

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

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Tribute to Christian Mothers

I thank you that you let me see
The world through your clear eyes,
That saw beyond the fog and clouds,
Beyond the changing skies,
And found an atmosphere of peace
To calm a frightened heart.
I thank you, Mother, that your faith
Had love's creative art.

I thank you for the little songs
That brightened every day,
Although your soul was sad and worn
With cares along the way.
You made the stones that bruised your feet
Seem smooth and small to me,
Yet, looking back, I marvel now
At your serenity.

I thank you most for being you—
So gentle yet so just.
You made me feel that life itself
Was God's appointed trust;
And when you left me with a smile,
Your courage was supreme.
You gave me life—you showed me death
As love's continued theme.

—E. Finn

A Praying Mother's Reward

From the lips of a young man the foregoing story of unexcelled beauty was related to me a few short years ago. It is the old, old story of prayer and its undying power. He told me of his godly mother whose little withered body lies beneath the red clay of a Georgia cemetery awaiting the call of the One who said, "I am the resurrection and the life." He related how that he and two brothers had to march off to the Second World War bidding goodbye to their little Christian mother. She promised, through parting tears, to pray for them every day. While they

fought on far-flung battlefields many thousands of miles from their little home in Georgia, their hearts were encouraged at mail call when a letter more precious than gold would reach them. She would tell them how that every day she made her way to a special place of prayer up in the woods across the road from home. She told how that each time she would take a stone like Jacob of old and place it there as she prayed for her boys to be spared because none of them were saved. The days past and the stone monument of prayer grew and grew.

Then one day her boys returned one by one from the land of living death—God had heard and remembered the prayers of that wonderful little mother of the hills.

But as is so often the case, the boys went on in sinful ways, forgetting how good the Lord had been to spare them from the very gates of hell. But that precious one had prayed also to save her boys at any cost.

One day mother didn't feel so good, then little by little her health faded and she went to be with Jesus. Her only regret was that her precious boys were yet unsaved, but she flung around them the cloak of one last prayer and was gone.

The funeral was over and with laden footsteps they returned to a home that would never be the same again. How lonely the vacant rocking chair!

The boys seemed to think of it now more than ever of how mother had written and told them of her place of prayer up in the woods. They had never been up there but now there seemed to be a magnetic drawing toward that holy place. They searched for it for awhile and at last they found it. Never has an earthly throne been so sacred as that spot. They could see where her knees had rested so many times while she talked to Him about her boys. And there before that monument of stone those three boys knelt in penitent prayer. Tears flowed down the young man's face as he told of how mother's God came into their hearts.

Perhaps even now, dear reader, the voice who long ago called your name in prayer has been silenced. But their tears and prayers for your soul are fade-

less treasures that live on. I wonder even now if the Lord is not seeking to answer that earnest prayer prayed in your behalf. Please open the door of your heart and let the Savior in! —M. R. V.

Are You Reconciled Unto God Through Christ?

In the 3rd chapter of John's gospel Jesus taught about being "born again;" the margin says, "from above." By this we understand we have a new life from heaven and therefore we are no more of this world even as the disciples of Christ were not of this world. This truth, recorded in John 17:16, reads thus, "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." In John 3:3 Jesus makes it plain that unless we are "born again" we cannot see the kingdom of God. In speaking of the difference between the fleshly birth and the spiritual birth, He says in the 6th verse, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh: and that which is born of the spirit is spirit." In the 8th verse He uses the wind as an illustration of the Spirit in the operation of the new birth. You cannot see the wind with the natural eye, but you can hear the sound thereof and you can see the effects of it by the swaying of the trees. Neither can you see the Spirit but when one is "born again" you can easily see the effects of the Spirit's operation, as it will cause one to cease being of the world. The Spirit will cause one to think upon heavenly things, and the old worldly, fleshly mind will cease to govern one; instead the Spirit will lead one.

In 1 Peter 1:18 we read, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot." In the 23rd verse we read, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." In the next two verses the apostle shows that those who are in the flesh—are not born again—have no value worth comparing with those born of the Spirit, and considers them as grass and the glory of man as the flower of the grass which is here and flourishes for a little while and then withers and dies, falls away and is consumed in the flames. Those who are born of the Word and Spirit abideth forever. How necessary it is for the children of God to cleave unto the Lord and sow to the Spirit and not to the flesh, for if you sow to the flesh you shall die, but if you sow to the Spirit you shall live. In Gal. 6:7 we read: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: [He knows how you sow] for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap, for he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption [eternal death]; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." The next two verses explain how to sow to the Spirit.

In the 5th chapter of John's gospel Jesus likens our being "born again" to a resurrection. The 25th

verse reads thus, "Verily, verily, I say unto to you, the hour is coming, and now is [present tense], when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." Unsaved people are referred to in the Bible as being dead people. In 1 Tim. 5:6 we read, "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." There are many spiritually dead people walking around in this world. They are sowing to the flesh, and according to the Scriptures, they will reap corruption or eternal death. They will be continually dying in a tormented condition and never able to cease to exist. How sad!

In Eph. 2:1-3 we read, "And you hath he quickened [resurrected or made alive] who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world [sowing to fleshly lusts], according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of the flesh and of the mind: and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." You cannot serve God and mammon at the same time: there is no neutral ground. You are either sowing to the flesh which will bring upon you eternal damnation, or you are sowing to the Spirit which will mean treasures in heaven and eternal life with God.

In 2 Cor. 5:14 we read, "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: and that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." In the 17th verse we read, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold all things are become new." 18th verse, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." The 20th verse reads, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." Note the next verse, "For he hath made him [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." Christ did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth, but He died as though He was a sinner as we were. He was put to death between two robbers as though He was a criminal. He died in our stead that we through Him might be reconciled unto God. He paid the penalty for the sin that rested upon us which was death and banishment from God. The Just suffered and died for the unjust. He was the mediator between God and man. Through His blood sacrifice our sins are forgiven, blotted out as a thick cloud and remembered against us no more. We have peace with God our Father through Christ our Lord. We become reconciled completely unto God—to all the teachings of His Word. We love Him and keep His words. We die to the world and all of its folly. By sowing to the Spirit we shall reap everlasting life in the paradise of God.

In Col. 3:1-4 we read, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above [not things of the world], where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth, for ye are dead [to the world] and your life is hid with Christ in God." (Or should be). If so: "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." The apostle proceeds to exhort us to mortify our members which are on the earth, and in the 6th verse he makes us understand that if we don't, the wrath of God will come upon us. Let us read the Word of God to find out how we individually stand before Him. If we are not fully reconciled unto the instructions of His Word, we should make a change for the better at once.

Listen to what the Apostle says in the 1 Cor. 6: 19, 20 and lay it to your heart to be obedient. Here is his sacred Word, "What! know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? [You belong to God]. For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." Your body belongs to God as well as your spirit, and you should so yield to God that the flesh will not sin by yielding to its lusts. Peter tells us to "abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." 1 Peter 2:11.

The Apostle James says in 1:25, "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty [the Word of God] and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." Brethren and sisters, let us be doers of the Word and be wholly reconciled unto God and the teaching of His word lest we be turned away from the truth and be turned unto fables. Professed Christianity today has departed from the truth. Oh, the need today is of consecrated service unto God and in behalf of precious souls who travel the broad way to destruction.

—Fred Pruitt

How to Become a Millionaire

"How would you like to be adopted by a millionaire, Dean?"

"Wouldn't mind it at all," he replied. "Do you know a millionaire who would be interested in adopting me?"

"Yes, I do. You know that God has been offering to adopt you into His family for a long time. And isn't He a millionaire, a million times over? Why, the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. (Psalms 24:1). And in heaven gold is such commonplace stuff that the streets are made of pure gold, symbolically speaking." (Rev. 21:21).

"In God's love letter, the Bible, you will find that it is His desire to adopt you into His family, that you and all us might receive the adoption of sons. (Gal. 4:5). After your adoption, a mansion is prepared over in heaven (John 14:2) and some day you will be taken to that beautiful home to be with Him forever."

"As it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit." (1 Cor. 2:9-10).

"There is one thing you need to realize, however. God does not want to adopt you because you are so nice and lovable. For in His sight, you are nothing but a sinner, and there is nothing about you as you are that is really commendable. You are not a bit like His own Son, the Lord Jesus, but God is ready to undertake the job of making you like Him if you really want to be."

"Your old human nature could never enjoy heaven, for God is absolutely holy, and if you were transported to heaven just as you are, you couldn't stand it. You would want to get out, and no one would stop you either. What you need is a new nature from God, a holy nature that will fit you for heaven so that you can enjoy it when you get there."

