

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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The River of Purity

There is a pure river that never runs dry,
When by it folks travel, their hearts never sigh.
It flows forever, its source is God's throne,
Its waters refresh all the souls of His own.

The clear sparkling stream of our God's holy grace
Will keep a soul spotless—give Satan no place.
Let us walk there together in God's holy love,
Until we are safe in His heaven above.

Ne'er listen to Satan, he'll lead you astray;
For he does not travel God's high holy way.
But he's always busy in by-ways of sin—
You'll stray from that river by list'ning to him.

Ne'er question God's wisdom, but trust in His pow'r.
It surely will keep you each day and each hour.
With His smile upon you, great peace you will know;
Yes, gently He'll lead you where still waters flow.

He'll give you freely everything you may need,
If unto His word you will fully give heed.
Obey His commandments, do not doubt His love;
E'er follow His river to Heaven above.

—Sister A. F. Baldridge

RIGHTEOUS BEFORE GOD

"And they were both righteous before God." See Luke 1:6. This is a beautiful thing to have said of them. Yet, after all, that is the test which every life must endure. It is not enough to have human commendation: how do we stand before God? How does our life appear before Him? The Pharisees were righteous before men, but if you would see how they stood in God's eye, read the 23rd chapter of Matthew. We are in reality just what we are before God—nothing less, nothing more. The question always to be asked is, "What will God think of this?"

We may fancy that no eye is looking when we are not in the presence of men, but God's eye is watching.

Seeking The Sheep

"For thus saith the Lord God, Behold I, even I, will both search my sheep and seek them out, . . . and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers."—Ezek. 34:11-13.

Dear ones, this is God speaking. He said that "I, even I, will . . . deliver them out of all places." Then he tells us when they were scattered—"In the cloudy and dark day." The "dark day" is a prophecy of the Dark Ages when the church of Rome kept the Word hid from the people. The "cloudy day" has reference to the time that followed the "dark day" in which the light on the Word was not fully clear, neither was it dark, but part light and part dark. We have a prophecy of this time in Zech. 14:6, 7, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear nor dark: but it shall be one day known to the Lord, not day nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light."

God's people were scattered during the "cloudy and dark day." The gathering home to Zion began when the "evening light" burst forth in all her glory more than eighty years ago, but sad to say, a falling away came which hindered the gathering of God's people. And today there are still souls in the pens of men. But glory to God, He is to "deliver them out of all places where they were scattered in the cloudy and dark day."

The true sheep hear His voice and follow Him. God must be speaking through His messengers calling His sheep back to Zion. But are we ready to carry the message of love to these souls in prison? God had to change the attitude of heart and the thoughts of the Apostle Peter toward the Gentiles before he was ready to carry the gospel to them. When seekers of truth come among us (the saints in light), what is our attitude toward them? If we have a burden for their precious souls, we will deal with them tenderly

with a heart full of love for them, even when they are doing things which are not expedient. But, dear ones, if God has not dealt with you as he did with Peter, you will be tempted to look upon them with disdain, thinking, "What are you doing here?" And if they happen to be from a movement that endorses manners and ways of worship which are foreign to you, you may even treat them coolly. This might discourage them and hinder God's work in their soul in leading them into the whole truth.

Dear ones, God is going to complete this great work of rescuing souls from sectism. Ezek. 39:27, 28 reads, "When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; then shall they know that I am the Lord their God which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there."

If God has not given you a burden for souls in darkness who are longing for the true light, may you seek Him until He fills your heart full of a burning love for every soul who is seeking to know the way in which he should walk.

—H. P. Huskey

Death, Judgment and Eternity

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."—Heb. 9:27. Death is something that has saddened every home or will in time. Death is the most convincing preacher ever known. Many would like to do away with it, but there's no power on earth that can stay its cold, icy approach when the appointment has come. He goes everywhere and makes his approach to the old, young, and middle aged, even reaching oftentimes for the tender little bud in the mother's arms. Her hands are left so empty, the cheering smiles have vanished, the joyful little coos are stilled and a lifeless little form is to be laid away in mother earth some where.

Yea, death has no respect of persons. He visits the rich and the poor alike. We may meet him wherever we go, in the work, house, or in the streets. Often he is found on the highways, and he calls for several at a time. Yea, death is abroad in the land. He goes on the railways, and on the buses. He is often found in the highest circles of society. He often stirs hearts that have never been stirred or touched before, and brings tears to those that never before wept. There is no conscience on earth but what at times is stirred and has not at some time quailed in his presence, nor is there any heart that has remained wholly unmoved by the force of his weighty appeal.

Death will finally come to all. He lurks about the door of every home, every business place, the theatre and the ballroom. He has a master key which gives him access to the most secluded places. He appears in the mansions and palaces. They do not daunt him by their greatness.

We have heard many things about him, but one of these days he will come our way. No matter where we are or what we may be doing, he will call upon us and we must go. He has often come near us with the sudden departure of that neighbor, the solemn parting of that loved wife or husband, and the loss of valued friends. Think of the vacant place that was left in your heart when that dear loved one was taken! Oh, my friends, this Preacher stills the voice and chills the warm form of that dear loved one. The eyes are closed to everything of earth and leaves a place vacant that none other of earth can fill, and no one will return after once they have been called to go.

Some day very soon, Death may have you for his text, and in your bereaved family circle and by your graveside he may be preaching to others. Oh my friends, turn to God! Folks may try to get rid of God's Word and try to disregard its warnings, but in spite of all this, monster Death will lay hold with its icy hands and chill the blood in your body, and the soul will take its flight to regions beyond. Your pleasures will have an end. Your occupations will be laid aside. Your honors and wealth will be worthless to you in that solemn hour.

May God stir your hearts to be ready for death's call, for he is approaching very near to each of us. Then after death the Judgment, where everyone must give an account to God. After the Judgment follows the separation of saints and sinners. The righteous will go to heaven (Matt. 25:34). The wicked will go to or be cast into the lake of fire (Matt. 25:46 and Rev. 20:14).

Oh dear reader, you can escape that awful place by repenting and turning from your sins.

—Lottie (Joiner) Porter

Are You Prospering?

Are you prospering in your body? How is your health? Are you seeing to it that your body is warm, comfortable and having the right kind of food? Do you have a balanced diet? I am sure you are careful to see that you eat regularly and that the body is warm and well cared for. That is good and God wants us to take care of this body, which is the "temple of the Holy Ghost" (1 Cor. 6:19-20). John, the Apostle wrote Gaius and said, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health even as thy soul prospereth" 3 John 1:2, 3. He was rejoicing about the good report that he had received of how they were walking in the truth and were greatly blessed. He wanted them to be prospering in health "even as thy soul prospereth."

How can we prosper in our soul? We do desire to prosper, do we not? Then if we desire it enough to take care of the soul just like we take care of the body, we will. See that the soul is fed on the Word of God regularly. It's not the number of verses or chapters a person reads that counts, but it is how much one gets in mind and soul. God can bless just two words to your soul. For instance, the verse in John 11:35 which is, "Jesus wept." What does that

mean to you? The Holy Spirit can make that rich food to the soul. Think of the tenderness in Jesus, the love, concern, compassion, humanity, and of how he was "touched" in all points as we are. Are we like Him? Then a prayer forms in our souls asking God to help us to be like the lovely lowly Lamb of God. Many more thoughts will come to feed the soul on these two words and you will go forth from partaking of heavenly food with more love, compassion, strength and power to face the trying scenes of life.

We will prosper in our souls by seeing that nothing gets into the heart that is harmful. The mind is the sorting place of thoughts, and feelings that the devil presents. We will be careful to resist any thought or feeling that is not according to the Word of God. We will not yield to the flesh or self. We will see that we take time to let the soul be holy and healthy in the things of God. Our desires will be God's desires for our life. Our will and all will be surrendered into God's hands. We will not let the "cares of this life" crowd out our prayer life and thanksgiving to the Lord. If we will always be as careful to take care of the soul as we are the body, I am sure we will make it into heaven.

