

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



Volume 33, No. 10

42nd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35c Per Year

September, 1964

Life's Rainbows



The soul would have no rainbows
If the eyes possessed no tears,
For only as we face life's storms
True greatness then appears.

The sun shines ever brighter
When it follows wind and rain.
The tearful eyes shine brighter
When they learn to smile again.

Victory follows the battle
When stands the soldier true.
Our Captain goes before us—
He'll lead us safely through.

O, soul, don't fear to trust Him;
He knows just what is best.
He'll purge the dross and tin away,
And give you perfect rest.
—Selected

PROCRASTINATION



"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2.

How many times have you heard the words, "not today, not tonight, not now"? Those words have sealed the destiny of many poor souls. In the natural realm, to put off doing that which we know to be necessary and needful costs us time and money. Our failure to repair the house or car when needed can be quite expensive.

To put off salvation and the necessary things of the spiritual realm can cost us peace, happiness, and our eternal soul.

While reading one day, I came across an interesting ancient legend in which a council was called in hell because the devil was deeply disturbed. He was disturbed because God was populating the earth with a new kind of creature called man, whose distinctive characteristic was a capacity for moral

growth inasmuch as he could tell the difference between right and wrong, and was free to choose good or evil.

Since it was his business to oppose the good, the devil was concerned to find out the best way to ruin man. So he summoned his seven head imps, the leaders of the cohorts of hell, commonly known as the seven deadly sins. First came ANGER, red-faced and fiery-eyed, and offered himself. "Let me go to earth," he said, "and I will destroy men quickly. I will set brother against brother and magnify trifles into serious quarrels. Soon there will be murder in the house and war in the field. Thus shall the race be extinguished." The devil listened attentively, but was silent.

Then LUST spoke up. "Rather send me," he argued. "I will defile men's minds and bring disease to their bodies. I will pervert this generation, enfeeble the next, and blight the next. True love will disappear. Women, thus shorn of their uplifting influence, and men, bereft of self-respect, shall become mere beasts and die of their own debasement." The devil smiled, but gave no further assent.

Whereupon GREED stepped forward. "All that Anger and Lust do crudely, I would do subtly," he said. "Grant me the mission, and I will instill into men's hearts the most destructive of passions. The strong will exploit the weak. Each nation will covet the other's possessions. Soon, mankind will destroy itself in suicidal struggle." But still the devil showed no marked approbation.

"Would not our work be quicker?" asked the disgusting twins of GLUTTONY and DRUNKENNESS. "Give us free rein and we shall bring ruin speedily enough. The race would vanish in stupor or in orgies." But again the devil seemed unsatisfied.

Then stepped forward those vile triplets, ENVY, JEALOUSY, and HATE. "Would not our service be most swift and sure?" they asked. "Once let man grow prejudiced, insanely suspicious, deeply envious, bitter and full of hate, and universal discord is sure to follow." But the devil made no reply.

Looking about for other candidates, Satan espied IDLENESS, fat and unclean, lounging in a corner. Ordered to report, he lazily arose and said, "Let me infect the people with my poison and they will cease to work. Their lands will grow up in weeds. They will sink into savagery and the wild beasts will destroy them." The devil shook his head, still dissatisfied.

Then came PROCRASTINATION, apologizing for being late, voluble with excuses. "I promise I can utterly damn mankind if you entrust the mission to me," said he. "I shall tell him to obey God, to live up to his ideals, to be good, noble, generous, just—but not right now, it is too inconvenient today; tomorrow will do just as well; there is no need to be in a hurry about it!"

The council spontaneously burst into applause. The devil smiled with smug satisfaction. "Thou shalt go—and not fail! Thou hast the secret of our sure success!"

All of these sins, Anger, Lust, Greed, Gluttony, and Drunkenness, Envy, Jealousy, and Hate, Idleness, and Procrastination are at work in our world today. But, all of the first six could be wiped out without too much trouble if it weren't for Procrastination.

Professing Christian, if you are not very careful, you will put off that which you know you ought to do. You realize your need of prayer and the study of God's word, but think within yourself, "I'll do that tomorrow, I'm tired now, soon as I have rested I'll surely study and pray."

"I don't have time right now, but tomorrow or Sunday, I'll visit Sister, or Brother So-and-So, who is sick." Needless to say, too many times, tomorrow never comes. James 4:17, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

The sinner desires peace and happiness, but can't seem to find the ideal time and place to seek God. No doubt, if the rich man in hell could talk to you for just five minutes, he would persuade you not to put off salvation. You, dear sinner, intend to get right with God, but the devil is telling you, "Not now, not today. There is no need to hurry, have a good time, enjoy life." Then one day you will realize that you have waited too long, that the devil has tricked you. **TOO LATE! TOO LATE!** Oh yes, you would like to repent, to turn to the Saviour, but it is too late. Hell is your doom. You will go out into eternity to ride the flames of torment forever and forever. Oh, how sad!

