

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### *What Is True Christmas?*

The Christmas Christ, the Gift of God, did bring  
Is hid amid the spirit of the earth,  
The Yule-tide is no more a sacred thing—  
'Tis lost in ways and thots of lesser worth.

No longer bears that sacred day the charm  
For those enrapt in fashion, self, and pride;  
For this my soul doth sound its dread alarm—  
A message for the Christ, the Crucified.

Christ is not in the Christmas of the world:  
Far from the lowly manger do they stray,  
While to the pure in heart is now unfurled  
The truth in letters clear and bright as day:

True Christmas is when Christ, the infant mild,  
Is born in us, the people of His choice,  
When we, converted as a little child—  
This makes the angels 'round the throne re-  
joice.

When we, as did the stall in Bethlehem,  
Provide the Lord a place in which to lie;  
Within our lowly hearts is room for Him  
While God the Father watcheth from on high.

Not only, thus, at Christmas time of year  
Do we the birth of Jesus celebrate,  
But every moment do we hold so dear  
The virtue of that glorious, hallowed date.  
—Leslie Busbee.

### *From An Old Scroll of Jesus' Birth*

The following account was copied from a book entitled, "Caesar's Court." This book had been printed first in 1895 and then in 1927. There is no copyright on the book so we take the liberty to print a part of it. A minister, W. D. Mahan of Boonville, Mo., personally supervised the copying of parts of old manuscript from scrolls that are thousands of years old found in the Vatican in Rome and Constantinople and has proof they are genuine. We submit it to our readers for what it might be worth

to you. Surely it is very interesting. This account was written to the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was the governing bodies of the whole Jewish commonwealth.

There was a greater court composed of 70 and the lesser of 24. Then the highest court that decided all appeals was a court of elders and priests of 12. The chairman was the High Priest. The commonwealth was divided into districts and each had their own legislative bodies presided over by a high priest. Our government in the U. S. is on this order.—Editor.

#### JONATHAN'S INTERVIEW WITH THE BETHLEHEM SHEPHERDS

Sanhedrin, 88 B. By R. Jose. Order No. 2

"Jonathan, son of Heziel, investigates the shepherds and others at Bethlehem in regard to the strange circumstances reported to have occurred there, and reports to this court:

"Jonathan to the Masters of Israel, servants of the true God: In obedience to your order, I met with two men, who said they were shepherds, and were watching their flocks near Bethlehem. They told me that while attending to their sheep, the night being cold and chilly, some of them had made fires to warm themselves, and some of them had laid down and were asleep; that they were awakened by those that were keeping watch with the questions, 'What does all this mean? Behold, how light it is!' that when they were roused it was as light as day. But they knew it was not daylight for it was only the third watch. All at once the air seemed to be filled with human voices, saying, 'Glory! Glory! Glory! to the most High God!' and 'Happy art thou, Bethlehem, for God hath fulfilled his promise to the fathers; for in thy chambers is born the King that shall rule in righteousness.' Their shouting would rise up in the heavens, and then would sink down in mellow strains, and roll along at the foot of the mountains, and die away in the most soft and musical manner they had ever heard; then it would begin again high up in the heavens, in the very vaults of the sky, and descend in sweet and melodious strains, so that they could not refrain from shouting and weeping at the same time. The light would seem to burst forth high up in the heavens, and then descend in softer rays and light up

the hills and valleys, making everything more visible but more clear like the brightest moon. I asked them how they felt—if they were not afraid; they said at first they were; but after a while it seemed to calm their spirits, and so fill their hearts with love and tranquility that they felt like giving thanks more than anything else. They said it was around the whole city, and some of the people were almost scared to death. Some said the world was on fire; some said the gods were coming down to destroy them; others said a star had fallen; until Melker, the priest, came out shouting and clapping his hands, seeming to be frantic with joy. The people all came crowding around him and he told them that it was the sign that God was coming to fulfill his promise made to their father Abraham. He told us that fourteen hundred years before God had appeared to Abraham, and told him to put all Israel under bonds—sacred bonds of obedience; and if they would be faithful he would give them a Saviour to redeem them from sin, and that he would give them eternal life, and that they should hunger no more; that the time of their suffering would cease forever, and that the sign of his coming would be that light would shine from on high, and the angels would announce his coming, and their voices should be heard in the city, and the people should rejoice; and a virgin that was pure should travail in pain and bring forth her first born, and he should rule all flesh by sanctifying it and making it obedient. After Melker had addressed the people in a loud voice, he and all the old Jews went into the synagogue and remained there praising God and giving thanks.

"I went to see Melker, who related to me much the same as the shepherds had reported. He told me that he had lived in India, and that his father had been a priest at Antioch; that he had studied the sacred scrolls of God all his life, and that he knew that the time had come from signs given, for God to visit and save the Jews from . . . their sins; and as evidence he showed me many quotations on the tripod respecting the matter.

"He said that . . . three strangers from a distant land called on him, and they went in search of this young child; and they found him and his mother in the mouth of the cave, where there was a shed projecting out for the sheltering of sheep; that his mother was married to a man named Joseph, and she related to them the history of her child, saying that an angel had visited her, and told her that she would have a son, and she should call his Jesus, for he should redeem his people from their sins; and he should call her blessed forevermore.

"Whether this is true or not remains to be proven in the future. There have been so many imposters in the world, so many babes under pretended miracles, and all have proven to be a failure, that this one may be false, this woman only wishing to hide her shame or court the favor of the Jews.

"I am informed that she will be tried by our law, and, if she can give no better evidence of her virtue than she has given to Melker she will be stoned ac-

ording to our law, although, as Melker says, there never has been a case before with such apparent divine manifestations as has been seen on this occasion. In the past, in various instances, virgins have pretended to be with child by the Holy Ghost, but at the time of their delivery there was no light from the heavens, and no angels talking among the clouds and declaring that this was the King of the Jews. And, as to the truth of these things, the whole of the people of Bethlehem testify to having seen it, and the Roman guard also came out and asked what it meant and they showed by their actions that they were very much alarmed. These things, Melker says, are all declared in the Scriptures to be the sign of his coming. Melker is a man of great learning, and well versed in the prophecies, and he sends you this letter, referring you to those prophecies:" (We will not print the letter written by the priest Melker.—Ed.)

### Sanctification—A Cleansing

Sanctify: (Webster) 1—To make holy, or sacred, to separate, set apart, or appoint to a holy use. 2—To purify in order to prepare for divine service and for partaking of holy things.

(Cruden) 1—To separate and appoint anything to an holy and religious use. 2—To free the creature from the curse that sin had brought upon it, and make it fit for a free and holy use.

Everything (including men) that was set apart and appointed to an holy use, in Old Testament times, was counted holy unto the Lord and sanctified. The Lord is a holy, clean God—the only God, and everything that is fully consecrated to Him must be clean and spotless.

Exo. 19:10, 11, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Go unto the people and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes, And be ready against the third day: for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai." "Let them wash their clothes," an outward cleansing to typify the cleansing of the soul in that day that was to come—our day. The Lord of Glory was to come down upon the mount in their sight, therefore, they must be clean.

Exo. 28:40, 41, "And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets thou shalt make for them, for glory and beauty, And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office." Aaron and his sons were priests of the Lord. We are kings and priests today, and are reigning over this sinful world if we have been washed in His precious blood, Rev. 1:5, 6. The precious anointing oil of that day was a type of our being anointed with the blessed Holy Spirit in this day of grace. "And shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them." Their garments were for "glory and beauty." Praise God! It has been said, "He will beautify the meek with salva-

tion." Psalms 149:4. "Fine linen, clean and white" is a symbol of the "righteousness of the saints." The garments of the priests were purged from all foreign substance, and made as pure and clean as they could be made in that day.

