances.

Purity cannot be mixed. Love is pure when it is not mixed with lust. Benevolence is pure when it is not mixed with self-seeking. Justice is pure when it is not mixed with partiality.

Again, young people, we are to be the light of the world. We are to represent Him who is the world's true light. John 8:12. We are to enlighten the world as its teachers and also by the examples of our lives. I believe that the good works of Christians who will let their lights shine as pleasing to God, will do more toward converting the world than miracles and preaching. There are more Christian workers than preachers. So let us let our light shine.

We don't have a run to make in sin, as the world says, for that is proven by the scripture Eccl. 12:1: "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." The Creator is to be remembered in due time—in youth. When the powers of body and mind are failing, it will be too late. Lam. 3:27. Our light is to illuminate the way for others who are in sin and can't see how to get through to God. We that were brought up in the truth are blessed above many and should be more thankful. Let's be real sure we can use our own light when we are tested.

We are also a city set upon a hill which cannot be hid, not as individuals right here, but as a visible society or church. The old city set upon a hill was Jerusalem, Psa. 48:2, which was trodden under foot of men as having lost its savor. The new society or church was to take its place. Christ warns us of our living standard. In the church it must be visibly higher than the standard of living in the world. A church that will put up with a corrupt ministry is not bearing its witness before the world. I have asked church-going people why they went to church and their answers are surprising. Few people go to church to worship God and to learn how to lead others to Christ.

Mark 16:17, 18: "These signs shall follow them that believe [saved people]; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Young saints, this means us, again. So let us, with authority, step out on the promises because they are true.

Your brother in Christ, —Macky Francisco.

## Neglected Children

The daily papers recently carried reports from the United Press revealing the improper conduct of young boys and girls whom their parents neglected in letting them go out at night without a chaperon. I quote from the Cleveland (Tenn.) Daily Banner, April 24, 1949:

**"16 Boys and Girls Arrested in Raid."**

This is the heading of one report. To shield all concerned all names are omitted. The report continues: "Sixteen boys and girls, picked up in a raid on a boisterous 'beer and bed' party, were charged with contributing to a disorderly house Saturday.

"The youngsters most of them teen-agers, spent Friday night in jail after a morals bureau raid" on a certain named apartment. "The raid . . . was made after neighbors complained of a 'wild party.' Kids were all over the place, Sgt. Blank said. Some of them didn't stop drinking and necking while we were questioning them."

Another report reveals the following (The Cleveland, Tenn., Daily Banner, April 25, 1949):

**"Youth Stabbed While Defending Girl Gains."**

This is the heading of this report, which continues: "Police said today that an 18-year-old high school youth who suffered a slashed throat while defending his girl friend from an attacking man appeared to be recovering."

This report further reveals that the trouble occurred as the teen-agers "were sitting" in the boy's "car on a lonely road" "Saturday night" some miles out of town.

Had this neglected young couple been sitting in a well-lighted parlor at the girl's home instead of being out "on a lonely road" "in the black and dark night" (Prov. 7:9), they would not have been attacked. But this reminds us that the Bible says some "loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3:19.

In these reports all the children involved had evidently been sadly neglected, for the Bible says, "The curse causeless shall not come." See Eph. 6:4; Prov. 26:2.

This truth is demonstrated in Joseph's life, for when he grew up to manhood and was tempted by a warm blooded woman, he did not depart from his early training and yield to his tempter. Read Gen. 39:7; Prov. 22:6; 1:10.

Dear young people who read this, though you may have been neglected in proper instruction and training, let me beg of you to give your heart and life to God "in the days of thy youth" (Eccl. 12:1), and confess and forsake all known sins. See Prov. 28:13. Live a clean life and determine that you will come to your marriage when matured as "pure" as a lily. See 2 Cor. 11:2. Shun bad company for "evil companionships corrupt good morals." 1 Cor. 15:33, Weymouth's trans.