"You can never obtain this new nature by any good works of your own. (See Titus 3:5; Eph. 2: 8, 9). Rather, it is the gift of God—not of works. You are taken into His family, not only by adoption, but by a new birth—being born again . . . by the Word of God. (1 Peter 1:23). In order to be adopted, you must confess and repent of your sins, and by a living, active faith receive Christ as your personal Savior. When you meet the Bible conditions, you are regenerated by the power of God and thus born of the Spirit into His family (John 3:6). This will give you that new life that you need to enjoy heaven."

"How can you hesitate about an offer like this, when God offers you so much more than any earthly millionaire ever could? He proved His great love for you by suffering for your sins and dying in your place upon the cruel cross. Then turn to Him now with all your heart and let Him transform your life and make you His own dear child. It is the most profitable decision you can ever make, and it shouldn't be put off any longer. The offer may be withdrawn any time and the door of mercy closed forever."

—Sel. by A. Green

LOS ANGELES MEETING REPORT

Our Easter spring revival meeting in Los Angeles, Calif. began on March 26 and continued one week. The attendance and preaching was very good. Each service had rich anointing. Several were at the altar of prayer for spiritual help, and seemed to get their hearts' desire. Several of our California ministers, beside one out-of-state minister, were present to feed our souls and make us strong in this battle against ALL wrong. The pastor, Bro. Chandler, delivered a searching message on the last day of the meeting which was greatly enjoyed by all. The ordinances of the Lord's supper and feet washing were observed by 49 happy saints. As we partook of the sacred Lord's supper, it stirred our hearts to think back to the time of the crucifixion when our Lord and Master died on the cross for our sins, and not for ours only, but for ALL the world, yes, for "whosoever will." Your brother in Christ Jesus,

—E. M. Zinn

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

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This non-sectarian paper is edited and published each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting month, and we omit an issue that 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 sinful world and entire devotion to the service and 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
417 N. 13th, P. O. Box 210, Phone BUtler 2-3244

Editorials

By the help of God we want to set down some scriptures concerning the kingdom of God which is spoken of so many times in the Bible—our guide to heaven and to God.

In Genesis 49:10 is a reference to the kingdom of God which reads thus, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh [Christ] come; AND UNTO HIM SHALL THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE BE." Men and women, boys and girls who gather themselves unto the Lord by being born from above or who have been resurrected from a dead state of sin to life in God are the ones who compose the kingdom of God which is functioning in the world today.

In Isaiah 9:6, 7 a prophecy is made of Christ and His government which reads thus, "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. 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." In Luke 1:31 this prophecy is being fulfilled when the angel spoke unto Mary, saying, "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever [saved people are the house of Jacob]; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." We who are saved are spiritually reigning in this life with Christ our King, and the second death or eternal death will have no power over the redeemed of earth.

In Daniel 2:44 we read that "in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed." The next verse says, "Thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands." Christ was that Stone. He is often spoken of in different places in the Bible as a stone. He is said to be the stone which the builders rejected, and in another place He is referred to as the chief Cornerstone. Peter refers to Him as a living stone and His converts as lively stones which are built up a spiritual house. He could have used the word kingdom and it would mean the same thing, or the Church of God. Paul used it this way in 1st Tim. 3:15 when he wrote, "The house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

In many places in the Bible the Church of God is referred to or spoken of as the kingdom of God.

In Mark 9:1 we read, ". . . That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power." This prophecy was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost when God sent the Holy Ghost from heaven into the hearts of the 120 who were together in one accord and thereby occupied His Church which was the kingdom of God come with power. The disciples were commissioned to be witnesses for Him in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the earth.

In Hebrews 12:23 Paul speaks of God's children coming unto "the general assembly and church of the firstborn." In the 28th verse he spoke of us "receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved." In these scriptures the Church and the Kingdom is referred to as the same thing. In 1 Cor. 15:24 the Apostle Paul refers to the kingdom as the church and says in part, "Then cometh the end when he [Christ] shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father." We know that it was the church which He delivered up to God, for God had given Him to be the head of the church. (Eph. 5:23). So we see that the kingdom of God and the Church are used interchangeably in the Scriptures.

In Romans 14:17 we read, "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." The members of the Church of God have His righteousness, peace and joy in their souls. Jesus said, "Behold, the kingdom of God is within you." The Church of God is referred to by many different symbols. It is called Mount Zion, the city of God, His sanctuary, His tabernacle, and the kingdom of God. In the 21st chapter of Rev., 9th verse, it is referred to as the bride, the Lamb's wife. In the next verse the Revelator calls it "that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." In the 2nd verse of the 21st chapter of Rev. we read the same thing, "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." This could refer to nothing else but the Church of God, the kingdom of God, which came down from heaven into the hearts of the justified Christians who were together in one accord in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. It is recorded that it came suddenly from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind and it filled all the house where they were sitting, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. Jesus occupied His temple or church in the form of the Holy Ghost. In Malachi 3:1 the prophet speaks of it in this manner, "Behold, I will send my messenger [John the Baptist], and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord [Jesus, the Messiah] whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts."

The prophet Isaiah, in prophesying of the beauty of the Church, speaks of it in language similar to what is written in the last chapters of Revelation. Let us read what he says, "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O

Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come unto thee the uncircumcised and the unclean." Isa. 52:1. Please read about this great and beautiful Church in the 48th Psalm. It seems to me that some are too far-sighted to be able to see the Church in its glorious beauty functioning in the world today. Therefore, they imagine the magnificence of its beauty is only over in heaven.

In the 21st chapter of Revelation we learn in symbolic language how beautiful the Church is in the sight of God. He spoke of the Church in the 9th and 10th verses, calling it the bride, the Lamb's wife, the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. In spiritual language it could be said that all who are born from above have come from God out of heaven and are not of this world. The record further states that the Church has the glory of God, and "her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal." That would signify that those who are cleansed in the blood of the Lamb are clean and clear as crystal. There is no spot in her, as Paul writes in Eph. 5:27. She is a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing. It has a wall great and high. Isaiah, in prophesying of this strong city, says in Isaiah 26:1, "We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks." The Revelator goes on to describe this beautiful city which is a symbolical picture of the beautiful Church of God functioning in the world today. In the 14th verse is recorded that the city has twelve foundations bearing the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The apostles are the foundation stones in the Church with Christ as the chief Cornerstone, as we read in Eph. 2:20. In Rev. 21:24 we read that "the nations of them that are saved shall walk in the light of it." There will be no divided state of nations in our future abode. There it will be just one nation, and that will be an holy nation of people in a glorified state. All those who enter the true Church of God must be washed in the blood of the Lamb and have their names written in the Lamb's book of life.

In the 22nd chapter the Revelator shows where the life of the Church comes from, and calls it "a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal." (It is a cleansing flow). It proceeds out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. The writer states how wonderful the Church is and the many blessings to which the inhabitants of this holy city are entitled. Those with salvation become a habitation of God through the Spirit (Eph. 2:21, 22).

In Rev. 22:17 a gracious invitation is given to all people to come and get salvation. There would be no time for salvation if this was speaking of the Church in its glorified state. When Jesus leaves His mediatorial throne, the judgment is set and all salvation work is ended. He ceases to be a Savior, but is a Judge at that instant.

In the 7th verse of the 22nd chapter of Revelation we read, "Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book." This scripture positively proves that the scriptures

in these last few chapters were written to the people living before Jesus comes, before the judgment sets, and before the Church is ushered into its glorified state.

In 1 Cor. 15:24 we read, "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom [church] to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power." The 28th verse, "And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all." According to this scripture, when the judgment is over the Church and the Son himself will be subject unto the Father in heaven. The waters of salvation will flow no more. The bride and the Spirit will not say, come, any more. Those that thirst in hell cannot come. The Church of God which is washed in the blood of the Lamb will be, in a spiritual sense, merged into God the Father and He will "be all in all." Blessed thought!

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CARD OF THANKS

Mo.—To all the Dear Saints,—We send greetings of much love in the name of Jesus. We are encouraged in the Lord and have a deep determination to press on for Him. We want to send our sincere thanks and deep appreciation to all our dear brothers and sisters in the Lord for your prayers, all the many love offerings and to the ones who labored with your hands to help us, after our great loss by fire.

Surely we saw as never before how true it is that when one member suffers the whole body suffers with it.

Things looked dark to us when we lost our barn and the livestock, feed, tools and our own food, etc. that was stored in it but it was not hard from the very first for us to just submit it to the Lord. We felt as Job of old, "The Lord hath given and the Lord hath taken away, Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Words fail us to tell just what it meant to us to see how the saints showed their love and concern for us in sending offerings of food, money and other things and many visited us to encourage and pray with us. Some helped in building a new barn, besides the many letters of encouragement that we received.