The consecration, and sanctifying of Aaron and his sons to hallow them for the priesthood is a type of our consecration in order to be sanctified and filled with the Holy Spirit that we might stand before Him doing all His will in this life. Three animals were sacrificed: one bullock and two rams. The bullock, being sacrificed first, his inner parts, the best parts were burned upon the sacred altar, but "the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung, shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it is a sin offering." Exodus 29:14. (Read Exodus 29 and Leviticus 8 chapters). The flesh of the bullock, etc., of this sacrificial animal, is a type of our fleshly, carnal, selfish life that must be consumed by the burning element—the fire of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist said of Jesus, "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." Luke 3:16.

The flesh, skin, and dung of this animal were counted unworthy to be burned upon God's altar. And yet the whole of the second animal was counted worthy to be consumed upon the altar. Surely there is a great typical truth set forth here. These unworthy parts must be burned without the camp, "it is a sin offering." Our fleshly, carnal, selfish life must die: be burned without the camp by the burning power of the fire of the Holy Spirit, in order that we might be dead to self and alive to God, ready to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God.

Where did this sensual, selfish part of man come from? Here is Webster's definition of carnal, selfish, sensual. Carnal: belonging to the flesh, fleshly, sensual. Selfish: caring only or chiefly for self. Sensual: caring too much for the pleasures of the senses; lustful. James 1:14, 15, "But every man is tempted when he is draw away of his own lust and enticed, Then when lust hath conceived it bringeth forth sin and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." Genesis 3:6, "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat." Lust must be conceived in the mind before it can bring forth sin. "When lust hath conceived it bringeth forth sin." The word conceive means to form in the mind, or to become pregnant with a thought, or we might say, to consent to commit the act. Eve looked at the fruit and desired it, then yielded to the temptation to eat it. Sin was conceived in her mind, then when this sin was finished by her committing the act, it brought forth death. Romans 5:12, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." The only way that sin can enter the world is by entering into the hearts of humanity. Sin entered into the hearts of the first man and woman,

then their children were born in sin. Psalms 51:5, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." It is this sinful, carnal nature in man that causes "evil thoughts, murders," etc., to proceed out of his heart. Matthew 15:19.

Christ Jesus came to do what the law could not do. What was it that the law could not do? Hebrews 7:19, "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did." The law could not destroy the sinful, carnal nature in man; but thank God, "the bringing in of better hope did," and that hope is Christ. Romans 8:3, 4, "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit." The weakness was not in the law. "The law is holy," but the weakness lay in the flesh. The law was weak through the flesh. Sin is spoken of here as being condemned, not the sinner. Sin was condemned in the flesh. The sin that was condemned has reference to the carnal nature of man.

Those who are bearing fruit are those who receive the purging. Read John 15th chapter. Dear precious ones, have you been purged from the love of the world? If so, your heart is set on heavenly things, and you are putting the kingdom of God first in your life. God and the needs of His Church are above all else in your mind; you are a living sacrifice in His Kingdom. But if self and the needs of self receive your first attention before you consider God and His cause, do not try to fool yourself, you are not sanctified.

God wants examples today. The primitive church is an example for all ages. The faithful of the early days of this Reformation were examples. Brethren, are we examples today? Pray for one that wants to be an example always. We should be able to say to others as did faithful Saint Paul, "Follow me as I follow Christ." —H. P. Huskey.

### Getting Out of Self

Some speak of the "death of self." This is incorrect. To put self to death is to cease to exist. What is needed is that we get out of self and let Christ control it. There is a self-love and a self-development that is holy, and there is a self-love and a self-improvement that is sinful. We are to love and improve self for Christ's sake, and never for self's sake. We are not to destroy our wills, nor make machines of them, but yield them to Christ and actively will what He wills. But self is very subtle. It needs close watching. Selfishness may get into your generosity, and you get to giving to gratify your own feelings instead of benefiting the object of your charity. It may mean more sometimes to get out of self and refuse to give than it does to give. To give because the company we are in is giving may have much selfishness behind it. To glorify God should be the full and only motive in our heart.

C. E. Orr.

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

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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  
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**Editorials**

It seems to me that there never was a time in the history of our country when there were so many opposing powers of evil at work trying to destroy our liberty and freedom as a nation and to force us to deny Christ and God, the Creator and Ruler of the universe. In fact it is the same old "red dragon" power that ruled in the Roman Empire and fought against Christ and His followers (Rev. 12:7), for it reads thus, "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels." The heaven here referred to is not the heaven where God and Christ dwell, but it is the ecclesiastical or religious heaven where strong spirits, both good and bad, are at war. Michael represents Christ, and his angels are his ministers who believed in Him and fought against this "red dragon" or pagan power. In the 9th verse we read that he was "cast out—that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan." It was not the personal devil, but was "called the Devil and Satan" because the work of the dragon (pagan) power of evil was anti-Christ and anti-God.

In Rev. 12:11 we read: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." After this dragon power that was called the old serpent, the Devil and Satan was put down by the witnessing of the followers of Christ, then the beast appeared on the scene under a cloak of religion. Read about it in Rev. 13:2. This scripture says that "the dragon gave him [the beast] his power, and his seat, and great authority." Then they began to worship both the beast and dragon at the same time. Read Rev. 13:4.

In these days in which we are living the dragon power which is called the Devil and Satan is loose and deceiving the nations into atheism—not only the nations in a literal sense, but also the spiritual nations, such as MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, and her harlot daughters. This dragon power that fought against Christ and His followers in the morning time of the Church is now loose under the name of Communism and has already gained control of more than half of the people of the world. They are working in every conceivable way to overcome this nation of ours, and it is tottering ready to fall under their power and influence.

The beast power or Catholicism is also striving in our country to get control and bring us under Roman Catholicism, but while they are doing this, they are also giving strength to the dragon power operating under the name of Communism, for the reason that Communism and Catholicism have so many things in common. When the dragon (paganism) fell in the morning era of the Church, he gave

his power, seat and great authority to the beast or Catholicism, but now in a cunning and deceptive way she is being forced to give power and authority back to the dragon and his angels. The Catholics have so many things in common with the pagan power, such as their idol worship, counting beads, wearing relics and images, praying to dead people whom they call saints, and many other heathen customs were given to them by the atheistic, devil power of paganism.

"Mystery Babylon The Great" and her harlot daughters, together with sympathizing Communists, have now elected a Catholic man as president of these United States. This turn of events will also strengthen Communism in the sense that the measures he would enact to strength Catholicism in this country would also favor Communism. That is just the reason that Communism flourished and grew so fast in Cuba. Now Communism is in control of that former Catholic controlled country, and now the pagan ruler of Russia puts his arms around the Communist leader in Cuba whose people are Catholics. I do not mean to say that the Catholic pope, the priests and many others in their ranks want Communism to take over, for they are living fat off the people. But this pagan Communism is deceiving its people into it. If you would ask a Catholic man if he wanted the Communists to be in control, he would say, No. However, at the same time he is deceived, for as being a Catholic he is aiding the Communists in conquering and controlling in the final climax.

I want to warn you from God to keep clear and clean from all this working of Satan and live separated from this sinful world, in spirit and conformity, and to consecrate deeper into God and His righteousness. Keep yourselves unspotted from all these worldly things. It grieves and makes me feel sad at heart when I hear of a saint putting a television in his home. When you are saved and sanctified, God gives you a robe of righteousness, fine linen, clean and white, and you are required of God to keep it that way. The Apostle Paul, in writing of the church, God's children, in Eph. 5:27, says: "That he might present IT to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish." When you partake of the sins of the world and the sins of Babylon or her harlot daughters, you are putting black spots on that clean, white garment of salvation given of God to you when you were first saved and sanctified.