—Sister Marie Miles

The World's Trouble

The trouble with the world today is that people in general do not believe that God means what He says. As we look all around us and see this and that kind of "church" and the many variations of Bible interpretations applied in almost every conceivable way that anyone could imagine, we are made to wonder just how things ever got into this condition. God is not the author of confusion (1 Cor. 14: 33), so I believe we would be safe in saying that it has to be the work of the devil.

We hear the expression quite often, "Join the church of your choice." If folks really repent of their sinful past, seek the Lord's forgiveness through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ, are "born again" (John 3:3) into the kingdom of God, why do they feel it necessary to "join the church of their choice"? It is not joining some church that gets us to heaven. It is obedience to all the Word of God. They now belong to God. What more do they need? They are already at home in the Church of God as a result of a spiritual birth or conversion.

The enemy of all souls, the devil who is not satisfied with leaving us alone when we get salvation, takes intelligent people aside and begins to whisper lies to them just like he did to Eve in the garden of Eden (Genesis 3). As Eve did, they begin to listen and reason with him until they are persuaded in a so-called "logical" way that maybe God was mistaken or that it could be such and such instead of just exactly the way God spoke it the first time. There you have the beginnings of this or that belief, this or that church. There you have numbers upon numbers of opinions, theories, arguments, debates and

strife. There is where folks lose sight of and lose out with God.

There you have women with short hair and dressing immodestly when the Word of God teaches that a woman should have long hair and dress modestly. (1 Cor. 11:15). There you have men and women with more than one living companion when the Bible plainly teaches one husband and one wife (1 Cor. 7). There you have people with filthy habits (Gal. 5:19-25), such as smoking, chewing, dipping, drinking, lying, cheating, hating, gossiping, committing adultery, etc., claiming to be Christians and members of some church. What a terrible shame!

They do not believe that it is possible to live "soberly, righteously and godly in this present world" (Titus 2:11-12) because they have listened to the devil or his agents instead of reading the Bible and believing it and measuring their lives to its commandments. It is no wonder that the world scoffs and sneers at those who know the blessed experience of living above sin and trusting the Lord for both soul and body. They have been so sidetracked by the devil that many of them don't even know that the New Testament is filled with holy living (1 Thess. 4:7) and divine healing (James 5:13-16). Even though many folks really get salvation at first, they lose it and still go on with an empty profession, listening to the devil, excusing their lives, thinking they are ready for heaven when they are actually worse off than ever before.

Where are you today, dear reader? If God should call you today, would you be ready? If you are not satisfied in the depths of your soul, if you are in trouble and cannot feel a real confidence and faith in God that keeps you like a rock in the billows, if you do not experience the true love of God deep in your being for your fellowman, if you are not perfectly content with God's dealings with you and your life, if you find it impossible to deny self and take up your cross daily to follow Jesus all the way, no matter how the world may look down upon you, scoff, scorn, hate and forsake you, then your life is not what the Lord requires in His Word.

We find in Malachi 3:6 that the Lord is God and He changes not. In other words, the Word of God is the same as it has always been and it always will be the same. He is not going to change it to suit us, but rather we must do the changing to suit Him. The Bible is our road map to heaven. There is no other way! In the day of Judgment the Bible will judge us. How needful it is for us to obey it!

Dear ones, God is not going to be mocked (Gal. 6:7-8). Anything more or less than His Word will not do. He means just what He says. It is up to you and me individually what we are going to do about it. What we do in this life will mean either heaven or hell in the end. Which will it be?

I would rather bear the reproach of the cross in this life and reap life everlasting than to be popular with the world now and be lost forever in a devil's hell. May the Lord bless you is my prayer.

—Jessie Taylor

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The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor
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EDITORIALS

This is the second issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper in this new year of 1963. The contents of the first issue of the paper in this new year have brought blessings and comfort to many. We trust that many souls have been turned from sin unto God through godly sorrow and repentance with faith in the blood sacrifice given to the world on Calvary's cross by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Peter, in speaking of Jesus in Acts 5:12, says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."

Let us read some more about the atoning blood of Christ and how through faith in His blood we can be saved. In Eph. 1:7 we read, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace." The rich grace of God toward us is that He gave His only begotten Son as a sacrifice for our sins. God's grace is His unmerited favor which he bestows upon us through the gift of His dear Son. "For by grace [Christ] are ye saved through faith: and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." We do not get saved by our good works. The worst sinner living can get saved by believing, with godly sorrow and repentance. He must believe that Jesus Christ is a free gift from God for His complete salvation, even deliverance from all sin, which will mean a new life from heaven in his soul.

Jesus says in the third chapter of John's gospel, "Ye must be born again." Lay down your old sinful life and receive the new life from heaven. God will perform the miracle if you will turn from all your sins and furnish Him a believing, yielded heart. Thereby you will become a new creature in the hands of God.

In Col. 1:14 we read, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." According to God's Word we have forgiveness of sins through His blood. Let us believe the whole Word of God and be saved. Although the innocent blood of Christ was shed over 19 centuries ago, in it is forgiveness of your sins right down to the present. God made provision for the forgiveness of your sins centuries before you were born into the world. Child of sin and sorrow, see the goodness of God and His great compassionate love for you. He wants you to yield yourself unto Him so He can fold you in His loving arms and whisper to your soul the "peace that passeth understanding" and good tidings of soul comfort, solace and bliss with Him in the everlasting eternal ages to come.

Oh, the millions of souls who are now asleep in sin, rocked to sleep in the devil's cradle of worldly

pleasure and selfish gain! In 1 Cor. 15:34 we hear the Word of God thundering unto sleepy souls in these words, "Awake to righteousness and sin not: [The Lord is our righteousness] for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." In your present sinning condition you will inherit nothing good from God, but His wrath will be upon you for the punishment of your soul in hell-fire "where the worm [your soul] dieth not and the fire is not quenched." Listen to the Word of God in John 3:36, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." It would be an awful fearful thing for any soul to fall into the hands of God with His wrath abiding on him.

Listen to the Word of God, thou poor soul asleep in sin. Let His Word be as a blast of thunder to your soul. Let us read it in Eph. 5:14, "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Jesus says, "I am the light of the world, and he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life."—John 8:12. Again, in St. John 5:6 we read, "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Oh, dear sinner friend, turn from all the sin and folly of this world and let your soul hunger and thirst after the righteousness of God. Most every soul while in sin has a standard of his own righteousness, but when he turns to the Lord and receives His righteousness in his soul, he finds that his own righteousness is exceedingly faulty and will never stand when the Judgment shock comes. Do not do like millions are doing today, who just make a profession of Christ by joining some man's church and go on sinning in the ways of this sinful world. Just humble your heart before God and seek Him until you have a personal experience of being "born again from above" with His righteousness in your soul. Anything short of this will be endeavoring to climb up some other way, and at the Judgment Day, you will be counted as a thief and a robber.

In Hebrews 6:8 we find these words, "Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered: and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation to all them that obey him." We find by reading Hebrews 5:32 that God gives the Holy Ghost to them that obey Him. In the 6th chapter of Hebrews we are exhorted to go on to perfection. This perfection means sanctification or perfected holiness. In 1 Thess. 4:3 we read, "This is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication." If we know anything to be the will of God we should seek Him for it. Jesus says for us to "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." In 1 John 5:3 we read, "For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

In Romans 12:1, 2 we are told just what to do to be sanctified or baptized with the Holy Ghost. Let us read it, "I beseech you therefore, brethren,

by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." In the second verse he tells us not to be "conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect, will of God." In the 5th chapter of 1 Thess. we read, beginning at the 12th verse on down to the 23rd verse, how God wants a justified person to live in order to be ready for the baptism of the Holy Ghost. You do not grow into sanctification, but you can grow up to it. Let us read the last three verses, "Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, **who also will DO IT.**" God says in His Word that it is His will that we be sanctified and here He says He "will do it." Let those who are truly justified have boldness in faith to believe God's Word and receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. In John 17:19, 20 Jesus teaches us that sanctification is for all who believe on Him through the disciples' word. There is another promise of the Lord to His disciples of receiving the Holy Ghost in John 7:37, 38, 39. In John the 16th chapter He makes plain to us what the Comforter will do when He comes to live in us. Every good and perfect gift cometh down from the Father of lights. He gives the Holy Ghost to those who obey Him.