We have tried to acknowledge each one personally but received some offerings that had no name or address so we take this means of thanking you dear ones that gave as unto the Lord. We ask the Lord's rich blessings on each and every one of you who helped in any way to ease our loss for "inasmuch as ye do it unto the least of these, ye do it unto me."

In Christian love, Bro. and Sis. Ben Goldsberry

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Obituaries

Sister Dima Bolinger was born in Madison County, Ark. on May 28, 1881, the daughter of Albert and Mary Jones, and the widow of Harvey Bolinger. She passed away at her home Jan. 11, 1961 after a short illness.

Sister Bolinger became a Christian at an early age and trusted the dear Lord many years for the healing of her body.

She leaves to mourn her passing one son, Claude Bolinger of Ucross, Wyo.; three grandsons whom she reared as her own children; three sisters, Mrs. Oliver Dotson of Huntsville, Ark., Mrs. H. S. Dotson, and Mrs. Steve Gird-

ner; nine grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Bro. Charles Smith and Vivan Rhodes conducted the funeral.
—Chesna Walton, Clovis, N. Mex.

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Charles Arthur Wallace was born in Raleigh, Tenn. May 7, 1875 and passed from this life April 5, 1961 at the age of 85 years, 10 months and 28 days.

His boyhood was spent around Bisco, Ark. where he met and married Annie Hicks in 1896. In 1909 he and his wife moved to Boley, Okla. where he lived until death.

He was saved into the Church of God in 1918 and remained faithful until his passing. He had a splendid spirit and served faithfully in any place where he was needed, supporting the work of God with his means.

In September, 1954 the Lord called his wife, Annie, to her reward. In 1956 he was married to Clara Vaughan.

He leaves a devoted wife, Clara, of the home; a son, Edwin, of Norfolk, Va.; one sister, Mrs. Gennie Gipson of Chicago, Ill.; one niece, Jettie Mae Jackson of Memphis, Tenn.; three nephews, six grandchildren, other relatives, friends and saints. We feel our loss was heaven's gain. Services were conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Bros. Phillips, Crawley and Barton.

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Della (Kriebel) Moerke was born in Reddick, Ill., May 18, 1894, and died March 12, 1961 at the age of 66 years, nine months and 24 days at Minneapolis, Minn.

When a girl, the family moved to Pittsville, Wis. In 1915 she was married to Edward Moerke. About 1925 the family moved to Minneapolis, Minn. Sister Moerke had been afflicted about 20 or 25 years and was confined to a wheel chair about ten years. She is greatly missed by the Church in Minneapolis.

Sis. Moerke is survived by two children: Mrs. (Irene) William Benson, Minneapolis, and Roger Moerke, St. Paul, Minn.; three sisters, Mrs. William Rasmussen, Tomah, Wis., Mrs. Earl Sisson, Minneapolis, Minn., Mrs. Russell Rasmussen, Santa Clara, Calif., and one brother, Edwin Kriebel, Minneapolis, Minn., and six grandchildren.

Officiating minister was Warren J. Wedan, and interment was in Lakewood Cemetery.

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William Oscar West, son of Isaac and Margaret McKowan West, was born Jan. 24, 1874 at Borden, Ind., and passed away December 18, 1960. He accepted Christ in early life and was an avid reader of the "Faith and Victory" paper.

On June 26, 1916 he was united in marriage with Clara Priest of Bryan, Ohio where he resided at the time of his passing. To this union were born six children, two of whom died in infancy. The two sons are Alvin and William, Jr., and the two daughters are Mrs. Isabelle Clappe and Minnie West of Bryan, Ohio. Bro. West was preceded in death by a sister, Mrs. Nora Lightner of Pomona, Calif., in May, 1958.

—The Family of Oscar West

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Laura May Conkle was born November 21, 1886 in Peru, Nebraska and departed this life March 11, 1961 in Pacoima, California at the age of 74 years, three months and 18 days. Sister Laura came to California 44 years ago and has lived in Ontario and vicinity for the past 40 years. She turned to the Lord and accepted Him into her life at an early age—just a young girl—and she loved the teachings of God's Word until her death. She attended services at the Pomona congregation of the Church of God and was very faithful in doing so. She was always ready to make sacrifices and to give her services, time,

strength and finances when she learned of those in need. She did it willingly. We feel we can say she was as the woman in the Bible named "Dorcas" who was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. We of the Pomona congregation will miss her so much as her place among us is now left vacant. But "she hath done what she could," and, thank the Lord, we feel our loss is heaven's gain.

She is survived by a foster sister, Mrs. Margaret Pixley of Cucamonga, Calif., a brother, Arthur E. Conkle of Paonia, Colorado and a number of nieces and nephews, besides many saints and friends.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon, March 14, in Ontario, Calif. by Ostis B. Wilson and A. E. Harmon. Sermon text: Mark 14:3-9. Interment was in Bellevue Cemetery in Ontario, California.



Terrus T. Holden was born in Pahattan, Kansas, December 10, 1882, and departed this life February 19, 1961 at San Diego, Calif. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Holden, and spent his childhood in Kansas and Oklahoma.

He sought the Lord and was saved in early manhood. After his call to the ministry, he was ordained in 1911 as an elder in the Church of God.

He was married to Mrs. Anna May Holden who preceded him in death. After her passing he was united in matrimony to Miss Anna Bell Manuel with whom he was living at the time of his demise.

He lived a devoted Christian life, preaching the gospel, praying for the sick and ministering to the needy as long as he was able. One of his favorite scriptures was, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth."

He leaves to mourn their loss a devoted wife, a step-daughter, Mrs. Lillie Morgan; two sisters, Miss Emma Holden and Mrs. Martha Shaw; a host of relatives, friends and saints who loved him and will miss him greatly.

Funeral services were conducted at San Diego, Calif. by Bros. I. C. Chandler, Ostis Wilson, Calvin Hobbs, and others.

Card of Thanks

We thank all the dear saints and friends for their prayers, visits, words of comfort, cards, flowers, telegrams and offerings during the illness of our loved one. Sister Emma Holden and Sister Martha Shaw join me in sending thanks to each and every one.

In Christian love, Anna Bell Holden



Arline (King) Johnson was born in Houston, Texas, October 3, 1901, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry King who preceded her in death. She departed this life December 28, 1960 at San Diego, Calif. where she was a member of the Church of God for over 30 years.

She was united in marriage with Bro. Samuel I. Johnson in 1932, and he preceded her in death in June, 1953. Her motto was, "Tell me anything if it will help my soul." She lived a faithful life to God.

She leaves to mourn their loss a son, Samuel E. Johnson; a sister, many other relatives, friends and saints.

Funeral services were conducted in Los Angeles by Bros. L. E. Gaines, I. C. Chandler, Z. E. Francisco, and others.



David Wallace Bradford was born December 16, 1899 at Blackburn, Okla. and passed away at Vinita, Okla. on March 26, 1961 at the age of 61 years, three months and ten days.

He was the son of Charles M. and Daisy Ann Bradford, both of whom preceded him in death. He had 11 brothers and sisters, eight having preceded him in death. He leaves as survivors his wife, Mae Bradford, of Lindsay, Okla.; two step-daughters, Mrs. Viola Welchel of Pontotoc, Okla. and Mrs. Helen Amos of Bartlesville, Okla.; two step-sons, Roy Peppers of Lindsay, Okla. and Billy Peppers of Oklahoma City; 11 step grandchildren and eight step great grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. Hettie Barton of Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. Jaunita Mote of Salinas, Calif., and Mrs. Vera Ann Barnes of Edwardsville, Illinois, beside nieces and nephews.

Mr. Bradford was laid to rest in Memorial Park Cemetery at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Services were conducted by Bro. Richard Madden.



Clinton Carrick, son of Almond and Louise Carrick, was born at Scotland Community near Joplin, Mo. on Jan. 12, 1892 and departed this life March 24, 1961 at Webb City, Mo.

He was united in marriage with Ersa Caudel of Webb City, Mo. on April 10, 1918. To this union were born two children, Charles Carrick of Tulsa, Okla. and Mary Louise Casto of Lyons, Kansas. He is survived by his wife, two children, ten grandchildren, other relatives, many friends and saints.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Charles R. Smith at Webb City, Mo.

I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers through these long months of suffering, and for the beautiful cards, flowers and the presence of all that were able to be with us from time to time. I believe these prayers helped to bring our loved one to God, as he gave his heart to Him at the beginning of this illness and left the testimony that he was ready. God bless all of you.

—Sister Ersa Carrick



Sister Cora Williams was born Jan. 23, 1878 and passed to her reward March 25, 1961. She was united in marriage with W. D. Williams on Jan. 23, 1895. To this union one son, Ira, was born. He preceded her in death in 1944.