The Lord had us to pastor the church here at Guthrie for 25 years and we held the truth clear and distinct from sectism and all worldliness, but at one time some began to partake of the world and it grieved my heart. It seemed that I could not get them to see their wrong. I was much in prayer and meditation over the matter, and the Lord gave me a vision. I saw them all dressed in white with black spots on their dresses, and they were dancing around and around in great glee. Every once in a while they would stop and be still, and then go on the same as before. I wondered why they stopped and were quiet

at times, and the Lord brought it to my mind that they were still while I was preaching to them and trying to show them the need of repenting and ceasing from such folly. After the preaching, instead of looking to God to remove the spots and ceasing from such, they would go on dancing as before with the spots still on their God-given garments. This is a day when people that even claim to be saints are giving very little heed to the clean, blazing truth of the gospel. Every spot you put on your garment will darken your soul that much and grieves the tender heart of God, your heavenly Father. Why do ye hear what God says and do not obey His Word? James tells us that the doers of the Word are blessed of God.

Turn to the 17th chapter of Revelation and read the word picture of Mystery Babylon The Great and her harlot daughters. Take note how she was arrayed. In the 4th verse we read, "And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color [not a clean, white garment], and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." When you put on gold, and paint your face, lips and fingernails, you are putting spots all over that clean garment. Bobbing the hair and dressing like the harlot daughters of Babylon is a disgrace in the sight of God. Dear children of God, you cannot dress and do like the harlot daughters of Babylon who live around you and keep your garment unspotted from the world. God's holy Church is a distinct body of people, separated from the world and all the harlot daughters of Babylon. God gave you a garment clean and white, and you must keep it that way in order to enter heaven where God and His Son Jesus abide. You should not pattern after sectism, or even smell around there to see if you can find something good. The good you would find would only be a bait to entice you to eat the unclean garbage which is so plentiful.

Samson was a man of great physical strength, which is typical of spiritual strength in God today. He began associating with the harlots and no doubt found some things that satisfied his person. Finally one of the harlots got him to go to sleep on her lap, and his enemies and her friends came in and cut his hair. His great strength went from him, then his enemies punched out his eyes and compelled him to grind for them. Many a preacher who once had power with God and wore a clean, white robe, began associating with the harlot daughters of Babylon. Soon his garment became spotted and he went to sleep. His spiritual strength is gone. His enemies punched out his eyes, spiritually speaking, and now he is grinding for sectism for a salary. What a shame!

In Proverbs 4:18, 19 we read, "But the path of the just is as a shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked are as darkness: they know not at what they stumble." You cannot allow your clean, white garment to get spotted with the world and at the same time keep the light of God shining in and through you more and more unto the perfect day.

Martin Luther was a man greatly used of God and brought much light and truth to the then-darkened world. Many escaped out of the darkness and bondage of Catholicism in his day and rejoiced in the freedom of the Savior. As time went on, more understanding of scripture brought out more light and truth and many were made happy in the greater light and truth. Bro. D. S. Warner was a just man and his pathway shone more and more unto the perfect day. He embraced more truth, and by his preaching and teaching, he brought to pass this present truth which is termed, "The Evening Light Reformation." The light on the pathway of the just is shining more and more unto the perfect day.

For an illustration we want to mention F. G. Smith who wrote a book in 1906 on "Revelation Explained" which was copyrighted in 1908. Twelve years later he revised this book, changing some parts. The reason he gave for so doing was that he had received more knowledge and understanding on the scriptures since twelve years had passed. (See Preface in the 4th edition of his book). If Bro. F. G. Smith were living today he would no doubt want to revise and change it in some places, for ecclesiastical powers have developed and come into view since his time that were not in view in his day of writing. I say that he would want to change its wording, revise and rewrite it in some parts to fully conform to his better understanding, provided he kept saved, sanctified and walking in the light that is shining more and more unto the perfect day.

The Trumpet movement, with which he was associated, has been swallowed up by the world and sectism. Many of their preachers have their eyes now punched out and are grinding, like sectism, for a salary. It is a pitiful condition when you look over the scene. When he revised his book on Revelation the movement was fast being swallowed up by the harlot daughters of Mystery Babylon The Great. In his later writings it is easy to discern that he was quite strongly tainted with the compromise with the world and sectism which has developed so plainly to the just in whom the light of truth is shining more and more unto the perfect day. Lord, help us to walk in the light and keep our garments clean and white as God gave them when he saved and sanctified us by His free grace.

The Scriptures declare plainly that the beast (Catholicism) and the false prophet (sectism or the harlot daughters of Babylon) go down first. After that the devil, which represents paganism now under the name of Communism, is cast into the lake of fire. Read this in Rev. 20:10. "And the devil which deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, [they are already there when the devil is cast in] and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." This would have the meaning of all the time. No place lasts forever except heaven and hell. Only in hell is the lake of fire and brimstone.

In harmony with these scriptures we see the devil is now deceiving the beast and her harlot daughters

in the form of Communism. When this devil power of anti-Christ, paganism, and atheism dominates and controls the world, with Catholicism and her harlot daughters under its power, and begins to cry, "Peace and safety," then the Lord will come as a thief in the night upon them and they shall not escape. The few saints who are left will be caught up and the Judgment will set. The wicked will be cast into the lake of fire, and the earth and the works that are therein will be burned up.

The coming of the Lord is not imminent, for they cannot cry, "peace and safety." The world is in great distress. Many nations are enraged against one another and the war clouds are hanging low. However, when Communism has everything under its control, with God barred out by their system, and the saints being hunted to be destroyed, and they cry, "Peace and safety," then suddenly destruction will come as a thief in the night. The last trumpet will sound and time will be no more.

Brethren and sisters, let us who are of the day keep our garments unspotted from this old world and its corruption. Let us make our calling and election sure by yielding to God and to Him only that we may keep in the pathway of the just. Let us not hold only to doctrine that is light now and clog up there, but let us be as the just whose path is as a shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

### Christians

Could I be called a Christian if every body knew  
My secret thoughts and every thing I do?  
Oh, could they see the likeness of Christ in me each day,  
Oh, could they hear Him speaking in every word I say?

Could I be called a Christian if every one could know  
That I am found in places where Jesus would not go?  
Oh, could they hear His echo in every song I sing—  
In eating, drinking, dressing—could they see Christ in me?  
—Sel.

Avoiding temptation is next in importance to resisting temptation; for the lust of the eye is fearfully apt to begin the lust of the flesh.

"If you do not wish to trade with the devil, keep out of his shop."  
—Thomas Fuller.

### Obituary

Corine (Black) Robinson, the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Jane Black, was born at White Plains, Ala., June 6, 1874 and departed this life October 16, 1960 at the age of 86 years, 4 months and 10 days.

In the year of 1897 she was united in marriage to Henry Robinson. To this union eight children were born—six boys and two girls. Her husband, a pioneer minister of the Church of God, and two sons preceded her in death.

Sister Robinson embraced the truth at an early age and lived a saved life about 60 years.

Survivors are four sons: Edward of Akron, Ohio; Frazier of Cleveland, Ohio; Norman of Chicago, Ill., and John of Okmulgee, Okla. Two daughters—May Bell and Ada of Okmulgee, 15 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter, a number of other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Okmulgee, Okla. by Bro. W. Warren and Bro. U. Phillips, assisted by Bro. Sam Barton and others. Text, Job 23:11-12 and others.