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OBITUARIES

Mellviney Kerr was born Sept. 15, 1874 at Hazelton, Indiana and departed this life on Dec. 9, 1962 at the age of 88 years, two months and 23 days. Sister Hebert Gaines kept Sister Kerr in her home from the time of the last Myrtle, Mo. campmeeting until the time she passed away.

She was united in marriage to John M. Kerr. To this union were born thirteen children. Her husband and seven children preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn her passing, four daughters and two sons: Hannah Guess, Vincennes, Ind., Bessie Pulliam and Kirtie Pulliam, both of Success, Ark., Ellen Kerr and Fred Kerr, both of Naylor,

Mo., and William Kerr, of Freemont, Mo.; 16 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren; four brothers, Charlie, Jimmy, Danny and Honeton Foster, and one sister, Maudie Myley, of Indiana.

She gave her heart to God 34 years ago. She found the saints through Sister Lizzie Harper many years ago. She was faithful to her God and was a great inspiration to the saints. She trusted God to the end and shouted praises to her Savior.

The funeral service was held at the Church of God chapel at Myrtle, Mo. and her body was laid to rest in the Saints' Cemetery on the Myrtle campground. Bros. Murphy Allen and Darius Gibson officiated. Texts used: Psa. 90:11-12, Eccl. 3:1-2, Rev. 14:13, and 2 Tim. 4:7.

Sister Martha (Alston) Christian was born July 20, 1887 in Pickens, South Carolina and departed this life on November 28, 1962 at Sandusky, Ohio.

Sister Christian was a devout member of the Church of God and remained so until the end. She was active in the Church of God for 26 years.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary, in 1918. She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, Fred; three daughters, Mrs. Mattie Nimmons, Mrs. Fred Seavers, Mrs. Margaret E. Bridges, all of Sandusky; three sons, John Whitner, Grand Rapids, Mich., Robert of Sandusky, and Fred Christian, Jr., of Chicago, Ill.; six grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren; a sister, Mary Rice, of Sandusky; one brother, Joseph Alston, of Sandusky and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral conducted by Bro. Henry Chaney. Text: Be Ready, Matt. 24:44; Matt. 25:32.

Ethel B. Hepler was born at Southwick, Idaho November 11, 1894 and departed this life to live with Jesus up above on January 5, 1963 at her home near Southwick at the age of 68 years, 1 month and 23 days.

On December 14, 1914 she was united in marriage to Dallas M. Hepler and to this union was born one son.

Except for a time of about six years which was spent in Arizona and California, she has lived in the Southwick area all of her life.

She is survived by her husband, Dallas Hepler of Southwick, one son, Stanley of Kendrick, Idaho, one brother, Edward Brown of Kendrick, six sisters; Mrs. Fred Sapp, Weiser, Idaho; Mrs. Maggie Akins and Mrs. Frank Dygert, both of Clarkston, Washington; Mrs. Jack Tempero of Polouse, Wash.; Mrs. Edith Watkins of Longview, Wash., and Mrs. Jesse Maxwell of Port Alberni, British Columbia; and one grandson, Donnie Hepler of Kendrick, Idaho.

Ethel Hepler surely met all of the qualifications of the virtuous woman as given in the 31st chapter of Prov. and God said the value of such women was far above the price of rubies. Strength and honor were her clothing, her hands were filled with good works, she looked well to the needs of her household, the heart of her husband could safely trust in her, by night as well as by day, she was ready to show benevolence and kindness to her household as well as to others. Industry was one of her marked characteristics and she ate not the bread of idleness.

And above all, she loved God and trusted and served Him and was faithful unto death and is now awaiting that better resurrection to immortal glory.

Funeral services were held at the Brower-Wann Funeral Chapel in Lewiston, Idaho on Tuesday, January 8th by Ostis and Opal Wilson with songs by Dorothy Keiser and Opal Wilson. Interment was in Normal Hill Cemetery at Lewiston, Idaho.

Sister Emma Ruth Embly was born at Nodaway, Mo. on April 1, 1878 and passed away at her home in Chino, Calif. on Dec. 16, 1962 at the age of 84 years. Death came after a short illness, although she had been afflicted for a number of years.

Sister Embly, a resident of California since 1907, was a faithful member of the family of God, having embraced the truth of God's Word when she was young. She had a very meek, gentle spirit and proved to be a faithful saint in the congregation at Pomona as long as she was able to attend, and will be greatly missed by the saints and all who knew her.

Survivors include her husband, William James Embly, of the home; five daughters, Faith Embly of Chino, Elsie Pruitt of Fresno, Esther C. Trustham of Santa Monica, Grace Embly of Los Angeles and Irene Simpson of La Mirada; three sons, Ralph Embly of Veneta, Ore., Elvin H. Embly of Chino and Arthur S. Embly of Venice; two sisters, Amanda Van Gundy and Selma Dudeck, of Missouri; five brothers, Roy Dudeck of San Jose, John and Elmer Dudeck of Missouri and Walter and Dorvin Dudeck of Oregon; 16 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Graveside funeral services were conducted at Ontario Cemetery with Bro. Charles Elwell officiating, and assisted by Bro. Eugene Harmon. Text: 2 Tim. 4:7-8.

Early Dunnigan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Dunnigan, was born in Morgansfield, Kentucky, August 29, 1891, departed this life January 10, 1963, aged 71 years, 4 months and 11 days.

He moved with his parents from Kentucky to Checotah Okla. in 1906; and from there to Dover, Okla. in 1908. In his school days he attended school at Green Grove, Brown's Chapel, and Lincoln schools. In the time of World War I. he enlisted in the U. S. army. After his return home from the army, he was married to Miss Alta Steele, on December 4, 1920. To this union seven children were born: three sons, and four daughters. His wife and four children preceded him in death. He leaves to mourn their loss, three daughters: Mrs. Marie Owens of Wichita, Kansas, Mrs. Bobbie Gene Fields, and Mrs. Dorris Ware of Oklahoma City; two sisters; Mrs. Daisy Scott of Dover Okla., and Mrs. Della Jeter of Kansas City, Mo.; about twenty grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

It is reported that he said to one of his daughters just prior to his death, "I don't believe that I will get over this; don't feel uneasy, but do the best you can." It is once appointed unto men to die. He has answered the call, we soon shall follow on; we know not how soon. Jesus said, "Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

May the God of love and grace comfort and sustain the bereaved ones. Funeral sermon by Bro. Ulysses Phillips, assisted by Bro. Herman Kelly and Bro. E. W. Sanders. Texts Rev. 13:13, John 8:21-23 and others. Burial was made in Wanamaker Cemetery, northeast of Dover, Oklahoma.

Readers, Attention, Please

The "Faith and Victory" paper will observe its 40th anniversary of publication with the March, 1963, issue, the first paper (Volume 1, No. 1) being dated March, 1923 and begun by its present editor, Bro. Fred Pruitt, and associates here at Guthrie, Okla. on that date forty years ago. A special edition is planned for the next issue in March, so we would appreciate it if each of our read-

ers, former co-workers in the printing work, and any interested person would write us a letter of comment on the editor, his labors, how long you have known him and the paper, if you were saved or contacted the saints through the literature, and comments in general on the gospel printing work over the past 40 years. We may not have space for entire letters, but could use pertinent parts. If the response is sufficient we may add extra pages. Your letter should be received by February 8th. Write NOW before you forget, and thank you!

—Lawrence Pruitt, a Co-worker.



Children of Bro. Etuk, Native Missionary in West Africa

Pictured above are the children of Bro. Etuk, our Church of God minister in West Africa. Bro. B. U. Etuk is doing a good work for the Lord among his native people. At one of his all-day meetings recently he reports that 35 were saved. He has a large territory to travel over, and the roads are not so good in places. He needs a motorcycle on which to make his circuit. We are also looking to the Lord for funds to send a missionary to that country to help him get the converts established in the doctrinal truth of the gospel of Christ.