She had accepted the Lord as her Savior and Friend at an early age in life. It seemed He grew dearer and nearer to her in the last few years. She rejoiced to find the saints again about five years ago. They visited her and held some services in the home for their benefit. As she was afflicted and her husband was blind, they seldom went out. She lived a full life and met with many trials of affliction and sorrow, but remained true to the Lord until death. Her favorite passage of scripture was Psalms 23 and at her request it was read at her funeral service.

We, the saints at Senath, Mo. and Bro. and Sister Cade of Paragould, Ark., feel the Lord granted the desire of her heart by taking her on quickly, trusting in Him. The memories of her life and the last message Bro. Smith preached for her will no doubt be the means of others seeking the Lord.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, W. D. Williams of Paragould, Ark.; six grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, five great great grandchildren; one sister, one brother, and the saints who knew her.

Funeral service and burial was in Paragould, Ark. Services were conducted by Bro. Charles R. Smith.



Card of Appreciation

The Warren family takes this medium to express our deepest appreciation to all the saints and friends everywhere for their prayers, kindness, cards of sympathy,

letters, visits, floral offerings and financial support in our recent bereavement in the passing of our mother, Pastena B. Warren. My father, Woodrow Warren, sisters and brothers, join in expressing this appreciation to everyone.

—The Warren Family

SAPULPA, OKLA. ALL-DAY MEETING

All-day services will be held at the Sapulpa Road Chapel, Sapulpa, Okla., on Sunday, April 30th, with a basket lunch at noon. Come and enjoy the fellowship of the Spirit of God with us.

—Richard Madden, Pastor
Rt. 13, Box 303, Tulsa, Okla.

ALL-DAY MEETING NEAR MANSFIELD, MO.

Lord willing, there will be an all-day meeting in the little chapel on Bro. and Sister Ed. Tombleson's place, located near the Pea Ridge community, thirteen miles northwest of Mansfield, Mo., on Sunday, May 14th. A basket dinner will be served at noon. We welcome all far and near to come and worship the Lord with us.

—E. C. Tombleson, Murphy Allen and Darius Gibson.

ALL-DAY SERVICES NEAR DECATUR, ILL.

Our all-day meeting will be held at Spitler Woods State Park Pavilion, five miles southeast of Decatur, Ill., off Route 121, on the third Sunday of May, the 21st. You are cordially invited to meet with us in the worship of the Lord. Anyone desiring further information, write or call us.

—Herbert Probst, R. R. 3, Phone 877-3350,
Decatur, Illinois

GUTHRIE, OKLA. MEETING REPORT

The Lord blessed the congregation here at Guthrie, Okla. with a precious Easter meeting which started on the Sunday before Easter, March 26th. Bro. Lewis Williams of Wichita, Kansas was with us the entire week every night, and the Lord blessed in making His Word real instructive and profitable to our souls. Then on Easter morning Bro. Archie Souders brought a real good message on the second resurrection and our hope of heaven. In the afternoon service the saints observed the ordinances of the Lord's House, and a goodly number of saints rejoiced in obeying these precious commands. Some had never before had this precious privilege.

Then, beginning on Sunday, April 16, Bro. Sam E. Abbott and Bro. Curtis Williams of Dayton, Ohio were with us in a few nights' services, and the Lord blessed His Word again to our hearts. A number found spiritual help at the altar of prayer.

Oh, it is so good to love and obey such a wonderful heavenly Father and to revel in the Savior's gracious gifts of salvation for soul and body. Praise His holy name! We send a greeting of holy love and God bless you to every blood-washed saint.

NOTICE TO CALIFORNIA SAINTS

There is a need for a fund each month to pay someone who is burdened to care for the California State camp grounds at Pacoima. We feel that Bro. and Sister Ostis Wilson are too busy in ministerial work for the Lord to take this added responsibility. We trust that each congregation will share this burden. You can send your offering each month to Bro. Ostis B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif.

—Ira Stover

PROGRESS OF SAINTS' HOME

We have been doing quite a lot of work on the house that is on the 40-acre tract which we have purchased for the Saints' Home, yet there is much more to be done. We are well pleased with it, and it seems most of those who have seen it are favorably impressed. We still expect the Lord to see this project through to a finished product.

One Brother, who is a carpenter, plumber and electrician, has offered to donate his full time to remodel this house and add the needed rooms for those who will be coming to live in the Home. Anyone who feels burdened to help with the labor or finance, write to the undersigned. Most of all, we covet your prayers that God will continue to bless and guide in this work.

—Charles R. Smith, P. O. Box 1853, Shawnee, Okla.

Testimonies

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and workers for the Lord, —I feel so thankful to the dear Lord for what he has done for us all especially for what he has done for Shirley, my granddaughter. It was just marvellous how God answered prayer and things changed to normal instead of caesarian operation. The doctor came out to the hallway and told Gladys, my daughter, that Shirley had done all she could. There was nothing else to do. Of course that meant caesarian operation. Gladys rushed to a phone and began to get in touch with the saints.

I called my daughter, Lucille Allen and told her how sick Shirley was. We began praying over the phone and her voice was so calm and sincere and fervent. Before she finished praying there was a sweet assurance that went through my entire being that gave me the witness that God had answered our prayers. In James 5:16 it says the effectual fervent prayer availeth much.

I thank the Lord for what he is to me, giving me health and strength. My health is better than it has been for several years for which I do thank the Lord. I want to go to the camp meeting this year, the Lord willing. Be agreed with me that the Lord will provide some good way that we will be able to go.

Your sister,

Annie McKenney

Tex.—Greetings to every one,—I have been comparing the Spirit of God in the soul to yeast or leavening in our bread. The yeast will not work in a cold place. But you put it where it is warm, it begins to work and grow and soon the vessel is full and running over. So it is with the Spirit of the Lord. You try to shut it up in a cold stony heart it dies. It can't expand. But if you get a little fire in there, the heart is warm, the Spirit begins to grow and these clay bodies overflow. Truly my cup is running over this morning. There is fire in my soul, Praise the Lord!

I was once bound with affliction's chains, full of gloom and discouragement, but I'm persuaded God has better things for us. We have to fight affliction and we have to fight sin. The Lord has done so much for me, when he saved my soul from sin and condemnation. He gave his life for me, should I not give him mine? I love to go from door to door telling sinners about Jesus and him crucified. The world is seeking after worldly pleasures and finding none, because it is the soul crying out for spiritual food which cannot be fed with worldly pleasures. They are hungry for God and know not what they are seeking. If our gospel is hid, it is hid to them that are lost. It is up to you and me to

spread this gospel. We are not all called to preach, but we can be a light.

The Lord said he would beautify the meek with salvation. The inner man is adorned in humility, purity and holiness. So should our outward adorning be with a smile, modesty, simplicity and neatness in dress. Surely these things represent a satisfied soul which should attract sinners. If you feel discouraged, ask the Lord for more fire in your soul. There is work for every one. No one need be idle. The brighter our light shines, the more will see that light and be drawn into the church.

"Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." 2 Tim. 2:19. "Oh! that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men." Psa. 107:8. "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for evermore." Psa. 23:6.

Edith Wall

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Ohio—Dear Brother Pruitt,—Greetings in the matchless, precious name of Jesus. I have been wanting to write a bit of the goodness of God and to tell of the realities of God through Jesus Christ. I want self so crucified that she speaks only the humble truth. I am minus two and one half months of being 91 milestones. I want to speak of God's watchful care in over 60 years. I can at least say, "I know that my redeemer liveth." Praise his name! The Holy Spirit convicted me of sin and let me see I was lost and led me to repentance, confession, restitution, baptism, feet washing and communion. I was willing to do anything, if the Lord would save me which He did. He saved me from all pride, jewelry, worldly pleasures and showed me the Church although I was nearly four years finding a people like the Lord showed me. I obeyed the truth and I never have had any desire to go back to anything the Lord saved me from. I want to keep true and ready for his eternal coming. We need him in these perilous times.

I want to tell of a time when the Lord put out a fire for me. I stopped a neighbor who was going by in his car and told him that our large cattle barn was on fire. I called a daughter to phone the telephone operator and have the people of our community notified, as we had no fire company to call. A lot of people came. They said it was no use to try as they couldn't save the barn. I went to the house and prayed and came out. They said there's no use to try because we can't save it. I said, "Oh, continue to pour the water on the barn." I went into the house again and prayed. I came out again and the men were coming out saying, "We guess it's out now." There were about 1100 bushels of oats in a bin below and part of the summer hay besides the new thrashed oats. Thank the Lord for what he did for us.

We had a minister neighbor who told his congregation of a woman that had to stop fire by prayer. I had also read of E. E. Byrum and old Mother Smith telling how God put out fire and He did not fail me on that one.