#### CARD OF APPRECIATION

We wish to thank the saints of God far and near, also our many friends everywhere, for their nice cards, letters and telegrams. Also the Brown Funeral Home, for their kind deeds and help during the loss of our beloved mother. May God bless all of you.

Pray much for this bereaved family. —John Robinson, May Bell Williams, Ada E. Bruner and family.



**THE CHRISTIAN HOME CALENDAR for 1961** is now in stock ready to be mailed to all who desire it. This wall calendar is beautifully made with rich, full color pictures. It has daily scripture Bible verses, very interesting to young and old. The size of this calendar is 9 3/4 by 16 inches. The price per single copy is 40 cents, 3 for \$1.10, 12 for \$4.00, 25 for \$7.50, postpaid to those living in the U. S.

The eleven monthly issues of the Faith and Victory papers of 1960, bound together with a good paper cover, will be sent to you for 60 cents, postpaid.

#### BIBLES, BOOKS AND CARDS

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Evening Light Song Book, 496 pages—\$1.50, 15c postage	
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Three for \$1.10; Twelve for \$4.00, postpaid	

Order from Faith Pub. House, Box 713, Guthrie, Okla.

#### OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Assembly meeting of the Church of God at Guthrie, Okla. will begin Friday December 23, 1960 and continue through January 1, 1961. The chapel is on the corner of 6th and W. Warner.

All are welcome to attend this meeting. Dormitories and dining hall are located close by for your convenience. All will be cared for.

Ministers filled with the Holy Spirit will be present to aid you in your needs, spiritual or physical. We are sure you will be blessed as you come and labor with us for the salvation of souls. Come praying and with a burden for those in need of spiritual help. These are perilous days, no time to be at ease, but labor while it is day for precious eternity bound souls.

The expense of the meeting will be taken care of by free-will offerings. Those desiring to send offerings or supplies, send to Bro. M. A. Davis, Route 4, Guthrie, Okla.

We will be looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Bro. I. D. Stover, Pastor. Phone BUtler 2-3244.

#### CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly Meeting will be held, Lord willing, from December 23, 1960 to Jan. 1, 1961 on the saints' camp ground at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. (a suburb of Los Angeles).

We urge all the saints throughout the west to attend this meeting and extend a hearty welcome to others farther east who might be able to come. A number of the Lord's ministers will be present to preach the Word in the anointing and power of the Spirit of God. Also they will be able to help you with your spiritual problems and pray prayers of faith for your physical needs as well. If you are in need of help from God for soul or body, we urge you to come to this meeting.

We are expecting the same visitation from God as in former years and expect His power to be present to save, sanctify, heal, and edify and work effectually in every phase of His work. Will be looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. —Ostis Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. Phone EMpire 9-3608.

#### MEETING REPORT

Dear saints: The 30th of October closed our two week's meeting here at Webb City, Mo. held by Bro. Ostis Wilson. We all certainly enjoyed the rich food from Father's table. We feel we were much edified and built up by God's Word, and that each of us is a little more responsible for our stewardship than before.

We would have been pleased for more outsiders to have attended. We surely appreciated the saints from other places coming in to the meeting. There were two souls at the altar. We pray God's continued blessings upon them.

The Lord blessed my husband, making him able to attend every meeting except the last service as it was a rainy night. We had observed the ordinances of foot-washing and the Lord's supper in the afternoon, making an all-day meeting. This was his first opportunity to observe these ordinances.

We had our all-day meeting the next Sunday, but have learned there may be all-day services at Huntsville, Arkansas on the first Sunday, so we have decided to discontinue our all-day services on the first Sunday of each month for the time being.

God bless all of you. —Sister Ersa Carrick, Pastor

## Testimonies

Mo.—Dear Ones,—May God bless all the dear saints for their prayers for me when I got hurt. By the help of the dear Lord I will tell you how I got hurt. The dear saints of God are all precious to me. I know that all things work together for the good of them that love the Lord. I am not sorry I got hurt because I could let my light shine where I could not have if it had not happened.

I had some tracts ready to take to the post office. On my way, my neighbor asked me to get her mail. I got her mail and mailed the tracts. On the way back I saw my husband's nephew on the railroad cutting weeds with a big scythe. I gave him some tracts and then stumbled and fell. I hit my hand on the scythe blade. An artery was cut and the blood went up in a little stream. The boy caught my hand or some place and held it tight to stop the blood. The store woman saw us and brought some bandages to put on it. I started to take the mail to the neighbor that asked me to bring it. Some told me that they could track me two blocks by the blood to her house. I stood by the porch a while and it kept bleeding. I got up on the porch and held my hand over a kettle as I sat in a chair. By that time there were several people there. Some were excited. One looked at me and was crying. I said the dear Lord would stop the blood or take me to Glory. She said she didn't want me to go yet. One was taken home. Some called the doctor. Someone called the ambulance. The doctor told them what to do. They didn't do it for the dear Lord was taking care of me. They called for my daughter but she and her husband were gone. Then they called for my grandson. He and his family came. I just could not go in the ambulance for it was not God's will. My grandson said, "Grandma, won't you let the nurse clean you up and put a bandage on it?" I said, "yes, I would." He took me to the car. I said to his little son who is seven years old, "Won't you pray for Grandma." He said "I already have." By that time the dear Lord had stopped the blood. The dear Lord loves his children.

When we got to Savannah, Missouri where the nurse and doctor were, my grandson went into the office and told them I would not have any medicine. He took me into the office. The doctor unwrapped my hand. The blood went up in a little stream again. Before I knew what he was doing he tied the artery. The nurse washed my hand and the doctor took some stitches in it. It didn't hurt too much. God was near. The doctor and nurse were nice to me. My grandson went into another room because it made him sick. They used just plain gauze to wrap it. My grandson and family took me to my daughter's. God did not permit my daughter to see me until I was cleaned from the blood. Before she came or got home she was very nervous. She went to Sister Wilson at Oregon, Missouri to bring her with her. She was so grieved about me. Sister Wilson prayed for us. My son-in-law took her home.

I slept about one half hour that night. The dear Lord helped me to be quiet and I did not disturb any body. I stayed at my daughter's in Savannah, Mo. She took me back to have the stitches out but the place was not healing much. He did not take them out. I told the doctor all things were possible with God. I requested prayer for the Lord to heal it and he did. Praise his holy name! The doctor said for my daughter to bring me back again. She did and I just prayed not to have to go there anymore. He took part of the stitches out. One was embedded down deep and didn't come out. It could not be seen until the dear Lord brought it up so I

could see it. I pulled on it and it was tied and hurt.

After I came to my home Bro. and Sis. Edd Whipple and Bro. Murphy Allen came. I asked them if they would help me. Of course, they were willing. Bro. Murphy cleaned the scissors and I cut the stitch and it came out easy. Thank God. O, I was so thankful to the dear Lord.

The last time I went to the doctor's office the nurse took the bandage off. She was nice to me. The nurse said to my daughter, "You have a wonderful mother." My daughter said, "I know it." Dear ones, that was the dear Lord that made me that way. We serve a mighty God. My hand doesn't get purple anymore. I think the fluid is about gone, if not all. I thank the dear Lord for it. It is swollen some.

In the Word we read of a man whose withered hand was made as whole as the other by Jesus. "He is just the same yesterday and today and forever." Heb. 13:8. "Have faith in God." Heb. 11:6. I am expecting the dear Lord to make my hand as whole as the other one. I Cor. 2:9, "But as it is written eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for them that love him." O, how I love Jesus. There is so much to do for Him. The dear Lord has taken good care of my soul and body for about forty years. I am now seventy-seven years old. Pray for me,

—Sister Mary Whitmore.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—Dear Friends in Christ,—I'm enclosing one dollar for the renewal of my subscription to Faith and Victory paper. I wish I could send more. It is such a blessing.