A 17-year-old high school senior in Panama City, Florida, named C— W— was reported by newspapers that he was arrested on the night of Sept. 16, 1958, while prying a hub cap off a parked automobile. He boasted that he held the world's record for stealing automobiles hub caps, and said that "he collected some 3,000 last year (1957), and that his record for one night was 187." Where were his parents while this was going on? Would you call him a neglected child? Parents wake up! Children take heed!

Many parents would do well to see that their young boys and girls are in the right company and are protected from temptation needlessly. Just remember, darkness is a cover-up for the devil's work.

"If you smoke a pack of cigarettes a day you inhale 400 milligrams of nicotine a week. That much nicotine in a single dose would kill you as quick as a bullet."

—Dr. Alexis Carrol.

## Redeeming The Time

I often think what the Word says about redeeming the time. Just what does this mean? Should we be reading newspapers to excess? I believe we need to be careful about our reading matter lest our mind be taken off God. We could have more money for the Lord if we didn't spend it for things of no profit. The radio is also something to take our time and gets our mind off God. I believe prayer would be hindered if we had to turn off the radio when called to go and pray for some one who needed prayer and there was no time to waste. When Jesus comes for His own, shouldn't we want to be found doing what we think He would be doing if He were here? Let us watch and pray and not waste our time and means.

## God's Constant Care

Not a brooklet floweth onward to the sea,  
Not a sunbeam gloweth on its bosom free,  
Not a seed unfoldeth to the glorious air,  
But our Father holdeth it within His care.

Not a flowerlet fadeth, not a star grows dim,  
Not a cloud o'ershadoweth, but it's marked by Him.  
Dream not that thy gladness God doth fail to see,  
Think not in thy sadness, He forgetteth thee.

Not a tie is broken, not a hope laid low;  
Not a farewell spoken, but our God doth know.  
Every hair is numbered, every tear is weighed,  
In the changeless balance wisest love has made.

Might, eternal, resteth in His changless hand,  
Love, immortal, hasteth swift at His command;  
Faith may firmly trust Him in the darkest hour,  
With this key we hold fast to His love and power.  
—Sister Goldsberry.

## BIBLE STUDY

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

June 5, 1960

### LIVING BY THE GOLDEN RULE

Printed Portion ..... Matt. 7:1-12

1. Judge not, that ye be not judged.
2. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.
3. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?
4. Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?
5. Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.
6. Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.



7. Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

10. Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

12. Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

**Memory Verse:** All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them. Matt. 7:12.

**Practical Truth:** Christians who live by the golden rule will impress others with the exalted character of the Christian faith.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Many heartaches, tears, and much sorrow in this world would be banished if everyone would observe the golden rule. When summing up any condition that arises and an opinion or an attitude is adopted, first ask yourself the question, "What attitude or opinion would I want a person to have if I were in the same condition?" Oh, I'm sure much mercy and love would enter into the conclusion. The judgment that Jesus is speaking of is not righteous judgment which is allowed in John 7:24. Even righteous judgment that is given must be in a spirit of forbearance and tenderness. The judgment that is referred to in our lesson is the tendency to condemn others before all facts are known. Some people are very strict on others on some lines, yet in their own lives there are things they do or say that is just as bad in comparison. This is unjust judgment. Some unjustly condemn others or criticise them to try to cover up something in their life or to try to elevate themselves. They are trying to pick out a mote or a speck or small splinter out of their brother's life when they have a beam (a log beam of a house) in their own life. How foolish that is. Jesus says "with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again" in the last day. One told another, "Be hard on yourself and easy on others."

**Verse six.** We should not make known our most precious intimate spiritual experiences with those who would scoff.

The promise to "ask, seek, and knock, and it shall be given you," is if you do not "ask amiss." James 4:3.

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June 12, 1960

### THE TWO WAYS

Printed Portion ..... Matt. 7:13-14; Luke 15:11-24

Matt. 1:13. Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in therat:

14. Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Luke 15:11. And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12. And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty

famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18. I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

23. And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

**Memory Verse:** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Prov. 3:6.

**Practical Truth:** Repentance and a disciplined life are necessary to win God's approval.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There are only two ways in our life from which to choose. It is up to us if we choose the right way or the wrong way. Each of us must make a decision. No one can make it for us. This is a personal matter. If we choose the right way, which is the narrow way of holiness, humility, and love, it will lead us to heaven. But if we choose the broad way, which is easy, alluring, and many follow it, it will lead us to damnation. There are few finding the right way, the narrow way, because they do not want to take the way that means self-denial and cross-bearing.