I now wish to tell of the Lord's watch and care since October 9th, 1960. A spell of suffering struck me. I would not know what to call it, but the Lord knew. It did not last too long for He says it shall not be more than we are able to bear. On Nov. 2nd the same kind of an attack came upon me, only a bit worse. One of my daughters called a saint minister on the phone for prayer. The Lord, (praise his name) sent help and I was able to go about as usual. On Nov. 14th as I went upstairs to retire the Lord permitted a light stroke to attack me. I called for help as I had to hold to something. I thought my limbs were going in all directions.

Just how long I could not talk I do not know, but it was not too long. I could not make the steps to get my meals for about two weeks. My daughter carried my meals to me until she could no longer. She was to have a serious operation. That was bad news because I was not able to be alone and no place to go. I prayed, of course, and the Lord had a rest home opened in a nice farm home that I did not know of. It was just empty in time for me. They were very kind and good to me but I would have rather been at home. I was there for the month of January and the dear Lord made me able to come home.

The Lord saw fit to take to Himself my only and beloved brother. While writing this message the mail man brought a notice of a child of God having gone home. This made me sad. By his grace I mean to be true to Him. I am wanting to know him daily. No one in this eight and one half years that I have lived here in this town (preacher or laity) have called on me to know the welfare of my soul. I have done little enough but the Lord knows I have tried to scatter his Truth while I could get out a little. Recently I called a lady and when she answered I said, "Praise the Lord." Not very kindly she said, "Can't you say 'hello,' when you answer the phone." She is a church woman. Now I am seeking to send by mail what I can. Oh, the souls that are deceived in creeds of men, that say, we can not know that we are saved. We must suffer some things for Christ's sake but God's saints do love each other. I love all the Truth I read in Faith and Victory. I do not know how long I have read it and my soul never has found it too strait, but cries, "Oh, for a closer walk, Lord, with thee." I send love sweet and pure to all God's children. I ask an interest in your prayers that I be holy and walk in the fear of God. To that end I pray for all, even so come Lord Jesus.

Sister Oesch.

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Mo.—Dear Saints everywhere,—Greetings of love in Jesus sweet name. I'm so thankful this morning to be serving a living Saviour, who conquered death and the grave and is alive for evermore. He is ever caring for his dear people. He hears their prayers and is able to answer them all.

I am so thankful for what the dear Lord has done for me these past few weeks. I took a real bad cough, would have long coughing spells. We would pray and get help. The Lord would come many times to my rescue and give relief so I could get sleep at nights, but I did want complete victory so badly as I was expecting my daughter to call me any time to take care of her. It was on Friday, I believe that I felt burdened to write to some of the saints. So I wrote different ones and the next day my cough was gone, praise the dear Lord! I also got a call to come and take care of my daughter and her new baby boy. I went at once as Bro. Gibson had preached that he didn't have any confidence in the flesh, so I thought, neither do I have. The Lord blessed me so wonderfully that I never had another attack of that cough. I do want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers. May the Lord bless each one.

I also thank each one for praying for my daughter as the dear Lord protected her from having to take any medicine and gave her grace to witness how the Lord could take care of her. He did too, as she gained back her strength fast. The Lord also healed me of arthritis. I took it in my finger and it began to spread up to my elbow. It hurt quite a bit but I just kept looking to Jesus to help me and he never failed me. It is all gone but my finger is a little weak. It's so sweet to trust in

Jesus, Just to take Him at his word. He has done so much for me. I couldn't take up so much space to tell it all.

He protected us from a bad accident on the way to Illinois. The bus had to swerve off on the gravel to keep from hitting a car that was over the center line. I was so thankful for His protection. Dear saints keep encouraged, we are living in perilous times. We need to live close to God where we can get our prayers through and where we can hear his still small voice. Pray for me that I keep faithful. The desire of my heart is to do the Lord's will in all things. Pray for my unsaved children. May God bless the dear saints is my prayer.

Your sister in the Lord, Mrs. Effie Miller.

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Okl.—Dear Saints,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am sending in my testimony to let you know that the Lord has healed me. Praise his name! I do thank all of the saints for their prayers. I love the Lord and his work and I mean to go all the way with him.

Your servant in Christ, Nancy Jones.

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Ill.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Pruitt and the dear ones in the Lord,—I want to send in my testimony to the Faith and Victory. I am still saved. I have been so sick. I needed Jesus to have mercy and help me in my time of need. I had an awful bad cold, so it was precious Jesus that healed me. I am healed and I am well to serve the Lord. Jesus is so good and I am thankful. I am 91 years old. By faith my voice goes up to him praying for him to help me make heaven my home.

Sis. Marthe Knox.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Praise God for my eighty-third birthday. I thank every one who remembered me with cards, letters and gifts. I wish I could meet each one but think what it will be when we meet in Glory. Our home saints and Sister Ruth Murphey came in the evening and brought cards, flowers, refreshments and a nice gift. The Lord blessed us with prayer service and Sister Ruth spent the night with me. It all meant so much to me, I shed tears of joy. May the rich blessings of God rest upon each one of you continually.

Jesus has been so good to me,
His blessed face I soon shall see.
As long as I live my prayer shall be,
Bind me closer Lord to thee.

Your sister in Christ, Minnie Noakes.

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

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Co-Workers,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I have been healed of different afflictions but seems like I can't get the victory over this affliction I have now. When I was first saved the church where I lived all trusted God for healing. The minister died trusting God and we got a new minister who did not trust God. It seemed like they kept getting farther away from the teaching of the Word but that was the only church of God I ever heard of. I knew there was only one so I went along with them although I could see things that I didn't think was right.

I never knew there was another church of God until I got hold of the Faith and Victory paper, then I knew that was the right way. I left the other church and had to get saved. I didn't realize I had slipped so far but I thank God I found the saints before it was too late. Pray that I will always stay in the will of God, because I want to make heaven my home.

Pray for my children. I have two sons. They need God. They have small children. I also have five sisters that don't see this truth. Pray for them.

Pray that the Lord will heal me of this affliction which I've had for about six years. I do want to be able to work for the Lord.

A sister in Christ,

Beryl Young.

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Kans.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Here are a few thoughts on Luke 12:35. "Let your loins be girded about and your lights be burning."

Let the middle of the spiritual being be surrounded and fed by an abundance of truth. When the truth is all about and through each one's spiritual being, we will be powerful in the hands of God. By having truth all about the spiritual being there will be a beautiful, strong light to shine out to all those around. Everyone should keep their spiritual loins girded about so that they will be able to glorify God and be happy in the Lord.

God cannot use people that will not keep their loins girded about them and down to business. I want to keep my soul girded about with truth and believe that all Christians should seek for their girding about. With our mind and spiritual being girded about with truth and not lightness, our lights will be burning to all those about us. Therefore, we will surely be ready when the Lord comes to receive us.

Yours in Christ,

Bro. Adriel Bowman.

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Ohio—Greetings of love to the dear Saints scattered abroad,—I must write my testimony this morning, and try by God's help to tell souls everywhere that the God of heaven and earth has never changed, but He remaineth forever the same, praise His dear name! I just read a poem that really encouraged my heart. I'll pass it on to you:

When Thou Passest Through the Waters

Do you feel your heart discouraged
As you pass along the way?
Does there seem to be more darkness
Than there is of sunny day?
It is hard to learn the lesson
As we pass beneath the rod:
That the sunshine and the shadow
Serve alike the will of God.
But to me there comes a promise
Like the promise of the bow:
That however deep the waters,
They shall never overflow.

When the flesh is worn and weary,
And the spirit is depressed,
When temptation comes upon you
Like a storm on ocean's breast;
There's a haven ever ready
For the tempest-driven bird,
There is shelter for the tempted
In the promise of the Word;
For the standard of the Spirit
Shall be raised against the foe;
And however deep the waters,
They shall never overflow.

When sorrow comes upon you
That no other soul can share,
And the burden seems too heavy
For this human heart to bear,
There is One whose grace can comfort
If you'll give him an abode,

There's a burden bearer ready
 If you'll trust Him with your load;
 For the precious promise reaches
 To the depth of human woe,
 That however deep the waters,
 They shall never over overflow.

When the sands of life are ebbing
 And I near death's dark shore,
 When I see the billows rising,
 And I hear the waters roar,
 I'll reach out my hands to Jesus,
 In his bosom I will hide;
 It will only be a moment,
 Till I reach the other side.
 It is then the fullest meaning
 Of the promise I shall know:
 When thou passest through the waters
 They shall never overflow."