I had an accident on Aug. 3rd. They gathered me up in an ambulance and took me to the hospital. The doctor said, "I have bad news for you. You will have to go to a bone specialist." I told him that I was trusting in the Lord and bad news did not disturb me. He said, "That is foolish. You will have to have something done." They just took me on to another hospital. They got me ready for surgery. I was prepared for surgery. I was praying as I entered on a cot. Three nurses were ready to help. The doctor said, "This is the first time in my life I've changed my mind so quick. I got you ready for surgery and I'm not going through with it." Then I asked to go home. He said, "No, you need care. Do you have anyone to care for you at home—give you a bath, food, etc.?" I said, "A daughter and husband." He dismissed me. How I praised the Lord. It's such a long story how God took care of me.

All the time my broken arm was healing there was a liquid under the skin that looked bad. Some suggested that I would have to do something. I just laid my hand on it and said, "Lord, you promised that nothing would come on us that we could not bear. This is all I can stand." In a few minutes the arm and hand looked just like the other one. Praise the Lord for his faithfulness.

Your Sister in Christ,

Mrs. Cora Schumm.

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Ill.—Dear Saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I praise the dear Lord for all He has done for me and my home, and for all who have given their hearts to the dear Lord. I pray for those in sin that they will come to the Saviour and be workers for God. Pray that I will have wisdom in all I do as I pass out tracts and do other work for the Lord. I feel so little. I know the Lord is the one that gives the increase. When I pass out a tract or loan a book, it all depends on my Saviour for this to bear fruit. I know I am nothing.

When we prepare our seed bed to perfection and select perfect seed and plant them in a perfect way, unless God sends the sunshine and rain, no increase will ever come from our work. All we can do is the work. What we do in personal work, must be done in love, wisdom, humility and in faith in God. We must count ourselves as nothing and God all and in all. This bears heavy on me. I know it all depends on the Lord. Pray the Lord to bless to the salvation of lost souls and the encouragement of those that are saved. I see I need to spend more time in prayer. I love the Lord and His work.

Your saved sister in Christ, Lettie West.

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

Kans.—Dear Ones,—Just a line this morning. I promised the Lord if he would help me to get this child to take care of in my home, I would give to his work and that I would testify through the Faith and Victory paper. God has brought this about and I do give him the praise. Pray for this request which I have before the Lord. He knows all about it and I am waiting for His answer.

Thank you and God bless you. A Kansas Reader.

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

Miss.—Dear ones in Christ,—I feel that Jesus wants me to write my testimony. I am still saved and I thank the dear Lord so much for saving me and showing me the bright side of life. Jesus is so wonderful to serve. My old life has passed and gone and now I am looking to meet Jesus around the great white throne.

The dear Lord has blessed me in so many ways for which I thank him and give his sweet name all the praise. He blesses me and gives me health and strength to overcome all trials and troubles. I want to be in that number when the saints go marching home.

Your sister in Christ, B. R. Raynor

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

Mo.—Dear Brother Pruitt,—We receive the Faith and Victory paper and enjoy it very much. My husband and I have only been saved a short while, six months. Your paper has truly been a blessing to us.

We want to live for our Lord and go all the way with him. Pray for us that we will always put the Lord first in everything we do.

Yours in Christ, Bro. and Sis. R. E. Hiebert

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

Ore.—Dear Saints,—This morning I feel I must testify for the Lord of how he healed me a short time ago. I had a spell as I was at the sink washing dishes. I took suddenly very sick and felt like I would pass out. I got sick all over. I called on the Lord with all my strength. I thought maybe the Lord was going to take me but, praise the Lord, he saw fit to spare me. My daughter wrote to Guthrie for prayer and the Lord has completely restored me. I praise God for his healing touch and for the tests he sees best to let us go through. It draws us closer to the Lord.

I called on God to show me if there was anything that would hinder me from being ready for Heaven. I surely examined myself. The Bible says to examine yourself to see whether you be in the faith. I feel it is necessary to do this often. Oh, how I praise God for salvation and his healing power, also for the dear saints of God and their prayers. I mean to be faithful to the Lord. I want all who read this to pray for me.

Your sister in the Lord, O. K. Myers.

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

Okla.—Dear Saints of God,—I want to take this opportunity to tell what the Lord has done for us. He has answered prayer for us many times and we are thankful

today to be numbered among His people. We praise the Lord for opening the way for us to live in Tulsa where we can meet with the saints. We have been isolated most of the time and we appreciate the privilege of meeting with the children of God.

My eyes had been bothering me for a long time. It was hard to read even one page. A few months ago I went to get my glasses changed. After examining my eyes, the optometrist said that something was wrong with my eyes. He would not fit me with glasses but recommended that I go to a doctor. My determination was to trust the Lord. The saints anointed and prayed for me. Soon after that the optometrist called and wanted to check my eyes again. He examined them and seemed surprised to see that they were much better. Praise the Lord for answering prayer! I am looking to the Lord for complete healing.

The Lord has blessed us more than we can ever thank and praise him for. It is our earnest prayer that we may live in a way that would be pleasing to the Lord. Remember us in prayer.

Christian love,

—Jim Wall.

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

Calif.—To the saints scattered abroad:—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Truly I thank God I am still on victory's side. I intend to go all the way with the dear Lord. My soul is feasting from Father's table. As I meditate with the dear Lord my soul rejoices on what the dear Lord reveals to me—that He will not leave me nor forsake me in my old age. Every thing works out for good to them that love God.

He says in His Word, the Lord the Creator fainteth not, neither is weary. There is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and he increaseth strength. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles. And shall walk and not faint and run and not be weary. I was meditating with the Lord, and I thought I did not get what I should have gotten. But He showed me I got just what I needed and he would be with me and to be satisfied with how he works things out. It is for my good and his glory just to commit everything to Him and not murmur nor complain, so I am satisfied with the way He is working. This old world is in a turmoil, but it doesn't frighten me because I know God rules over everything. He gave me the song No. 159, "Tis So Sweet Just To Know." That song surely did encourage my soul. Read the whole song.

The dear Lord is healing my body. Bro. Trotter, my pastor, anointed and prayed for me and the Lord is moving knots and soreness from my body, and my soul is encouraged. Those who know the worth of prayer, pray for me.

Your sister in Christ,

—Laura B. Nichols.

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La.—Dear Saints,—It has been some time since we have reported through this paper. We are glad to say that we still love the Lord and are happy in doing what little we can to get the truth to others. We don't find many responding but are thankful for the few. This seems to be a gleanage age.

We attended the Myrtle, Mo. camp meeting and we can report that it was a good meeting. The saints at the meeting seemed like one big family. Hospitality prevailed on the ground and the services were very encouraging and uplifting, as we sang the songs of Zion and the Word went forth from the pulpit with victory. We also enjoyed the good testimonies.

We started this letter some days ago and were detained, so now we feel like writing a little more.

I made two bus trips to and from Edinburg, Tex. to Sis. Duncan's home. The first trip was to conduct Bro. Duncan's funeral; the last, to visit with and encourage Sis. Duncan. She is a dear isolated saint who needs prayer and encouragement. She dearly loves the saints and was so happy to get the sympathy cards from different ones.

I think how encouraging the different testimonies are that we read in the Faith and Victory, similar to being in a testimony meeting with the dear saints—how the Lord blesses each trusting child of His! Let us keep encouraged for the uplook is always bright even though the "outlook" may seem dark at times. Praise His dear name!