Let us all pray for them and do what we can, or as the Lord leads, to supply funds for a motorcycle and for the traveling expense of a missionary to that needy field. The cry is, "Come over into Nigeria, West Africa and help us!"

The Huskeys Laboring in Mexico

Rosarito, B. C., Mexico, (Jan. 14).—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all of God's servants:—

I wish to give my testimony in a few words here for the glory of God. It was a year and a month ago that I quit a good job and we dedicated our lives to the Lord's work. We left our nice home in the states, not knowing where the Lord would have us go. Now we are very glad that we waited on the Lord and followed Him. Sometimes the way wasn't easy, but we followed by His grace and not our power. As I told a dear Mexican brother last night that I was thankful that I was privileged to be in the work of the Lord and help take the gospel to the poor. I said that in the U. S. I had a good job and made enough money, but here I don't work for money but my income is much greater than before, and that is not in money but in joy and peace in the Holy Ghost.

As you know we are here at Rosarito, Baja, Calif., Old Mexico with our four small children, taking the gospel to some of the poor of Mexico. We don't have things handv. but the Lord gives us strength. We still have no electricity or water in the house.

The Lord has blessed us with good services here. There are between 40 and 50 here on Sundays. At Christmas time and also the last Sunday of the year we had especially good services here. Several held up their hands, denoting that they wanted to live for the Lord in the new year. Oh, we have been made to realize that God is the Worker and we are just the "nothing" that He might use in His work.

We thank the Lord that we now are not the only saints at this place. We have Mexican brothers here that want to work for the Lord. They need your prayers, support and gospel tracts and Bibles for the spreading of the gosepl. Also, there is a Brother Gaspar down at the tip of the peninsula that is spreading the doctrine of the Church of God but is not able to give his time to the Lord as he wants to because he has to work for a meager living for his little family. He and his family could be supported for only \$35 a month in the place that he lives.

We are thankful to report victory in our souls and we mean to go all the way with God. Read Isa. 55:8.

Yours in Christ, —James Huskey

(Send offerings for the Mexico work to Bro. Harland Smith, 317 E. Cucamonga Ave., Claremont, Calif.)

Meeting Reports

HAMMOND, LA. ASSEMBLY MEETING

Dear Saints, greetings in Jesus' name: We wish to report on the Assembly Meeting held at Hammond, La. in November. The Lord surely blessed in every service. The Word of the Lord was precious as it was delivered under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Some were saved and others received spiritual help. Surely there is great rejoicing in heaven when souls seek the Lord and find Him in the forgiveness of their sins.

We feel that the Lord used Bro. and Sis. Abbott in a special way, also Bro. McCoy from Ohio. Bro. Richard Madden also was present and the Lord made him a blessing to us all.

The meeting was well attended and there seemed to be more interest than has been in times past.

The Lord has also been manifesting himself in the healing of bodies. I had a touch of flu during the meeting and Brother Gibson and Bro. and Sister Key came and

prayed the prayer of faith. The Lord touched me and made me able to attend the meeting.

Before the meeting, Sister Short had been suffering with her knee. It had locked on her and she was unable to walk. Sister Short's daughter, Sister Gladys Cashio, called my wife and me in the afternoon and we all went to Sister Short's home. During the agreement of prayer the Lord touched the knee and she felt the joint slip. After prayer Sister Short rose to her feet, walked to another part of the house where some of her children and their friends were and testified before them of God's healing power.

Also right after the meeting, Sister Short's hand was swollen with arthritis and paining her much. She came forward in service to be anointed and prayed for. The Lord touched her and healed her. We do thank God for the manifestation of His great love and power.

We send greetings and love in Christ Jesus to God's children everywhere, trusting that each will receive greater measures of the graces of God and more of the fullness of His love during the coming year through humility and obedience to His Word.

Yours in Christ, —Max F. Williamson

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting here at Guthrie, Okla. has come and gone. The meeting was in session 10 days—Dec. 21 to 30, 1962. We are still rejoicing in the wonderful showers of good things the Lord permitted us to enjoy and receive. I don't know how to express the wonderful glory of the meeting, and the effects we see on the lives of the saints, also on those who gave their hearts to the Lord that are holding on and testifying to victory.

Truly the meeting was precious, with good attendance all the way through after the first two days. The singing was heavenly and some that never were in our services before, wept at the singing of the saints as they sang in Spirit and in truth. How our souls were lifted, and our hearts did rejoice as we were made to realize we were sitting in a heavenly place. Holy solemnity rested upon us. The preaching was clear and definite, and soul-edifying. Many precious truths were brought forth.

The altars were filled numbers of times. Even in the day services many were seeking the Lord for salvation, sanctification or to draw closer to God. Others were blessed in their body as they received faith for healing.

The Lord surely blessed different ministers in giving out the Word. One outstanding message was, "Being dead to self." Oh, how much that is needed today! Unless we are dead to self and it crucified, dead to our feelings, how people treat us, or how we think they treat us, God cannot use us. Dear saints, let us see to it that the "old man" is crucified, dead to the world, the flesh and the devil. Praise God! Many other precious messages went forth, with power and anointing.

Let us pray God for special grace and power for the new year and be able to glorify God as His church in the earth.

Yours for all the truth, —Ira D. Stover.

JEFFERSON, OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING

We send greetings to all the dear saints scattered abroad, praising and thanking God for victory in our soul, and a deep desire to press on in the precious Bible way.

Our annual Assembly meeting here at Jefferson, Oregon was held in November. Brother Gene Harmon

was with us, and God did so richly bless in the preaching of His Word. Sister Beulah Harmon took care of the kitchen with the help of other sisters. It was a little meeting, but such sweet unity and love prevailed all through the meeting and the saints were edified by the deep spiritual messages as God used Bro. Harmon with rich anointing of the Holy Spirit from time to time.

Many outsiders came in, and some of the near-by neighbors admitted the preaching was the best they had ever heard. Also, the home ministers got under the burden and relieved Bro. Harmon in some of the services.

Saints came in from different parts of the state—Eugene, Grants Pass, and Sweet Home. Some came from Seattle and Tacoma, Wash. Yes, our God blessed the gathering together of His children. We had no woodland or fields to go to for secret prayer, but the saints were often in their cabins in agreement of prayer for the needs of precious souls. One sister said that when she entered the chapel the Spirit of the Lord spoke to her and said, "This is the true Church of God."

Some souls came to the altar for salvation, some to be sanctified, and some for healing. Yes, there was much rejoicing. To compare with our other meetings, there were not as many in number as there had been in the past, but the spiritual feast was here. We missed the ministers and saints who did not get to be with us. We are looking forward to seeing them in our coming campmeeting this summer if it is His will.

The needs of all the meeting and the building of the dining hall were all supplied through free-will offerings. Yes, God is supplying every need here, and we trust to have new restrooms, showers, and laundry finished and ready for use in time for the campmeeting. All who have been here in the past know how badly we needed these facilities. Truly, we are serving a mighty God!

May God bless one and all.

Yours in Christ,

—Bea Spaur.

National Missionary Fund Report

Dear Saints scattered abroad: We greet you today in the precious name of Jesus who has saved us from our sins and causes us to walk in the strait and narrow way. We love Him because He first loved us, and our hearts' desire is to always do those things that would please Him. We find that the most precious thing to have is the smiles of His approval on our lives.

For some time we have felt we should make some kind of report on the National Missionary Fund to the saints scattered abroad. First, we wish to express our thanks and appreciation to you who have helped support this fund. We endeavor as the money comes in to send it to various ministers who labor in various places for the salvation of souls and the encouragement of the isolated saints. Let us continue to do what we can that the gospel may reach out to souls lost and void of the knowledge of the truth. Just of late we have been made to realize more how serious the times are that we are living in. We may feel safe and secure, and overnight find ourselves bound where we will not be able to do anything to advance the kingdom of God. I feel sure that if we are faithful in these perilous days that we will exercise our freedom in Christ. God will be faithful to us in such a day that we will need Him most, and see us through to certain victory even if it should take our lives. We often think of the scripture, "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also." So let us lay up our treasures in the bank of heaven. The Lord loveth a cheerful giver.