Dear ones, I am so glad today I ever learned to trust my Saviour for both soul and body. Truly I can say I have found Psalm 46:1 to be real to my soul. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. I want to say He has again raised me up from a bed of suffering. I became very sick around the 19th of Jan. when I had to keep my bed. The suffering was almost unbearable at times. Oh, how I did appreciate the dear saints and the burden they carried for me, and the many prayers that went up in my behalf. The way each one ministered to my needs was so very much appreciated. My trouble seemed to be my heart. I had to be propped up in bed almost upright in order to breathe properly. On the 28 of January, which was Saturday evening, Bro. and Sister Williams brought Sister Mary Farlow from Richmond, Indiana to stay with me till I got able to be around. The Thursday night before she came Bro. and Sister McCoy came. I was suffering when they came, so they went straight to prayer. I got relief, but the Lord did not see best right then to raise me up. He did reveal His sweet presence to my soul in a very special way. I did not sleep all that night. The next morning my son Earl took that day off and came to stay with me. Then Sister Verna Samons came and Bro. Bill and Sister Dovie Abbott. Bro. McCoy came in the afternoon. Later that night Bro. Williams and Earl came back. My daughter came and my other children came during the day. Howard and Melvin and his wife and James and his wife came that night. The Lord heard the earnest prayers of the dear saints and I rested well all that night and all day Saturday. But Sunday morning I took worse again. Sister Farlow called the saints for prayer. That day I was pretty bad about all day. A number of saints came again. They anointed and prayed for me and sang a few songs. I felt impressed to get up, so they got me up and all pain was gone. Praise the Lord for His great mercy and love! I was helped to get ready and I went to service that night. Sister Mary stayed with me and was a real help and blessing to me, until the first of February on Wednesday night she went home after service.

The Lord continued to help me, but I tried to do some work and on the 7th of February I had to take my bed again. It was real discouraging, but dear ones, the Lord never makes a mistake. There are times when the Lord sees where He needs our attention so he gets us down where we can see really how dependent we are upon Him. I was down from Tuesday till Sunday, which was our day for all day service and I put forth a great effort to go. I went, but was so sick during the morning and afternoon service that my son took me home. Bro. Williams and

Bro. and Sister Lambert and Sister Bethel came, also Bro. Samons. I was put to bed and they went straight to prayer. I was anointed again and by the time he said Amen, all pain was gone. They fixed me something to eat and I ate better than at any time since I had been sick. I went to service that night, and praise the Lord, I've been up and around ever since.

I want to express my heart-felt appreciation to the dear saints; not only to our own little congregation, but also to all the dear saints elsewhere who held on in my behalf. It would be too long to tell of the different ones that proved so faithful in my hours of great need; but I want to say that each one proved their love to me, who am the very least of all God's children.

Dear ones, I wonder how any one can go on in sin and refuse God's tender mercy. He is calling men and women and boys and girls everywhere to repent and turn from sin with all their hearts to serve the living God. He is the fountain of living water. He is the bread of eternal life. He has healing for the body. He is the door; He is the true vine; He is the true Shepherd; He is the Rock of Ages; He is our sure foundation. So dear ones, be sure that we build on the firm foundation that will stand the tests and trials and storms of all ages.

I have some very special requests I wish each one will agree in prayer with us for. Let us be true and faithful. Jesus is coming very soon. Let us be ready.

Any one wishing to write me, be free to do so. I would be glad to hear from each one. Your little sister in Jesus,
 Maudie Sharp, 29 McKinley St., Dayton 3, Ohio.

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

Okla.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name,—This afternoon finds me still saved and much encouraged to go the Bible way. I would like to tell of some of God's goodness unto us.

Last summer we had quite a bit of sickness in our home among the children. Our oldest son Charles was sicker than the other children. He had mumps, virus, and some kind of breaking out that itched. Before he was well of all this, some children in a yard across the street from him were playing with BB guns and one shot my boy just between the eyes. It seemed as if all this was more than I could bear, but after prayer was offered I felt much better. I wanted to have the bullet removed, but one dear sister in the Lord encouraged me to just trust God.. Another sister present had a little boy who had once been shot in the cheek with a BB gun, and she, too, encouraged me to trust the Lord. After that we just looked to the Lord by faith. Now he is doing fine and it never bothers him. All of this happened last summer.

Here of late we have been having other afflictions. God has been so good to us and we are just encouraged to continue to look away to Him.. During the few years I have been saved, I have never been forsaken of the Lord. Surely He has been a present help in time of need.

My baby had a cold and real high fever that greatly disturbed his sleep. I was awake with him for two or three nights. The Lord wonderfully touched his body and healed him; but I became very nervous because of the loss of sleep. I obeyed James 5:14:15 and the Lord began to wonderfully bless. Nerves still kept me awake the first night after I was anointed, but the next day my husband did not go to work and the pastor came over. My mother-in-law was staying with me. They all agreed in prayer. I slept about two hours and that night I slept all night. The next night it seemed I could not go to sleep. My husband got up and called different saints for prayer. My mother-in-law entered the agreement in prayer and by the time he returned I had begun to yawn, getting sleepy.

Thank the Lord! I slept the rest of the night, and have been getting normal sleep ever since. I was weak Sunday morning but pressed on and went to service and received a blessing in my soul. The saints rejoiced to see me out.

Sunday night I visited my grandmother and she wanted to get saved while I was there. I tried to get in touch with my mother-in-law but she was out working for the Lord. I felt so little myself so called my sister-in-law and told her to call other saints to be praying, too. She did. My grandmother was broken up and cried unto the Lord to save her soul from sin and to forgive her. We prayed with her until she believed God had helped her. The Lord had showed me before that I must hurry and visit her and my great-grandmother and tell them more about the Lord when I was well in body. They are both quite elderly. I think they are in their 70's and 90's. I believe God showed me they would both be saved if we worked in a hurry. Pray much for me that I'll keep faithful and in the Lord's will concerning me. We plan to visit them again tonight. Pray for them.

I have written this testimony to the glory of God, hoping it will be a blessing to others who are having trials of life. I feel little and unworthy. Bro. E. E. Byrum's book of "Divine Healing of Soul and Body" has been such a blessing to me. There are wonderful testimonies in it of God's miracles. He said in this book that if we have met the conditions of the Lord, we can always step out on God's promises. I have found this to be true. Pray much for me. Your Sister, Earnestine Jordan

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

Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie and Co-workers and saints everywhere,—Greetings of Holy love in our precious Saviour's name! The one who has redeemed us through His precious blood, that was spilt on the cross. The greatest price that was ever paid. Blessed be His Name!

We are thankful to be able to report victory in our souls and that we have a greater determination to be true to our dear Lord. We are endeavoring to follow the Lord and spend and be spent for Him in His service. We can see results, when souls are blessed through God's word. We do trust the efforts put forth will prove a blessing to precious souls.

Surely we felt it would be good to let you know the Lord has been very good to us through his great tender love, in all our life here, but we want to testify of His great mighty hand over us in recent days. Praise His Holy Name! Easter Sunday, on our way home from Myrtle, Mo. all-day services there were two car loads of us traveling together. My father and step-mother, my husband (Murphy) and little son, Terry, were in my father's car. My son, Wilbur, two daughters, Janice and Jeanie, and Sis. Viola Atnip and I were in our car following my father's car. It was raining, a 20 year old girl started to make a left hand turn off the road, just as we started to pass her. We hit her left fender with our right front fender. Our car left the highway over a steep embankment. The Lord's hand kept us on four wheels, (which we could have easily turned over three or four times). Sis. Viola and I were calling on the Lord to protect us, and He showed his mighty Hand right there. Praise His name! No one was hurt in either car. We can't thank God enough!

Last Tuesday night, April 11th I had an attack of gall bladder trouble. It started at nine o'clock. We called Murphy (he was in Okla.) about eleven and others of the saints. I grew worse, suffering terribly. It seemed I could not last much longer. Between 2 and 2:30 a.m. the pain went to my heart, I grew numb and cold, went into a hard chill. The children all went into earnest

prayer again. It seemed death had struck me. Things began to blur out. But thank the Lord, He reached down and moved the pain to my stomach but not so severe. Sis. Gibson came in a short while and had prayer for me. I soon eased and we went to bed about 3 a.m. and got rest. We give the Lord all thanks and also thank each of the saints who were praying for us. God bless each one of you. Pray that we stay in His will always. Let us ever be true, for we know not the hour He may call us.

In Christian Love,

Sis. Natalie Allen.

HENNESSEY, OKLA. CAMPMEETING NOTICE

The Hennessey, Okla. campmeeting, the Lord permitting, will be held from June 2nd until June 11th. All the saints please pray the Lord will be present to manifest His power in a mighty way—that brotherly love will be demonstrated in this meeting. Pray for the salvation of souls.

—Sister Willa J. Williams and Sis. Ada Davis, Pastor.

PARTIAL LIST OF CAMPMEETINGS IN 1961

More Information Will Be Published Later

Hennessey, Okla.—June 2-11.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 30-July 9.

Hammond, La. (General Southern) June 30-July 9.

Green Pastures, Okla.—July 7-16.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo., July 21-30.