We keep quite busy for the Lord. One thing is a certain job for all the saints and that is, we have much praying to do, for the sick, unsaved, etc. Don't ever say you can't find anything to do for the Lord. The way to keep saved is to keep prayerful which causes us to be spiritual. We see a great lack of spirituality over the country, but there is no reason why we should be that way.

We find the Faith and Victory paper the most spiritual paper we've seen anywhere, with Bible doctrinal truths clearly expounded. We pray that it may continue so. Let us remember the scripture that says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him." I John 2:15. And let us keep the love of God burning in our souls.

Our health is much better than it was for so long. Christian love to all.

Yours in His service, —Sister Katherine Key.

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

Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers at the Print Shop,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me well in soul and body except for an itchy place on my right arm and on my chest that goes back on my right shoulder blade. It itches so bad sometimes that I can hardly stand it but my trust is in the Lord who has done so much for me. I thank the dear saints for their prayers for me. It is much better and seems to be leaving. It takes spells of itching.

I have been praying for the Lord to give me more patience and a closer walk with Him. I am so glad and thankful the Lord showed me the only true and righteous way and led me into His marvelous light of the gospel. I am praying for the Lord to save my children, brothers and sisters, that they can see the truth like the Bible teaches. I love the Lord, saints and everyone. Salvation makes us love everyone. I was reading the good testimonies in the Faith and Victory paper and the Lord impressed me to write my testimony.

Your sister in the Lord, —Grace Allen.

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

Miss.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the dear people of God.—Greetings of Christian love to all. I do think of you all there at the Print Shop and pray God's blessings upon you there and everywhere. As for me, I'm still rejoicing in the goodness of God to his dear people, for I do believe God has some dear ones that will never compromise with the world and its ways. As for me, I don't think I ever will, for the way grows brighter all the time. I don't see anything to turn back to. I do thank and praise his dear name for all that he has done for me. He has healed me many times and still does, for which I give him all the praise. He still keeps me saved and walking in the light that he shines on my pathway.

He keeps me in good condition for one of my age. I feel much better than when I was younger and I still give Him all the praise for that.

It was so good to see all of you at the Hammond, La. camp meeting. It was such a blessing to me to get to go and stay a week in the services over there. I hope the dear Lord will permit us to all meet again in some of the good meetings, and if not, by the help and grace of God I'm going to meet all of you in a better place.

Pray for me that I will be ever found doing the little I can for God while here in this wicked world of sin and sorrow. One that loves the Lord and His way, for I find God's way is best for me.

Christian love, —Mrs H. J. Montgomery.

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

Okla.—Dear Saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. I'm still saved and encouraged to live to please the dear Lord. I believe it would please Him if I would write these words to tell what God has done for us. I sent in a request for the saints to remember my oldest girl in their prayers, as her eyes were giving her a great deal of trouble. I also requested prayer at the Church in Hoffman for her. Well, the dear Lord has certainly blessed her eyes. They are much better. I'm looking to God to completely heal her. She is 7 years old, but her trust is in God to heal her eyes.

The latter part of September I had the toothache so badly until I couldn't get very much rest. The pain was so great. I went to some of the saints for prayer and got some help at different times from the dear Lord. God wanted to teach me through this affliction. I began to search my life and ask God to help me to know how my life was before God. I didn't know of anything I had done that wasn't pleasing in the sight of the Lord. The dear Lord showed me that my life was clear before God, only I needed a deeper grace to do what God would have me to do. I desire your earnest prayers for my need and help from God. When the Lord gives me something to do or say, I want to be strong enough to do just what God leads me to do. Pray for me and my family. We need more of God's help.

Your sister in the Lord, —Clara Barnett.

## WHY "REVEREND"?

"Good morning, Reverend Brown."

"Good morning, Mrs. Smith; but why do you speak to me as though I were God?"

"I don't understand just what you mean, Reverend Brown."

"Why, Mrs. Smith, the Bible tells us that 'God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints and to be had in reverence of ALL them that are about Him' (Psa. 89:7). And again it says, 'Holy and Reverend is His Name' (Psa. 111:9.) But you have applied that title to me, thus attributing deity to man."

"But I didn't mean it that way at all. I only used the term 'Reverend' as a title of respect, and not to attribute deity to you."

"Then so much the worse; if you didn't mean it you were simply flattering me with God's title, and the Bible says, 'Let me not, I pray you, accept any man's person, neither let me give FLATTERING TITLES unto man. For I know not to give flattering titles; in so doing my Maker would soon take me

way.' (Job 32:21-22). And again, 'The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips.' (Psalms 12:3)."

"But should we not honor our ministers with a title of respect?"

"Yes, Mrs. Brown, it is all right to honor the true minister with the title which is due him; but NOT with that which belongs to God alone. You might call me 'pastor' or 'Brother', or if I were an evangelist, it would be proper to call me 'Evangelist Brown'. In fact, the title 'Brother' alone is sufficient to show respect to any true minister of God."

"Thank you, Pastor Brown, for enlightening me on this subject. I shall use these titles as you have suggested, reserving the title 'Reverend' for the Heavenly Father alone, as the Bible teaches."

Matt. 20:25-28, "Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you, but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

Psalms 29:2, "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name."

No place is it recorded in the Scripture that the Apostle Paul used the title "Reverend" for himself; neither did he instruct any of his companions in the Gospel to ordain Reverends in any of the churches, but to "ordain Elders". Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5. —Sel.

## The Dispensation of the Holy Ghost

Christ was a teacher of the gospel of a common salvation. He did not cater to the great and educated men, but he chose the common unlearned fishermen for his disciples and apostles. To this rule the apostle Paul was an exception. He was an educated Jew, "Brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers." He was a persecutor of the one, true "church of God" before his conversion. But after he was saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost, he was a defender of the true "Church of God." He said, "For I am the least of the apostles, . . . am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God." (I Cor. 15:9)

No conference of men gave Paul his position in the church. But the Lord Jesus said unto him, "I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister." (Acts 26:16) Therefore Paul asserted that he was "an apostle, not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ." (Gal. 1:1) Paul did not aspire to any vain title as Reverend, Rabbi or D.D., "for one is your master, even Christ." "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant." "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased: and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." (Matt. 23:5-13).

The Church of God was a perfectly organized institution before sects arose. Even its officers were called to their work and position by the Spirit of God. "The Holy Ghost hath made you overseers." They

did not enter the ministry as a profession, and seek training in a theological seminary in order to be fitted for the work. They were saved men, filled with the Holy Ghost, and under the anointing and inspiration of the Spirit of God. They preached the gospel and multitudes were converted. Men today with all their educational training do not compare with the apostolic Church of God. The saints of that era followed the instructions of Jesus. He commanded them: "But wait for the promise of the FATHER, which, saith he, ye have heard of me." "For John truly baptized with water: But ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:4, 5-8)

The teaching of the Holy Ghost is superior to all other learning that man may obtain. "But the comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, . . . he shall teach you all things." (John 14:26) He will guide you into all truth (John 16:13). No man is fully prepared to do the work of God without being endued by the Holy Ghost. The apostles being chosen from unlearned fishermen were wonderful examples of the power of the Holy Ghost. "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled: and took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." (Acts 4:13) The baptism of the Spirit was essential to their work. Following the day of Pentecost it made the participants able workers. It was their standing grace—the grace wherein we stand. (Rom. 5:2) It is the only experience that will complete man's moral preparation for heaven. "Follow peace with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14) "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see GOD." (Matt. 5:8) Also the apostle Paul teaches that by being sanctified, we are "meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work." (2 Tim. 2:21) Oh, how many teachers today are void of this sanctifying grace!