There was an oral report given at the business meeting during the National campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. of how the offerings came in and how they were sent out. Anyone desiring to ask any questions, feel free to do so, and we will try to answer them.

Let us always have a missionary spirit and keep the burden of souls on our hearts. Pray for us that we will be faithful until the Lord calls us from labor to reward.

Yours for the gospel, —Ralph and Inez Beisly.
407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas

TESTIMONIES

Okla.—Dear Saints, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: Today finds me still saved and much encouraged to live for the dear Lord. Truly He is good to us. I thank the Lord for His wonderful blessings.

Some time ago two of our children were sick and broke out with something over most of their bodies. I prayed and asked the Lord to heal them. The Lord wonderfully healed them, and I just thank the dear Lord for His wonderful love. He keeps me encouraged to live for Him and I am living to all that I know and understand.

I desire the prayers of the saints for me because I mean to make heaven at any cost. Pray for our unsaved children that the Lord will save them before it is too late.

Your saved sister,

—Fannie Taylor

Mo.—Dear saints and readers of the Faith and Victory: Greetings in Jesus' dear sweet name, who still is my all and all. He hears prayer and helps us out of all our troubles. Praise His dear name!

It seems it has been some time now since I have written my testimony for the paper, and as we are to be witnesses for the Lord we all should be diligent in this matter. The Lord has been so good to me, and I surely don't want to fail Him in any way. He has saved and sanctified my soul, and healed my body. He keeps me in His care. Praise the Lord! I am satisfied with Jesus. He is the best friend a person can ever find.

I do thank the Lord for permitting me to attend two of the campmeetings this last summer, and I appreciate the good soul food we received there. So many were there from several different states, some for their first time. It was so nice we could all sit together in a heavenly place and hear God's Word preached from day to day. It's good to know God's people are living next door to heaven.

God's people have much to rejoice about. It seemed the all-day meeting at Myrtle, Mo. was a long time coming after the campmeeting closed, and we were all so happy to be together again. Bro. Murphy Allen broke the bread of life to the few that were there, and we were glad to say amen to the Word of God.

I pray that all the saints will keep pressing the battle on to the end. There's nothing in the world to turn back to but trouble and sorrow. I am so thankful for all the benefits in the true church of God. "Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all his benefits" Psalms 103:2. "Happy is that people whose God is the Lord"—Psalms 144:15. Dear saints, let's pray the Lord of the harvest to send more reapers into His vineyard. Surely we thank all the saints for their prayers for us. We do thank the Lord that he is helping us to be overcomers for Him.

Dear ones, I have some very urgent unspoken prayer requests, so please pray with us that the Lord will

work this all out for His glory. We pray God's blessings upon all the workers at the Lord's print shop.

—Sister Katie Marler

Illinois—I have been thinking about this great earth that God has made for us to dwell on, and on which to prepare to meet Him in glory. I like to travel and see the wonderful things that God has made. I do not have much money, but I have been in 17 different states and a little part of Canada. I have seen the Niagara Falls, the Grand Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns, and several high mountains and many other things that God has created. I enjoy traveling around and seeing the great handwork of God. Just think of all these great things God has made.

There is one thing that is more important than all the created works of God, and that is this great plan of salvation. I think about the sacrifice when He gave His Son to be crucified by sinful people. I think of Jesus, how He suffered and died on the cross, and it was all for you and me that we might have life with Him here on earth and a home with Him in glory at the end of this life. In all the great hand-work of God, this is the most precious to me. Praise His holy name. We might accept all these other gifts and enjoy them, but if we do not accept His Son, Jesus Christ into our life, we will be lost in the end. There is only one life here in which to prepare, and as we travel through this life we should make sure we are on the right road. At the end of this life it will be heaven or hell, one or the other, according to the road we are traveling. We have the Bible or Word of God for a road map. Only through studying God's Word and through prayer will we find the right road.

2 Peter 3:10, 17, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness." —Unsigned.

Miss.—Dear Sister Marie and all, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I am so glad I am still saved and pressing on to the goal set before me. I want to be right in the sight of my God, and to know His will concerning me. I have trials and foes, but I am so glad to know I have someone to bear my load with me.

I have had the flu, and it has left me with an awful cough, but I am trusting the Lord for all my afflictions and sicknesses. He is my all in all. Amen.

I have neglected to write and neglected to send in the sheet for 10 names. I could not find addresses of some I had wanted to send in. I neglected to send my last month's offering—just too many things at hand, but will send it today. Use it where needed the most for God's glory.

Yours in Him,

—Sister J. Strickler

Illinois—Dear Saints of God at the Lord's Print Shop, greetings in the name of our precious Lord: I am sending for prayer for my daughter who is in the Columbia, Missouri hospital, paralyzed in both legs and has no use of them at all. She has been sick for over two months. The doctor said it was a fractured vertebrae, and she has suffered so intensely.

I am the one who called there for prayer a year ago last summer for a bad heart. I was sick over a year, but today I am well. Thanks and praise to our precious

Saviour! I trusted and prayed and there came a time when God said it was enough. I will be 72 years old next summer and I believe I am feeling better than I ever did. I am not as strong but I am well and I give my heavenly Father all the thanks and praise.

I am praying for you dear people there. I love every one of you with godly love, and have the utmost confidence in your prayers. I believe you live what you preach. We are living in dangerous times and they are getting worse every day.

I was so sore around my heart so long, but I called mightily on God and He removed that, too. He doesn't withhold any good thing from them that walk uprightly. Do pray and fast for my daughter's healing that God will heal her and let her come home to her children. I am trusting the Lord one hundred percent.

Pray for my unsaved husband and our unsaved children. I am asking the dear Lord to save their souls at any cost, and I believe He will. I have several unspoken requests. A dear saint has a bad stomach and suffers much. Oh, what a wonderful, wonderful Saviour we do have—never gets tired of our asking. I tell God I am not worthy to ask so many things of Him, but He loves us and tells us to ask that our joy may be full. I am isolated here and hardly ever get to see or be with the saints. I have one dear old lady 85 years old who is a Christian that I can go and pray with. Remember me—I need your prayers.

Much love to all there, —Sister Bertha A. Gill

Illinois—Greetings of love to the saints of the Most High, who inhabits heaven and earth, whose angel shall stand with one foot on the earth and one foot on the sea and declare that time shall be no longer. "What manner of persons ought we to be in all holy conversation and godliness."

The Lord has led us through some very deep and turbulent waters, and needless to say we have come through, washed. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my heart is lifted in praise to Him.

Truly we are in the last days. But we are not to sit tight and wait for our redemption as seems to be the manner of some. "The harvest fields are white unto harvest," and let us not say, "It is four months then cometh harvest." We are finding hungry souls, and wounded and broken humanity on every hand.

Please let all the dear saints scattered abroad pray that the Lord will magnify His Word in these parts.

—Brother and Sister Clyde Edwards

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie and all of the dear saints, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I feel that it would be to the glory of God to send in my testimony. I feel grateful in my heart to the dear Lord for His goodness and kindness unto me. I do thank God for His healing power that has been extended unto me from time to time. I had been afflicted with a cold and cough, and then I became very weak in body, but the Lord is blessing me with more strength. I do give Him all the praise and glory because I realize it could be worse. Praise the name of Jesus!

My trust is in Him for soul and body. I mean to live for Jesus all the days of my life, because He is precious to my soul. Oh, those precious, gracious words, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls"—Matt. 11:28, 29. Oh, I do thank God for that sweet soul rest, for being delivered from under the bondage of sin. God said He would

beautify the meek with salvation. So I do thank God for being saved and encouraged to press on in the precious name of Jesus.

Jesus said, "I am the way; the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."—John 14:6. Oh, let us ever give thanks to God for His Son, Jesus Christ who gave His life for my sins and your sins, that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Praise His name forever!

Dear reader, if you don't know the Lord, seek Him until you have found Him precious to your soul. Just think that each day, hour, and minute brings us nearer to eternity. Let us keep watchful and prayerful so we will be ready at His coming.