Won't you come to the Saviour today? Repent and turn from your sins; let the Lord speak peace to your troubled soul. Live a life that is pure, that is worthwhile, be an example and a blessing to others.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2.

1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

Isa. 1:18, "Come NOW, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

—T. H. Coffey

Mixed Marriages

A wise man once said, and I quote: "If you, a child of God, marry an unsaved person, a child of Satan, you can be sure that you will have trouble with your father-in-law—the devil himself."

One of the greatest tragedies of today—one of the most critical problems we face is MIXED MARRIAGES—the union of believers and unbelievers. Every day, some Christian young lady or young man kicks over the traces, rejects the Bible teaching against the unequal yoke, and walks down the aisle with a person who has spurned the Son of God and refuses to live a Christian life.

"But I can't help it, I'm in love with him," Christian young ladies protest. "I don't want to lose him, so I'm going to marry him and try to win him over to Christ."

But is such reasoning sensible? Can you expect God to bless your disobedience? Can you expect your marriage to succeed when it already has two strikes against it? There are enough problems to solve in marriage without inviting trouble over religion.

1 Corinthians 7:39 tells us to "marry in the Lord." That means to seek out a Christian companion, one with whom you can share your entire personality and life. As Nelson Veltman says, "It means to be one in the Lord. Your proposed mate may have 'all it takes' in personality, appearance, and like interests. Yet if he or she is not zealous for the faith, you will be separated 'in the spirit' although 'one in the flesh.' God's glory and your life are at stake! Obedience to the commands of the Lord brings Him great glory and endless happiness to your home. On the contrary, disrespect for your Father's Word dishonors God and mars your happiness. You have only one life to live on earth and normally one mate to choose. Marriage is a life-partnership. Your home will be shaped directly by your choice of a companion . . . You are not on this earth to seek selfish joy. God placed you here to glorify Him. When both husband and wife are one in faith and spirituality, there is a symphony of praise ascending to God. Such a home is a bulwark for the Church and the work of God."

Some of you are unmarried young people. May I have your closest attention for a few moments? Let me tell you, after years as a pastor and counselor, that no person is worth the price of a mixed marriage. If you could see the tears I have seen shed; if you could hear the regrets I have heard from the lips of people who have married unbelievers; if you could know their loneliness and emptiness, you would never think twice about even dating an unsaved person. The Bible says that "the way of the transgressor is hard." You can't play with sin and expect

to win. There is only one way to be happy in Jesus and that is "trust and obey."

Marriage is more than a handsome Romeo or delightful Juliet sweeping you off your feet. Looks fade, and personality can flicker and die. The lasting thing in marriage is mutual sharing of love and devotion.

I suppose all of you have heard of Mark Twain, that brilliant American humorist and author. Well, he fell in love with Olivia L. Langdon, a young lady who had been reared in a Christian home, and possessed definite religious convictions. Yet, in spite of her religious teachings, she married Mark Twain, who was far from being an ardent believer. In fact, he is generally considered an agnostic. Because of his love for her though, he did join in asking the blessing and took part in family devotions. But this did not last for long. One day, Mark Twain burst out: "Honey . . . I don't believe in the Bible."

Little by little, his unbelief exerted a deadening influence on his wife's spiritual life. In a time of sorrow, he said, "Livy, if it comforts you to lean on the Christian faith, do so." She sadly replied, "I can't—I haven't any faith left."

This is not an isolated case. Mixed marriages take a regular toll. Marrying an unbeliever is asking for trouble.

God help you, and your family, to obey God's Holy Word in 2 Cor. 7:14, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

May you not learn the hard way the tragedy of MIXED MARRIAGES. —C. B.

The Sin of Worldliness

A great sin among professing Christians is following the ungodly styles and fashions of the carnal, worldly-minded, unbelieving, hell-bound throng of Christ-rejecters who are so numerous in this modern Sodom age.

Many women who profess to follow Christ, dress very immodestly, having the dress above the knees, no sleeves, and low necks, exposing the body. Have women become so deceived and blinded by the false teachers that they think men desire to see a lot of bony and rheumatic knees every time they turn their heads? Many wear shorts, bob their hair, paint their faces and lips, finger and toe nails, dye their hair, wear bracelets, finger rings, ear rings, and often use the poison cigarette. And they indulge their lustful eyes with soul-poisoning TV scenes. What a shame for God's creation to drift so far from godliness into heathenism, and manifest such a proud and haughty spirit toward God's sacred Word which will judge them in that great Day that is coming very soon! All such dressing, undressing, and wearing of adornments is disgraceful in the sight of God, and it is breaking the plain teachings of Christ and the apostles, for it is conforming to the world which is forbidden. (Rom. 12:2). The putting on of "gold, pearls, and costly array" is forbidden. (1 Tim. 2:9).