A lack of the baptism of the Holy Ghost is the cause of the world being filled with conflicting doctrines and beliefs. There is a need of the Holy Spirit to "teach" men and "guide them into all truth." Since the dispensation of the Holy Ghost began at Pentecost, GOD does not send men out to preach who are not "filled with the Holy Ghost." The world needs men who will "tarry until they are endued with power from on high."

The Holy Ghost is for all believers to the very ending of this glorious gospel age—until Jesus comes again. "Then Peter said unto them, repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of SINS, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our GOD shall call." Acts 2:38, 39. It is your privilege and duty to receive the Holy Spirit in this glorious dispensation of the Holy Ghost.

—Thomas J. Bowers.

## The Closed Door

I had an appointment to meet my nephew who was 65 miles away. I called the ticket office to see what time the train would leave. The agent said it would leave at 6:20 a.m.. When I arrived, there was a sign on the door, "Closed." The special agent inside let me in. There was a sign on the ticket office, "Closed." I asked him if he could sell me a ticket. He said, "No, the train will not be here until 7 a.m." So I had to wait until the ticket agent came to get my ticket. I said that I had gone on this train (a mail train) many times and always found the depot and office open, and the train on time.

Noah and his family entered the ark "as God had commanded him, and the Lord shut him in." Genesis 7:14-17. No doubt many people came to the ark wanting admittance after God had shut the door, but they found the door closed. Many people today are putting off entering God's fold and will some day stand without and knock at the door, saying, "Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are." Luke 13:24-26. Do come in while God's door of mercy is still open and Jesus is pleading for you to come.

—E. C. Johnson

## The Last Night

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

That was his last night. His sun went down that evening never to rise again. The moon that scattered her silver light across his spacious lawns and over his far-flung fields would never shine another beam before his death-closed eyes.

And the twinkling stars, that hung like glittering jewels above his gilded mansion, went into eclipse for him that night never to sparkle again. His well filled barns passed into the hands of others, but for him their doors would never open.

His stocks and bonds and bank accounts might go into receivership, but over it all he would have no more control. His wife and family and friends might weep, and groan and beat their breasts in sorrow, but his lost soul had gone beyond the realm of earthly comfort. An elaborate funeral, with costly equipage, abundance of flowers, and a multitude of sorrowful friends — but all to no avail.

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

Next, I speak of the last night of worldly amusement, frivolity, revelry and pleasure—"that night Belshazzar the King of the Chaldeans was slain." Belshazzar was undoubtedly a wise man. He came to the throne of the greatest kingdom on earth when he was about nineteen years old. He was the lord and master of the greatest city on the face of the earth.

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

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

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

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

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

"But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivest thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented." Luke 16:25.

—Selected by Frank Shimp

## ***You Tell Me I Am Getting Old***

By P. S. W.

You tell me I am getting old, I tell you that's not so!  
The "house" I live in is worn out, and that, of course,  
I know.

It's been in use a long, long while; it's weathered many  
a gale;

I'm really not surprised you think it's getting some-  
what frail.

The color changing on the roof, the windows getting  
dim,

The walls a bit transparent and looking rather thin,  
The foundation not so steady as once it used to be—  
My "house" is getting shaky, but my "house" isn't  
ME!

My few short years can't make me old, I feel I'm in  
my youth.

Eternity lies just ahead, a life of joy and truth.  
I'm going to live forever, there; life will go on—it's  
grand!

You tell me I am getting old? You just don't under-  
stand.

The dweller in my little "house" is young and bright  
and gay;

Just starting on a life to last throughout eternal day.  
You only see the outside, which is all that most folks  
see;

You tell me I am getting old? You've mixed my  
"house" with ME!

## ***The Devil's Magnifying Glasses***

The devil has some glasses that he will slip on  
you that will cause you to see things which are just  
not there. When you accept these magnifying glasses  
you are sure to get into trouble.

It is often said that "imagination is the biggest  
nation in the world." Surely this is true. That is the  
reason the Bible says, "Casting down imaginations  
and every high thing that exalteth itself against the  
knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every

thought to the obedience of Christ." 2 Cor. 10:5. From  
the beginning of time imaginations have caused much  
trouble to mankind. Eve began to look at the for-  
bidden fruit and her imagination began to work. She  
soon was eating that fruit. To have been an over-  
comer she should not have looked at it or thought  
about it. When God gives a command we should not  
consider doing anything else but obeying it.

When the Israelites saw the Egyptians marching  
after them as they stood on the bank of the Red Sea,  
their imaginations began to work. They saw their  
dead bodies in graves. (Ex. 14:10-15) Moses said to  
them, "Fear ye not, Stand still and see the salvation  
of the Lord . . . The Lord shall fight for you, and ye  
shall hold your peace."

Imaginations will hinder your faith for healing  
if allowed to run on and on. You might even be  
watching your funeral. Take off the devil's magni-  
fying glasses. Doubts and fears that grip you after  
a season of imaginations will vanish. Do as the  
Bible says, "Cast them down." They exalt themselves  
against our knowledge of the great healing power of  
God. We do have a healer in Zion. Jesus bore those  
stripes for our healing. Plunge into the healing  
stream today and be healed. Believe and receive.  
Have faith in God. Look at His many promises. Say  
in your heart that this means me. Think of the many  
he healed while here on the earth. Remember, "Jesus  
Christ is the same yesterday, and today and forever."  
He is healing today and he wants to heal you.

If someone unconsciously slights you a little the  
devil is right there to slip on those magnifying glasses.  
Your imaginations begin to work. Now what do they  
have against me? Something will come to your mind  
that had gone unnoticed in the past and you begin to  
wonder if they misunderstood you and that is the  
reason they slighted you. Maybe the next day you  
hear of them visiting someone and your imaginations  
cause you to hear them telling that person all about  
the incident. Later you see that person who was  
visited. You feel in a strain and on and on it goes.  
You get into a tangle that is hard to get out of. Oh  
dear ones, obey the Bible. Never let imaginations  
lead you on. Cast them down. Excuse others.  
Always keep that feeling that others are interested  
in you. We are all human. There are times when a  
person has important things on his mind and will  
unconsciously slight someone. Do remember the devil  
would like to cause trouble and will accuse others to  
you. The Bible says he accuses us before God day  
and night, so why wouldn't he accuse others to you.  
(Rev. 12:10) Be wise to his tricks. Don't let him  
slip his glasses on you. He is a conquered foe through  
Christ. Use the power God has given you over the  
devil and bring your thoughts under subjection to  
God. Resist the thoughts the devil presents. Think  
on the greatness of God and His power to take care  
of all things that touch your life. Look at the bare  
facts calmly surrounding the circumstances that  
arise in your life. Don't let your imaginations blow  
them up like a balloon, or use red paint on the unim-

portant, small details. Ask God to give you an understanding heart and attitude. Conditions won't get into such a tangle and you will be happier and others around you.

Imaginations have caused many to hate one another. They have broken the love between husband and wife. Children have been left in bewilderment because of broken homes. Friendships have been broken to never be restored. Many heartaches have been caused between brethren, and between sisters in the Lord. Many nights have been spent in tears, restlessness and sleeplessness because of imaginations. Obey the Bible, dear ones. Cast them down. Live on victory's side. Have faith in God and hold fast to that confidence that God is taking care of all things. Gird up the loins of your mind and do not let them run out on vain things. Resist the imaginary distortions of the devil and be at peace in your mind.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.

### IF WE KNEW EACH OTHER BETTER

If we knew each other better,  
We would praise where now we blame,  
We would know each bears his burden,  
Wears some hidden cross of shame,  
We would feel the heartaches bitter  
They so long alone have borne,  
If we knew each other better,  
We would praise instead of scorn.