Oh, think of the precious words of Jesus. "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." So let us be grateful in our hearts for Christ being the way from earth to heaven. 2 Cor. 6:2, "I have heard thee in a time accepted and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Now is the time to get ready for heaven. We are living in a wicked age and in perilous times. So let us, who are saved stir ourselves for duty and for the service of the dear Lord. Pray for me, that I will fight the good fight of faith.

Your sister in Christ, —Josephine Taylor

Tenn.—Dear Saints: For the glory of God I want to testify to the saving and healing power of God. I am so glad God has enabled me to see the truth and has helped me to accept it. This world with its fads and ungodly fashions has no charms for me. Praise His blessed name! It is wonderful to serve and lean on Him.

Last spring God healed me of trouble I was having with my stomach. I would almost black out at times. I went on a light diet that helped some, but one night I had five of those spells. It would start in my stomach—a tingling sensation and run over my body, and I would almost black out. I continued to pray and trust God. I told Him I couldn't live on that diet. He told me to eat anything I wanted. I took Him at His word and started eating, and my trouble disappeared. I can eat food now that I didn't eat before.

God's Word tells us to prove Him. He bore the stripes for our healing. How are we to prove Him if we trust in man?

May God bless you all is my prayer.

In Christian love, —Mrs. E. A. Smelcer

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in Jesus' precious name to you and all at the Faith Publishing House.

It is good for the soul to express its love for Him who gave His life a ransom to redeem man, and we are bidden, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so." Jesus is wonderful to me, not only for what He is, but also what He has done for my life. Though the Son of God found no room in the inn as a birthplace, how grateful I am that I have given Him room in my heart and can say, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" Gal. 2:20.

Jesus stands at the heart's door knocking—"Behold, I stand at the door and knock: If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" Rev. 3:20. How glad I am that I opened the door for Jesus. He is very precious to me—not only forgiving me, but also taking care of me

by providing, protecting, healing and all things. Jesus is my Saviour; there is no other. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" Acts 4:12.

I like to read Isaiah 53 like this: "Surely He hath borne my griefs, and carried my sorrows . . . He was wounded for my transgressions, He was bruised for my iniquities: the chastisement of my peace was upon Him and with His stripes I am healed."

"Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe,
Sin had left its crimson stain,
He washed me white as snow."

Please pray for me that I will ever prove faithful,
keep that oil from heaven flowing down into my soul,
always able to give an account of myself before God and
help others on the way. —Sister Lucille Allen

Oregon—Dear Ones, greetings in Jesus' name: I am praising the dear Lord this beautiful day for the wonderful healing the dear Lord has given me. I've suffered for a number of years with deep-seated pains in my back, which at times affected my whole spine. I have also had a pulling down feeling in my abdomen and severe pains in my left leg and knee. I have been prayed for many times and would get relief, but not permanent healing which I desired very much. Praise God, on December 15th when Bro. Vearl Kiewer came and laid on hands and prayed the prayer of faith, and other saints not present at the time were in agreement, the dear Lord reached down His arm of mercy and touched my body and removed these pains and filled my heart with rejoicing. I am still praising Him for His goodness and love to unworthy me. Praise our God forever!

Your sister in Christ, —Mary Anne Galloway

Calif.—Dear Saints and “Faith and Victory” Readers:

All praises be unto God our Father who causeth us to triumph. I am so happy to report the healing of the cancerous growth I had on my nose. This growth came on my nose about four years ago and at times I thought I had the victory and it would seem to get smaller, but during the fall of 1962 it reached a rather unsightly size and was very easy to bleed. On November 25, 1962 we requested a day of fasting and prayer and God did marvelously answer our prayers.

The saints need to realize the value of uniting together in agreement. God is moved on His throne when His children cry unto Him as one voice. In less than four weeks after the day of fasting and prayer the cancerous growth was gone and my nose is well.

I want to thank all the saints who fasted and prayed for me and may we all be encouraged and magnify God.
 "Living faith makes God real." —Gertrude Bunting

Mich.—Dear Brother Pruitt, saints at Guthrie, and abroad, Greetings in Jesus' dear name: I feel led to send in my testimony for the paper.

Truly God has been good to us in the past in many ways, and we do thank Him for His goodness. Oh, how we should love and praise Him for His goodness and mercy! It makes me feel good to know that God still has a bright and shining light in the world—the dear people of God. They are the light of the world, and we love and appreciate each one of God's children, and we long to meet more of the dear saints and enjoy the blessed fellowship and love that flows from heart to heart. When we gather together with the saints of God, heaven just seems to come down and bless our souls. I

am thankful to our dear Lord that His grace is real in our souls, that we can have the victory at all times. Though we are not on a mountain top all the time, as the song says, God is in the valley as well as on the mountain. How wonderful to know that God is with us even unto the end of the world; on land or sea, valley or mountain, if we believe and obey His words. I want to follow all the way, and be found of Him doing all I know to love and obey Him and honor His word by word and deed.

As some of the saints know, we have a little school house here where we meet from time to time. Brother O. B. Wilson and Brother Vada McMillian were up here last April. It seemed that God moved and set many things in order, and we have received rich blessings and are still enjoying the fruit of their labors, as well as others whom the Lord has sent our way—Bro. Murphy Allen, Bro. Darius Gibson, Bro. Probst, Bro. Parsons, Bro. Curtis Williams, Bro. Chaney and probably other ministers who don't come to our mind just now. But we thank God for each one and for each time He sends any of them or any of God's dear children. Young Bro. and Sister Vernon Carver from Indiana and their family have been with us here some. Oh, how it pleased us that God sent them this way!

The enemy has tried to hinder and discourage at times, but the love of God and the Holy Spirit have given victory over him and we are still enjoying good meetings. I do believe that many of the saints here are growing in the Lord. Thank the dear Lord for His truth! We still need all your prayers to keep encouraged.

Brother and Sister Gibson and Bro. Roy Harmon were here not long ago. We thank God for them.

All of our children are not saved, so we need prayer for them. It seems the enemy is really trying hard to crush the young folks. Pray that we do not fail God nor get out of the order of His will. We are sure that He will never fail us.

Yours in Christian love, —Austin McMillian

Okla.—Dear Saints: Greetings in the name of our Redeemer. I am so happy to be a child of the King and of the royal family. I feel like sending in a testimony for the Lord and to encourage other saints. In November our little 4-year-old twin was burned very badly on the hips and legs. We sent for Bro. Wheeler and prayed for him and the Lord instantly touched his body and stopped the burning. He had to lay six weeks on his stomach before he could get up. Every time he would start hurting or I'd dress his sores, he would always ask for prayer. Dear ones, teach your little ones about the Lord. When they are small they believe what you teach them. He still has sores on his legs and can't wear his clothes, but the Lord has protected him from the cold and he hasn't even had a cold or any infection at all. We can never thank the dear Lord enough for what He has done for us. Pray for us that we will be faithful at any cost, for the Lord is coming soon and he said in His word those that endure to the end shall be saved.

Saints, please pray for my dear companion. He has a cancer in the corner of his eye. We are trusting the Lord for his healing and know the Lord is able.

Christian love, —Sister Geo. Abbott

Kentucky—Greetings to each and every one at the Print shop: We pray that you will have a prosperous year of 1963. May the Lord extend His mercy to this sin-laden world in which we live, for it certainly is getting in a bad condition.

I'm glad I found the Saviour sweet to my soul. I have made some mistakes and blunders since I've been

on this holy way, but I never gave up. I kept trusting the Lord for help to overcome. Sometimes I'm almost made to wonder if our blunders aren't stepping stones to higher heights and deeper depths. When we say the least thing in a hostile manner, the Lord corrects us immediately, and I thank Him for it. As a loving father corrects his children when they do a little wrong, so does our heavenly Father when we make a mis-step. And then we must be very careful not to do that same thing over and over again.

I'm glad for the dear saints who have been in our home—Bro. Curtis Williams, and also Bro. and Sister Abbott from Somerset, Ky. If they are not real children of God, I wouldn't know where to find any.