The prodigal son began his step down by refusing to have parental restraint. The next mistake was leaving home. He fell into bad company and wasted his money. He sinned grievously. He was reduced to starvation. When a sinner realizes his true condition as a sinner, lost and doomed for damnation, then he can begin to search for a way out. The prodigal began to realize this and he said, "I will arise." He began to do something about it. He went home and humbly confessed his sins and his father joyously received him. In this story we see how the son went into deep sin. We note the mistake he made by choosing the broad way and the end of it. Bright lights, barmaids, dancing, and shallow friends did not satisfy his soul. He came to a decision to choose the narrow way, the humble way, and it brought him happiness. Have you made the right decision?

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June 19, 1960

### BEARING GOOD FRUITS

Printed Portion ..... Matt. 7:15-23; Luke 13:6-9

Matt. 7:15. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?



17. Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

21. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23. And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Luke 13:6. He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.

7. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?

8. And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:

9. And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.

Memory Verse: Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. John 15:4.

Practical Truth: The kind of fruits which are produced by our lives show whether we are true followers of Christ or not.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We are to "try the spirits, whether they are of God." There are many false prophets gone out into the world. They are claiming to bring messages from God and working under His power, "for they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth." Rev. 16:14. We are to beware of them. They are corrupt and bring forth evil fruit. By their fruit you will know them. They are wicked at heart and are intent on injuring others to advance their own interests. At the last great day they and those who follow them will be cast into hell.

We are a planting of the Lord. He looks into our lives to see if we are bearing fruit for Him, and if the fruit of the Spirit is working in our lives to His profit. God is long-suffering and bears long. In the parable, He looked three years for fruit. When finding none he told the dresser (Jesus) to cut the tree (us) down, but Jesus begged for mercy. Using our own language we find him saying, "Let me send some hard things their way. Maybe they will pray more earnestly and when I help them they will then live a careful life and bring forth fruit." God gives permission for this to happen but yet he warns if we do not bear fruit after this we will be cut off. Are you in your third year? Are you fruitless? Maybe you are in your fourth year. Hard things have come. Let this be a warning to let it work for your spiritual good, or you will be cut off.

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June 26, 1960

#### HEEDING CHRIST'S TEACHINGS

Printed Portion ..... Matt. 7:24-29; 21:28-32

7:24. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of

mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

28. And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:

29. For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

21:28. But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

29. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.

30. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go sir: and went not.

31. Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

32. For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.

Memory Verse: Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock. Matt. 7:24.

Practical Truth: It is of the highest importance that everyone who has the opportunity to know Christ's teachings should heed them and obey the commands which they contain.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson is the closing instruction given in the sermon on the mount. Jesus warns all of us what will happen if we disregard the previous words. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." We will meet them when this old world is on fire. If we have obeyed them it will mean life eternal, but if we have rejected them it means hell fire.

He likens those who hear and obey to the man who builds on a strong foundation. We should have Jesus in our hearts and a love for His ways and His principles. This is the wise way of life. It has been said, "What no man would be fool enough to do with a house, many a man does in matters of true religion." Only those who do the will of God will abide eternally with God.

The rain, floods, and winds are the troubles, problems, and trials of life which are common to both saint and sinner. Those who build on God will stand; but those who build on the sandy, earthly foundations, will fail, and great will be that fall. It pays to be the Lord's child, and obey His words.

The last parable was written to the self-righteous Pharisees and Sadducees who gave much lip service to God by saying, "Yes, yes," but did not do. They were like the second son. The first son was the publicans and harlots who repented of their refusals to accept Jesus. Jesus did not commend either class, yet those who repented were accepted.

—Sister A. Marie Miles.