Guthrie, Okla. (Oklahoma State) August 4-13

Myrtle, Mo. Campmeeting—August 18-27.

Pacoima, Calif. (California State)—August 25-Sept. 3rd.

Dover, Okla.—September 1-10.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mrs. Ernest Vail of New Jersey requests earnest prayer for a serious intestinal trouble, also for her sister with bladder trouble, and for her husband who has had two heart attacks.

Please pray earnestly for the physical healing of Edna Hammond.

VICTORY THROUGH CHRIST

I have felt impressed several times in the past few years to write my testimony as to how graciously God delivered me from the accusations of the devil and the clutches of sin he had entangled me into.

First I want to say it is a dangerous thing to believe that father of lies, the old devil. Remember God's Word declares he is an accuser of the brethren, and he surely is, and makes it look like surely enough that's so, then works on the body and mind in such a way that you feel it is surely that way. Second, I want to say I have no merits of my own. It was of God's mercy toward me, or I would have filled a Christless grave today. When I look o'er the past and see how lovingly Jesus was standing by ready to enfold me into his arms of love if I had only pleaded His mercy and thrown myself recklessly out on his great ocean of love he would have protected me from many heartaches and snares which the devil did drag me into. Praise be to our God who has given us the victory.

At an early age I sought the Lord at an altar of prayer in a cottage prayer meeting. I didn't know too much about what I was seeking for as I only saw my

brother kneel, cry and pray and since we were so close I wanted to do what he did. Someone instructed me how to seek the Lord for forgiveness for wrong doing and the Lord blessed my soul with a taste of his divine love, which was good for my spiritual appetite. "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." I got a good taste that I have never forgotten. The heavens shone brighter and every one was sweeter. I surely enjoyed that heavenly feeling. Time went on and soon the devil through a form of pride caused me to tell a lie and that heavenly peace took wings and fled away. I sought after it, but didn't attain it until I was in my early teens. When Bro. Pruitt held a meeting for us at Ringwood, Okla. that night conviction seized my soul as the congregation sang, "I am coming, Lord, to Thee, with a broken heart." I thought death was upon me if I didn't yield, and surely the wages of sin is death. I ran and knelt there and God so graciously took me in his loving arms and carried me for a time in his bosom. Oh, so sweet was our walk together. I was so fearful lest I would again lose that sweet peace, that the enemy of my soul began to take opportunity to accuse me and took advantage of my conscientious attitude toward God. I loved the Lord more than my life and little did I know then that I was grieving the heart of Him whom I loved by giving ear to what the Devil had to say to me. Soon the devil had me in what I shall call a harness and I wouldn't question others, but for myself I was in a strait. One early morning while I was preparing breakfast for the family the devil had me in such a fearful state of mind lest I might sin against the Holy Ghost that while some of the younger children were being rather unruly and trying, the devil rushed in and suggested that I sin against the Holy Ghost, then turned on me and accused me because the thought had presented itself. So grieved was I, that I left my cooking for a place of prayer and began to try to tell the Lord all about it. I can't begin to tell you how fast the enemy of my soul shot darts of accusations at me and it seemed useless to pray, nevertheless day in and day out I would try to pray but to no avail. I believed everything the devil told me. I read the Word, but each time I would the devil was there to condemn me. Soon the enemy said to me, "Why don't you join up with some of these other churches? They seem to be contented and they sure aren't having the trouble you are," but thanks be to our God for some of his word that came to my mind. "He that climbeth up some other way is a thief and a robber." There is but one true way. I fought for life but soon the devil convinced me that if I didn't quit reading the Bible I was going to lose my mind. I yielded to him and laid down the Word, it all seemed to condemn me anyway.

Often when I would be trying to find something outside (it seemed the house was filled with the devil's atmosphere), the devil would say "Now don't you wish you were like a cat or dog (or maybe I would see other living creatures), that when you die that would be the end." I almost came to the place that if that were possible I would have made it my choice, but knowing I had an eternal soul to live on brought me torment to think I was without hope. Some people don't believe in a God or a devil but let me declare unto you there are both and you too have a living soul that is going to be somewhere here after. God's Word declares there are eternal judgments declared against people who will lie, cheat, steal and kill. You may profess ever so high, but if any of these along with pride rule your being, though you are a church member and rank high among them, it will profit you nothing when your life is re-

quired of you. What is sin? Sin is a transgression of God's law. "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body." We cannot believe the devil and believe the Lord at the same time as they conflict each other. You must believe one or the other. Believing the Lord brings love, peace, joy, gladness, happiness and contentment that the world knows nothing about. Believing the devil brings hate, torment, unrest, dissatisfaction, unhappiness and sorrow along with grief. Choose you this day whom you will serve.

It was for about one year that I struggled to hold on to life, but when I yielded to quit reading the Word I laid down my spiritual food and soon my soul died a spiritual death. I soon ceased to pray and anything the devil made me believe to be all right. I soon followed him to direct disobedience to God's word, thinking maybe I had been taught wrong but it didn't bring me joy or satisfaction. I tried to stay neutral and not think about spiritual things because the devil always said, "No hope for you." He never would let me tell anyone just how it was as I would get so confused by his accusations and told me that if I did tell anyone of the saints, they sure enough would condemn me (which was a lie). Now, I had a little hope, then I would be without hope. Hope has a lot of comfort in it. Hope assures us it is better farther on. In this life there is hope but no hope in the great hereafter. If today things are not so well, we hope that tomorrow will be a brighter day. Even the world has the every day hope which helps them to a certain extent. But nothing compares to our hope of eternal rest in the eternal world with Him who died for all.

Days and years went by. Often the Lord's pleading voice would come to me, but I knew it not because I had accepted my destiny and refused to think upon it. How sad! I remember one day when my mind was called to think of it how God manifested his love to me and told me he loved me still, then one day I opened my Select Hymn song book. It had been several years since I had tried to sing a song because they were used by Satan to condemn me. My eyes fell on some songs that seemed to give me a longing once more. As I pondered I wondered when I came to the judgment, what will be my excuse? It seemed for the first time I was really awakened, and I remembered that God cannot lie and he had promised that his grace was sufficient. I utterly realized I had failed and again in my musing sought the Lord to bring me out. Soon after I was stricken with the flu and some complications set in. I knew unless the Lord had mercy upon me I was going to meet my eternal doom. No one knew of my earnest prayer and pleadings. I told the Lord I felt unworthy to ask him to save me and take me home, so I pled with him and promised him that I would serve him again if he would let me live. The Lord heard my cry and though it was a long time after that before I sought the Lord, yet I never forgot my promise and I began to bring meat for repentance. I was expecting the Lord to bring convictions as he had in former times but the Lord let me beg him for mercy. Some of the saints at the Guthrie campmeeting on Aug. 3, 1946, pled with me. Again the brother, who in our first Christian experience in early childhood, knelt and gave his heart anew to the Lord that afternoon. I made in my heart a decision that I would forsake any thing that might entice him away from his start that day. Although I still wondered if there was any hope for me, my heart yearned more than anything to be a child of God. The week before we had been to Monark campmeeting and I saw so few young people on the grounds who were saved, it grieved me even though I myself wasn't saved. I wondered, what has happened? There

were only three young girls trying to have young people's meeting. The week following while I was musing and troubled at so few in number at the meeting, I became so concerned until I questioned the Lord why? The Lord spoke to me and said, "If you children who have been reared in the truth refuse to heed the Spirit's call, then I will find some other young people." I was awakened to my need and sought the Lord earnestly to not withdraw his Spirit from me, but to call after my heart. I forsook shows, skating and foolishness and had earlier made a decision to give up a young man's company, which would have entangled me into double marriage. Even though many would have justified that marriage, yet the Lord condemned it, and I heeded His call.

On the evening of Aug. 3, 1946 before we left to go back to Tulsa, Okla. I bid Bro. and Sis. Stover good-bye and they began to express their feelings of burden for my soul. I told them and unfolded how that for eight years I had believed there was no hope for me, because of the accusations of the devil. They and several others persuaded me to go with them to an altar of prayer to pray the Lord to convict me. The Lord had been convicting for years and I knew it not. The Lord saw my longing, hungry and thirsty soul. He spoke peace to me. I was tired of sin and wandering in the bleak cold mountains of despair. The Lord let me know that I must have faith in God and believe his word. He has promised to as far as the east is from the west so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. I took God at his word, but soon I had that same old fight with the enemy of my soul. I remembered that the word said, without faith it is impossible to please him, so I threw away any thing that would hinder my faith in God. My fight was hard and long. I had all of that old life I wanted. I was tired and weary of the hard row he had made me hoe. Soon the Lord opened my blinded eyes and the songs which had been a stumbling block, became a real source of comfort and strength. I forsook anything that would bring me out of harmony with his people even though I didn't see the light on it. The scripture, "the willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land," was a help to me and the Lord would be faithful to bless me with his goodness and enrich my soul. I do not say that I was always victorious, did falter some but when I realized it I went to the Lord for help and acknowledged my failure and weakness.