If we knew each other better,  
You and I and all the rest,  
Seeing down beneath the surface  
To the sorrows all unguessed,  
We would quit our cold complaining  
And a hand of trust extend.  
If we knew each other better  
We would count each one a friend.

We can know each other better  
If we take the time to try,  
Little deeds of loving kindness  
Make a better by-and-by;  
Just a look of understanding  
Brings a touch of all mankind;  
We can know each other better,  
Yes—seeking, we shall find.

—Selected

### Return The Book

Have you a book borrowed from a friend? Then be prompt to return it when you have finished using it. How few people there are who are careful to return a book lent them! And yet each one expects what he lends to be returned.

Most people prize their books and enjoy sharing the contents of a good book with their friends, but they expect it to be thoughtfully cared for, and returned at the proper time. It is embarrassing to have to ask for the return of anything lent; yet the constant neglect, forgetfulness, or carelessness of those who borrow often makes this unpleasant task necessary.

It is very convenient to borrow sometimes, and we should show our appreciation of the lender's favor by promptly returning any borrowed article when we have finished it. Kindness and courtesy demand this of us. Let us cultivate this excellent habit.

### Sonny Inquires

"Say, Daddy! can all of these Churches be right? Wherein some are all colored, and in others all white?

Where the Mexican and the Japanese each worship alone?

Will God have them separate around His white throne?

"If we're too proud to meet them here,  
Do you think He'll permit us to gather up there?  
How many fair heavens has He gone to prepare?  
Can we each have a Heaven? and a Jesus, up there?

"Please tell me wherein God's Word can we find  
We may fix up a church to suit our own mind?  
If we are a part of His family on earth—  
Have really been born of a spiritual birth,

"When He comes for His Bride, just whom will He take?

What color will He like? or selection will make?  
Will God have a heaven for each race of its own?  
And those who are half-breeds, share half time in each zone?"

—Erle E. Forbes.

### PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray earnestly for the restoration of a broken home, and for my bodily healing. —A true Sister.

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### THE NEW COVENANT

December 4, 1960

Printed Portion .... Jere. 31:3b-7, 31-34; Rom. 8:1-2, 38-39.

3b. I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

4. Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.

5. Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria: the planters shall plant, and shall eat them as common things.

6. For there shall be a day, that the watchman upon

the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the Lord our God.

7. For thus saith the Lord; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; publish ye, and say, O Lord, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

31. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord:

33. But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and they shall be their God, and they shall be my people.

34. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Rom. 8:1. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

38. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Memory Verse: I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts. Jeremiah 31:33.

Practical Truth: Through the indwelling Spirit of God we may be spiritual victors in this world.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The first five verses in our lesson were written by Jeremiah to the Israelites, who were taken as captives to Babylon because they had sinned. He tells them that they shall return to their homeland. In the next four verses Jeremiah prophesies of the new covenant which God would make with his people. They broke the old covenant, which was the law given on Mount Sinai. (Exodus 19-20 chapter) God did wonderful things for them under the old covenant but under the new covenant he would write the laws of God in their hearts instead of on tables of stone. Under the old law covenant they strove to keep the laws, but could not. They had to come again every year and offer up sacrifices for their sins but in the Holy Spirit dispensation, the new covenant, each individual person could have a personal knowledge of Jesus and have the Holy Spirit abiding in them to teach them all things. In John 14:26 we read, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." It is wonderful to have the Holy Spirit leading, revealing truths to the soul, and guiding and checking God's sanctified people. If you do not have the Holy Spirit you need to seek God for that infilling.

There is freedom from condemnation to every soul who walks after the Spirit. As long as a person walks this way there is nothing that can separate him from the love of God.

## THE GREATEST PROMISE

December 11, 1960

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 9:2-7; Galatians 4:4-7.

2. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

3. Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

4. For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

5. For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Gal. 4:4. But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

5. To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

6. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

7. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Memory Verse: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6.

Practical Truth: We should let the Prince of Peace rule in our hearts and lives.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The unprinted first verse in Isaiah nine and the second verse were fulfilled in Matt. 4:22-25. Those people sat in darkness but when Jesus came he brought them light. "In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness." (John 1:4-5) Jesus preached to them, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matt. 4:17)

God kept his promise he made to the people through the prophecy of Isaiah. A child was born in due time. Jesus is the head of the Church. The government is on His shoulders. Man may think he is controlling and guiding but in God's church the Holy Spirit is the leader. We should not worry when the government is on the shoulders of Jesus. He will take care of everything. Truly he is Wonderful and a great Counsellor to every soul who will look to Him. He is a mighty God and the everlasting Father. Peace and comfort, to the "born again" child of God, is the Prince of peace.

Jesus was of the lineage of David. Through Jesus was the kingdom of David established forever. When we are saved we are born into the kingdom of God and become "heirs and joint-heirs with Christ." (Rom. 8:17)

The Greatest Promise was fulfilled and today God's children are enjoying this wonderful salvation and Prince of Peace in their souls.

## THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST

December 18, 1960

Printed Portion ..... Isa. 61:1-3, 10-11; Matt. 11:27-30.

1. The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2. To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

3. To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

10. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

11. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Matt. 11:27. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

28. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Memory Verse: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Matthew 11:29.

Practical Truth: Christ's compassion for men attracted them and resulted in the salvation of many, and it still does today.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

While Jesus was here on the earth he went about doing good. He preached good tidings to those who were in darkness and willing to listen. Many rejoiced because they lived to see the promised Messiah. The brokenhearted were comforted. He raised the dead. He gave Lazarus back to his sisters. He stopped the casket and raised the son of the widow to life. He delivered many who were bound by the devil. He gave liberty to the souls of those who believed in Him as their Saviour.

When we come to the Lord to be saved we have only ashes, mourning, and heaviness to bring. But praise the Lord he gives us the beauties of salvation, garments of praise and the oil of joy. When oil is poured on troubled waters it calms them. Thank God for the oil of joy that is poured into the troubled soul. We are trees that bear the fruit of righteousness and are the planting of the Lord.

His arms are stretched out to every soul who is burdened with sin. He is saying, "Come unto me . . . and I will give you rest." Oh, that blessed rest! Are you troubled and burdened with sin? Do come today and open your heart and let the Saviour come in. The devil is a hard taskmaster but Jesus is kind, gentle and filled with compassion for every soul.

## GOD'S GIFT OF LOVE

December 25, 1960

Printed Portion ..... Luke 2:8-20.

8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Memory Verse: Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift. 2 Corinthians 9:15.

Practical Truth: God's great gift to the world should prompt us to give ourselves to Him.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Rejoice and be glad today as you think of the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. This world of people was lost in sin. They did not have a way to redeem themselves. Sin had them bound and they could not help themselves but Jesus was willing to leave that beautiful home in heaven and come to this wicked, sinful world, live, die at the hands of cruel men that "whosoever will" might be saved. Praise God, he did not stay in the grave but arose; and today, he is our Saviour who is sitting on the right hand of God in glory, interceding for you and me.

Jesus was not born in a rich home but came as an humble child of the poor. The first message was not given to the rulers or the priests but to the humble shepherds as they watched their flocks. Today, to receive the Saviour people will have to humble their hearts. Only those who have a broken and contrite heart will be able to receive the Saviour into their heart. "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Oh, the love of God for man! It cannot be fathomed. As we think of it our hearts melt in praise and admiration for our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ. We owe our lives to Him. Yet, if we spend our life for Him we could not repay Him for His great love. Let us worship and adore the greatest gift of God to man, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.