My desire is to be like Christ in every walk of life. I pray for more faith as I feel I need it, especially for my healing. I have high blood pressure and husband has heart trouble and high blood pressure, too. I have a sore throat that has continued for about six weeks. It gets better, then gets sore again and causes my neck to hurt. I'm requesting prayer in my behalf that the Lord will undertake for me in healing my throat and that husband and I will be healed of our high blood pressure. He is a wonderful Christian man and we are both getting way down on life's journey. I'm 63 and he is nearing 70. Please pray for us.

I am enclosing an offering. Please renew my subscription for 1963, and use the rest in God's cause. May God bless you.

Yours in Christ,

—Mrs. Frank Dunaway



Okla.—God loves us when we are well and strong; God loves us when we are weak and worn; God loves us when the fever is high, which causes our bodies to be miserable and tired. When the pain gets heavy and very severe as we call upon Him He seems so near. As I lay restless on my bed at night, I prayed with sincerity of heart, "Oh Lord, help me to stand on your promise, to prove your dear Word. If in this, there's a lesson for me, oh Lord, help me to grasp it and stand true to thee. Help me to be humble and submissive, I pray. Help me, dear Lord, to keep faithful each day, to keep clear the pathway that is before me this day. Through this changing world below, help me love Thee more and more, for Thou art more than life to me as I cling closer, Lord to Thee."

Still lying there upon my bed, a song came to me, "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine; oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!" I began to think of the goodness of God, how He would bless us and be with us day and night if we stand on His word through the sickness, sorrows and troubles of life. My favorite song came to my mind, which brought sweet thoughts and encouragement to me: "Beyond this world of toil and care, Beyond this veil of gloom, There is a land, a happy land, A place we call our Home. Oh yes, we'll trust Him while we live, We'll trust Him when we die, And then when all our work is done, We'll reign with Him on high."

Thank the dear Lord! I was alone but rejoicing very much. Lying there, I continued to pray, "Lord, help your dear child." Sometimes He sends the touch of healing when we are all alone, and sometimes He sends His dear children along. He sent them to me on Wednesday night, November 7, 1962, and God touched and blessed me all through the night. I had been restless with misery in my head. My head was on my pillow, but yet it seemed like it wasn't. But God sent His dear children along. I was not looking for them but God sent them. I thought of the verse in the Bible, that says something about after doing all, "to stand." (Eph. 6:13). While

standing, I was glad they came along. They sang and had prayer. Then I was anointed in obedience to His word. Then another prayer was offered. Oh, praise His dear name, with believing faith, the touch came from above. To Him all praise was given and glory to His name for sending His dear children along. Oh, how I do thank the Lord for touching my body! It's sweet to trust in Jesus and to take Him at His word. I am leaning on His promises and standing on His word. I appreciate all the dear saints' prayers for me. I love every blood-washed soul. I thank God He has given me that love for all humanity and it is increasing more and more. Pray for me that I'll ever stand firm and true to the dear Lord.

In Christian love,

—Carrie Woods

ACCUSING SPIRITS

Of all persons in this world that need the encouragement and prayers of God's people, those who are tormented with accusing spirits need them most. I say tormented, because to be accused by the devil is the purest type of torment and akin to the torments of hell. None but those who have felt the living torment of accusation can realize the depth of suffering inflicted thereby. And what is more cruel, the devil invariably imposes the accusing spirits on the most conscientious persons he can find. Those who are hard-hearted and stiff-necked he never attempts to accuse, as they already belong to him; but he will accuse the innocent, and excuse the guilty.

The accusing devil is generally so well disguised that persons who are unaccustomed to his wily tricks are easily deceived by him. Accusations always seem so real that it is hard for conscientious souls to discriminate between the accusations of the devil and real conviction from the Lord. Satan will come with a load of accusations, and without permission, will unload them at the door of some conscientious child of God who he thinks is too feeble to remove them; and if he meets any resistance he will at once transform himself into an angel of light and strike his victim with fear lest he should grieve the Lord. Satan will cast an accusation at a soul, and if inquiry is made as to where it comes from, he will reply at once that it is from God. He will often continue this for years, before he is detected.

Under the awful accusing power of the devil, souls often hope for death to relieve them of their anguish. But even here Satan appears and says, "You cannot die, and you will never be free from these awful feelings; and even if you were to die you are unprepared." Under such torment the nerves are often wrecked and the reason almost dethroned, and still Satan is not satisfied. Accusing spirits can never be satisfied. If you are accused of committing sin and undertake to repent, the devil will then say that you are not repenting right, that your heart is not in it, or you are just going through a form. If Satan can get you to give up and try to repent he will then say, "You had a much better experience before than you have now, and it would have been much better if you had not given up." It were al-

most enough to drive insane any one that will listen to the repeated accusations of the devil. The past experience abandoned, the present one unsatisfactory, and but little hope for the future, the soul sighs and reels beneath the load; and even the physical strength, it seems, must fail.

Satan is very cautious in his approach and he will not present too much at once, lest he should be detected; and yet when the proper time comes he will present the most unreasonable things possible. He generally begins by suggesting that you are not sanctified, and if he can get you to believe this he will proceed to argue about as follows: "Now you know that you could not lose sanctification without committing sin, and if you have sinned you are unsaved and will have to repent." At this you give up and begin to try to repent, but as you can think of nothing to repent of you will possibly think of concluding that you are all right after all. At this juncture Satan again appears on the scene and suggests that even if you were all right in the first place you are now backslidden, as you have doubted the Lord. After you have struggled on under these false impressions for a while Satan will then advance far enough to tell you that you have committed the unpardonable sin and grieved the Holy Spirit entirely away. This lie is self-evident to all who are acquainted with the wiles of the devil, from the fact that one who has committed the unpardonable sin does not feel convicted. But many poor souls have believed this falsehood, and on account of it have been driven to the utmost bounds of human anguish. Mortal tongue can not frame words to describe the suffering of a soul thus accused of the devil. The imagination of Dante could not dream of a scene so dark as this one, nor could the brush of the most skilled artist paint a picture so dismal.

Probably the next bold step Satan will take is to suggest self-destruction, or suicide. And souls in this awful state of mental anguish have been known to take their own lives, and perish soul and body, when mercy was freely offered.

The same vile spirit of the devil that will accuse you about your own experience, in order to cut off any possible help he may see coming your way, will accuse others to you and cause you to lose confidence in them, thus causing the greater discouragement. Discouragement is a natural consequence of accusations, when they are accepted, and a person who is accused will often help the devil by bringing up things of the past that have been forgiven and trying to repent of them. The accused and despondent soul will often wander down by the dark shores of the sea of forgetfulness, and finding there a bark of discouragement will launch it and sail out through the fog and mist of past life hunting for something about which to mourn. Often some mistake or sin of the past, which, like an ocean derelict, has long ago been forsaken and forgotten, is found; and pulling it ashore the discouraged soul, who is anxious to do something, invites friends and brethren to help in asking God to take notice and forgive. But God will

not visit such a scene. What he has forgiven, he has forgiven forever, and he can not forgive it a second time. "For," says he, "their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." Heb. 8:12.

If a man should come to God and obtain forgiveness of his sins, and live a faithful life for a while, and finally backslide and be lost, none of his former sins would be mentioned to him, nor would he be punished for any of the deeds of his former life; but only for those committed after his fall. Neither will the Lord forgive only a part of our wrongdoings. When he forgives, he forgives all, and forgives forever. So the only possible way out is to resist the devil and all accusations; cut the shorelines and consign the past to the waves of forgetfulness; make an eternal dereliction of all past sins and mistakes that God has forgiven; and set your face Zionward.

A Way of Escape.—It is with joy that we offer a way of escape to every soul who is bowed down by the accusing and discouraging powers of the devil. Every one who will take God's way may be set free; and instead of being depressed by Satan may tread him under foot, for God has promised "power over all the power of the enemy."

The case of one who is bowed down with accusation very much reminds us of a certain ship and its crew that were once lost at sea. Having exhausted their fresh water supply, they were famishing with thirst; and on sighting another vessel passing near them they cried out, "Water! fresh water!" In reply the crew on the passing vessel informed them that they were in the mouth of the Hudson River, and all they needed to do was to draw water and drink. Had not this lost crew been informed that they were in fresh waters many might have perished, when help was near.