I could go on and on telling of our precious walk with the Lord and the victories we have gained but seeing this is so lengthy I feel I must close for now.

Pray for us that we will always fight a good fight of faith.

Christian Love,

Inez (Eck) Beisly.

Peculiar Treasure

"I bare you on eagle's wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a PECULIAR TREASURE unto me above all people; for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation, . . ." (Exodus 19:4-6)

The dictionary says peculiar means, "distinctive, exclusive, singular, unusual in character, unconformity to the world, special etc." The definition for treasure is "something highly valued."

Now the Lord says, those who are "born-again" are Abraham's seed. "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (Gal. 3:29) This scripture applies to all the children of God today. Are you a peculiar treasure of the Lord's? There are conditions to be met, but what a blessing is brought to each child of God.

I have a water pitcher that was given to my mother and father for a wedding present. It is over fifty-five years old. I have other water pitchers but this one is a peculiar treasure of mine. I took it to California with me after my mother passed away. I took special care to wrap it well. Then when I returned to Oklahoma I brought it and was very careful that it didn't get broken. I didn't store it in the attic with some other things but put it on the top shelf of the cabinet. It is handled very carefully when it is dusted.

Dear ones, we, who are God's children and are careful to obey his commandments are God's special, distinctive, exclusive, peculiar treasure. He is ever mindful of us. He takes good care of us. His eye is over us and his ear is open to our cries. We are very dear to Him. We are very, very special. We are highly valued. He won't let anything come upon us more than we can bear but will make a way of our escape. (I Cor. 10:13) If hard things are coming your way, God knows you can bear it. So trust Him. Yield to Him. Say "amen" from the depths of your heart to His will in your life. Don't murmur nor complain but love and serve Him. Just know in your heart that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28) —Mrs. Marie Miles.

"BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!"

If you have a gray-haired mother in the old home far away,
Sit down and write the letter you put off day by day.
Don't wait until her tired steps reach heaven's royal gate,
Just show her that you think of her before it is too late.

If you've a tender message or a loving word to say,
Don't wait till you forget it, but whisper it today.
Who knows what bitter memories may haunt you if you wait?
So make the loved one happy before it is too late.

We live but in the present, the future is unknown;
To-morrow is a mystery, today is all our own.
The chance that future lends us may vanish while we wait,
So give life's richest treasures before it is too late.

The tender word unspoken, the letter never sent,
The long forgotten message, the wealth of love unspent;
For these some hearts are breaking, for these some loved ones wait.
O show them that you care for them before it is too late.
—Sel.

Little "no harm" things will gradually loosen the "anchor of the soul" and you will begin to drift before you know it.

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BIBLE STUDY

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May 7, 1961

OUT OF THE HEART

Printed PortionProverbs 3:1-8; 4:20-23; Luke 6:43-45

1. Prov. 3:1. My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:

2. For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

3. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:

4. So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

5. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

7. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

8. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Prov. 4:20. My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

21. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

22. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

23. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Luke 6:43. For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

44. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

45. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Memory Verse: Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Prov. 4:23.

Practical Truth: Keeping right the desires and intentions of the heart is of great importance to every person.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We have some wise utterances in our lesson—some that we should not forget. The heart is mentioned four times. The condition of our spiritual heart is a serious matter. A bad physical heart will bring physical death and likewise a bad spiritual heart will bring spiritual death. We cannot change our heart that is sinful, but Jesus died on the cross and through the atonement of His blood we can have our stony hearts changed into hearts of flesh which are tender.

Some might feel that they have a right to be and think within themselves as they please. Some feel their

heart is their own secret domain, but many times the stress and strain of life brings out what is in their heart. If bad or good is in the heart, it will come out. We need to guard our hearts when we have been changed and made anew by the blood of Jesus. Watch and give diligence to what we let linger in our minds, lest it gets into our hearts and defiles us. The devil might bring a thought but we must resist it and not let it get into our heart. Guard the heart and only have good thoughts and feelings toward all, or something might come out of the heart that will bring spiritual trouble to us and hurt others. We need to feed on the Word of God and not lean to our own understanding. We can grow in God and He will direct our paths.

May 14, 1961

DISCIPLINE IN THE HOME

Printed PortionProverbs 4:1-4; 10:1; 13:24; 20:11; 22:6; 29:17; Ephesians 6:1-4.

Prov. 4:1. Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

2. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

3. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

4. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

Prov. 10:1. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

Prov. 13:24. He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

Prov. 20:11. Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

Prov. 22:6. Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Prov. 29:17. Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

Eph. 6:1. Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2. Honour thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise,

3. That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Memory Verse: Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Prov. 22:6.

Practical Truth: Parents should lead their children into such an experience of disciplined living that the fruits of noble character will follow.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It has been said that a person should start training their children twenty years before they are born. In other words, parents should be a settled example of holiness and cleanliness in principle and living to be able to rightly correct their children. It is alarming how children have been let go. The statistics show that in August, 1959 more than 8,000 youths under 21 years of age had been arrested for felonies in New York City since Jan. 1, 1959. Where were the parents and how come they lost their authority over their children? Our lesson brings out that he that hateth his child spareth the rod. We often hear the remark that the child is too little to understand what

they are being corrected for, but parents are very quick to point out how smart they are in other ways. Notice the word in our lesson—train. The dictionary says train means to form by instruction; to discipline, teach, etc. When we train a climbing rose bush to a trellis we start early and force the branches to go the way we want them to. The Bible says that children who are trained right will be a delight to their parents. It won't do for parents to ignore many things that deserve discipline and then after a time mete it out with severity and then lapse into an indifferent attitude. Discipline should be given when needed and with proper instruction and prayer. Take God into your discipline and He will help you and your child.

May 21, 1961

THE IMPORTANCE OF DILIGENCE

Printed Portion....Prov. 6:6-9; 22:29; 24:30-34; Eccl. 3:22;

Prov. 6:6. Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

7. Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

8. Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

9. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

Prov. 22:29. Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Prov. 24:30. I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

31. And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

32. Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

33. Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

34. So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

Eccl. 3:22. Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?

Memory Verse: Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men. Col. 3:23.

Practical Truth: One's diligent application to honorable work is pleasing to God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The dictionary says that diligence means persevering attention. For example, a good mother is ever mindful of her baby. She might be talking or busy, but she is constantly aware or ever alert about every noise or move of her baby. Her interest and concern knows no bounds. God has given us this wonderful "pearl of great price." (Matt. 13:46). We need to be ever mindful of it—constantly aware of the fact that we do not belong to ourselves, and that we have been bought with a great price, the blood of Jesus. We need to be sensitive to the leadings of the Holy Spirit. We cannot become careless, unconcerned and slothful or the enemy will move in with the "cares of this life" and choke out the Word of God. We want to love to keep God's commandments and obey Him. The ant is not compelled to work by overseers, as the Israelites were in Egypt, yet it works—an apparent case of voluntary industry and is an example to us.

Just a little letting down on this line and that line, then we find that our grace is gone when we need it. Be sure to take a stand against carelessness, and with diligence serve the Lord and God will see us through to the end with victory and give us a home in heaven.

May 28, 1961

TRUE WISDOM

Printed Portion.....Prov. 7:1-5; 14:30; 16:32; 17:27; 20:1; 23:19-21.

Prov. 7:1. My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.

2. Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

3. Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart.

4. Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; and call understanding thy kinswoman:

5. That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words.

Pov. 14:30. A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.

Prov. 16:32. He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Prov. 17:27. He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

Prov. 20:1. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Prov. 23:19-21. Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.

20. Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:

21. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

Memory Verse: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Gal. 5:22-23.

Practical Truth: It is wise to follow the instructions of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Relatives mean a lot to us. The wise man knew that, and he likened wisdom and understanding to our relatives. We want to take them with us, regard them and shun the stranger that flattereth. The Word of God teaches us wisdom and gives us understanding. We should regard its precepts and keep the commandments. Sometimes close relatives will be plain and try to help us correct or change our ways, but sometimes others will talk about us. The Bible is plain and is sharper than a two-edged sword. We need to be wise and seek to understand God's law. They will bring happiness to the soul. We need that wisdom that comes from above (James 3:17).

Our lesson points out how we need to have the flesh brought under subjection to the will of God. He is able to deliver a person from a violent temper and hasty words. Both will cause trouble in life. Let God be the master of yourself. Paul said he brought his body under subjection to God.

Those who have become slaves to alcohol can be delivered by the power of God. There is no tapering off needed but a definite decision to let God deliver them. Alcohol attacks the nerve center and makes the brain numb and the whole nervous system. God is against it.

—Mrs. Marie Miles