The accused and despondent soul is almost famished, and cries out for help, when the waters of life eternal flow so very near. Dear soul, there is help for you; the water of life is offered freely, and if you will only drink you may live.

There is one rule by which you may always detect the spirit of the devil and distinguish it from the Spirit of God. When the Spirit of God is convicting you of sin it will point out the wrong so clearly that you will not be left in doubt; but when the devil is accusing he can never tell what is wrong. You will feel very bad, and in every way you may feel like a sinner; but if you do not know you have transgressed God's written law, stand your grounds and defy the devil. Satan may say that your trials are not like other people's trials, or that they last too long to be only trials; but if you continue to resist him he must flee. You must be willing to bear trials, for "blessed is the man that endureth temptation." Jas. 1:12. You must learn to "count it all joy when we fall into divers temptations" (James 1:2). And "let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing" (James 1:4).

Yonder is a city of refuge, dear accused and despondent soul, to which you may flee and be safe. It

is called Stability, and its streets are paved with victory. In it floats the air of freedom, and all its inhabitants, though not without trials, are triumphant. The road which leads to it is perseverance and faith. Flee to it before the slayer strikes the final blow and your soul is lost; for little does Satan care whether you lose your soul through accusation or through crime. Start today for the city of refuge, for its gates are open wide to admit the weary soul. Linger not to spend your time in listening to Satan, for he seeks your destruction. Sternly resist him and turn your back upon him forever. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you" (James 4:7, 8). Some people spend all their time resisting the devil, consequently have no time to draw nigh to God. Resist the devil and leave him with his accusation; ignore him, and draw nigh to God, and God will draw nigh to you, and victory shall be yours.

—D. O. Teasley, 1903

SISTER FRED PRUITT IS BETTER . . .

Our step-mother, Nettie Pruitt, has been very sick for over a week. For several days it looked as if the Lord meant to take her but God touched her and we are so thankful that He has spared her to us. She had uremic poisoning from a blocked kidney and it caused her to be irrational for three or more days. It hurt us so much to see her suffer. After her kidneys began to work, the gland in her neck began to swell and she has suffered with it but we are expecting the Lord to take care of that also. We feel God has performed a miracle and that His name has been glorified again. At this writing she is still bedfast but we feel she will soon gain strength and be able to be up. We appreciate all those who visited, sent cards, flowers, called on the phone, and prayed for her. Mother expressed herself by saying, "My heart is just bursting with appreciation when I realize how good everyone has been."

Written Tuesday, January 22, 1963

—Sister Marie Miles

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.75; Lesson cards 12c

February 3, 1963

THE MIGHTY POWER OF CHRIST

Printed Portion Mark 4:35-41; 5:38-42

Mark 4:35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Mark 5:38 And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

39 And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.

40 And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.

41 And he took the damsel by the hand, and saith unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, (I say unto thee,) arise.

42 And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

Memory Verse: He went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38.

Practical Truth: God's power is available to each one who will receive it.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus told the disciples that "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."—Matt. 28:18. The word power comes from the root word, "dynamite." We know that Jesus was with God in the beginning when He created all things. The first chapter of John also tells us that the "Word [Jesus] was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth." (verse 14). How wonderful to know the power of Jesus and to know that when he comes into the very being of those who are filled with the Holy Spirit that they also have power in their lives. He has told us in Luke 10:19 that Jesus gives us "power . . . over all the power of the enemy." Now we need to use that power. In Eph. 3:20 it says, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." Isn't it wonderful? Jesus will give us power over the enemy of our souls, power to resist the devil, power over fear, loneliness, power to live without sinning, power to have healing to our bodies, power to love and serve God in an acceptable manner in this world. Now faith has to be used to bring this power to us. Paul speaks of the Word not being of profit to some because it was not "mixed with faith."—Heb. 4:2. The more faith we have the more power God will give us.

February 10, 1963

CHRIST NEEDS WORKERS

Printed Portion Mark 6:7, 33-44

Mark 6:7 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;

33 And the people saw them departing, and many knew him, and ran afoot thither out of all cities, and outwent them, and came together unto him.

34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

35 And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed:

36 Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.

37 He answered and said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, Shall we go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?

38 He saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes.

39 And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.

40 And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds, and by fifties.

41 And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all.

42 And they did all eat, and were filled.

43 And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes.

44 And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.

Memory Verse: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. John 14:12.

Practical Truth: Christ needs people through which to work in this world.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The need is great today for willing workers for God. Maybe you are thinking of the millions that are dying in China, Africa, and other places without God and you would love to take the gospel to them. But did you not know that God wants us to be workers for him first, right in the home, our neighborhood, city, state and nation? Jesus wants us to look out of our door and be filled with a heart of compassion toward all people near and far. When Jesus told the disciples that they would "receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth."—Acts 1:8. Notice that they would witness in their home town first.

God has given to each one the "ministry of reconciliation."—2 Cor. 5:18-20. We are to reconcile the world to Christ. This is a big work and only God can help us to do it. If they hear, we are doing God's service and if they do not hear we are still doing God's service. "For we are unto God a sweet savor of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: To the one we are the savor of death unto death: and to the other the savor of life unto life."—2 Cor. 2:15-17. We do our part and leave the rest up to the person and his God.

Our lesson brings out the fact that Jesus needed helpers. "He commanded them to make all sit down." (v. 39). This was a big job for the disciples. There were 5000 men besides the women and children. After Jesus blessed the bread they gave it out. We want to ask God to bless the Word before we give it out. Only then will it be effective.

February 17, 1963

IS YOUR RELIGION REAL?

Printed Portion Mark 7:1-13

Mark 7:1 Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem.

2 And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen hands, they found fault.

3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders.

4 And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brazen vessels, and of tables.

5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?

6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

9 And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;

13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Memory Verse: This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. Mark 7:6, 7.

Practical Truth: Careful adherence to the letter of the law will not suffice for true holiness.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson shows the contrast between vain, traditional worship and true worship of God from the heart. To the Jews it was terrible for the disciples of Jesus to eat without ceremonially washing their hands but on the other hand, it was all right, according to the law, for some elderly couple not to have anything to eat because their son had made a religious vow to give what should be used to help his parents to the temple worship. This did not touch them to the point of doing anything about it. Their tradition held that a young Jew would say that his money was "Corban" which meant he had pledged it to the temple even though he didn't intend to give it. Because of his pledge he didn't have to take care of his parents. Jesus called this "vain" worship. They honored God with their lips but their hearts were far from him. They set up certain things they kept which eased their conscience and then lived as they pleased.

Today many feel they can live any way during the week but if they go to church on Sunday and pay their tithes they will make it into heaven. They can forget all about God and his Words during the week. This is vain religion. Jesus says, "Ye must be born again." A change must take place in the heart and life. Those things that are done must be done because it is prompted by a love for God. This is the only kind of a life that is acceptable with God.

February 24, 1963

THOU ART THE CHRIST

Printed Portion Mark 8:27-38.

Mk. 8:27. And Jesus went out, and his disciples into the towns of Cesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked the disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28 And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29 And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30 And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32 And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words, in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Memory Verse: Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Mark 8:34.

Practical Truth: We must believe in our own heart that Jesus is our own personal Saviour before we can be ready to enter heaven.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Before a person can have Bible salvation he must have faith over all doubts that truly Jesus is the Christ, and that He can deliver him from the power of sin, the flesh and the devil. Peter was commended for his confession that Christ was the Messiah that was to come but he was rebuked because he did not understand that Christ had not come to help him and the Jewish people to save their self life in this world. Peter thought, as most Jews, that Jesus had come to deliver them from the Roman rule and he could not go along with Jesus when he began to talk about dying on the cross. Jesus gave them a lesson on how unimportant this self-life was. We must only live here so we can live again over there. Self must be crucified. We must be able to say with Paul, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."—Gal. 2:20. This means something which only will take place when the body, mind, soul and all is fully surrendered to God. When we love this life we will not find eternal life but when we lose this life we will find eternal life. When the self-life moves out the Christ-life moves in.

—Sister Marie Miles