Some of these same men and women at one time lived free from these things and taught against their use, but now their consciences are seared and they can indulge in them without blush or shame. They become disgraceful in the sight of God and He looks upon the scene with sorrow and grief. They feed the animal lust of the body and create adultery in the opposite sex. In the sight of the Lord they become as hateful birds. Preachers and teachers who uphold and endorse such things have become instruments in the hands of Satan, no matter how pious they may seem to be. They are blind leaders of the blind. What a weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth will take place in that great Day when the secrets of men's hearts are made known. The current of the world is strong and is carrying along a great host of "sacred Scripture" violators. They are selling the truth in order to satisfy the fleshly lusts, please the worldly-minded atheists and the god of this world—fashion—as onward they travel to the lake of fire and brimstone where the fire is never quenched and the worm (soul) never dies. May God awaken poor souls before it is too late, that they may repent and be spared the torments of a never-ending hell.

—Fred Pruitt

"Don't Give It Away"

A man wrote that when he was a child he overheard a friend of his mother's confiding an intimate family problem. His mother saw him hiding behind the door, listening. After the woman left, his mother called him into her sewing room to have a little talk with him. She started by asking him if a friend had left a pocket book or a wallet at their home, would he give away their friend's money. He answered his mother by saying, "Of course not." His mother then continued by telling him that a friend of theirs had left something in their house that day that was far more precious than money. She had left her SECRET. His mother told him that if they gave it away it would hurt her terribly. She also told him that they would also be hurting themselves because a person always ends up very sad when they hurt other people and make them unhappy. The man continued by saying that he never told what he heard that day. His mother's words made such an impression upon him that even though he had lived many years since that day he had learned through putting this bit of wisdom from his mother in practice that he had maintained many-lasting and cherished friendships. He had learned early in life that gossip did not pay.

"If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man." James 3:4.

"A talebearer revealeth secrets; but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter." Prov. 11:13. "Hear counsel and receive instruction that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end." Prov. 19:20. —M. Miles

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

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting month, and we omit an issue that month to attend these meetings) by Lawrence D. Pruitt, assisted by Marie Miles and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur., Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 13th of the month prior to the month of issue.

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A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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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 415 N. 14th St., P. O. Box 210, Phone BUTler 2-3244

EDITORIALS

Greetings once again to our many readers: A number of weeks have passed since the July issue was put in the mail, and for us those weeks have been crowded with activities in the Lord's service. The books, tracts and papers have continued to be mailed out from this office with an earnest prayer that the messages in every copy would be a real spiritual blessing to each reader. Literature evangelism is one method by which we can discharge our responsibility in regard to the Great Commission that Jesus gave to His Church to "preach the gospel to every creature." Many pounds of gospel literature were distributed free of charge at various campmeetings this summer. As "workers together" we solicit your continued prayers and co-operation.

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An order has been given for a large shipment of paper, about 5000 pounds, to be delivered on September 1 from an Eastern paper mill. The cost is approximately \$900.00. Since this is a non-profit "faith" work for God, and has been for more than 40 years, we are expecting the Lord to verify His promise again in paying this obligation which will be due on October 1. He has never failed us yet, and our faith is firm. Thank the Lord!

We thank the Lord and our readers who have contributed toward the payment of the 44-inch power paper cutter which was installed in the printshop last June. It is giving good service and will help increase production of gospel literature. Also, we want to express our appreciation for the fund that has been started toward the purchase of an offset printing press, by which the reproduction of drawings, illustrations, pictures, tracts, and children's papers can be made faster and at much less cost. Our faith takes in the supplying of this much-needed equipment in the Lord's Printshop.

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Bro. Clifford Smith, in consultation with other gospel workers with the Spanish-speaking people, has compiled and set the type for a new Spanish song book (words only, no notes). This new collection, entitled "Himnos de Gloria" (Hymns of Glory), will no doubt supply a long-felt need for such a songbook in Spanish. It consists of 137 songs from various sources. About 70 of these have been translated by others from the "Evening Light Songs" book, and carry the Church of God message and doctrines. The printing of this new Spanish songbook in a heavy paper-bound edition is to be done as soon as this paper is off the press.

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The campmeeting season is about over, along with its toil and its times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Here and there are the cries of new-

born babes in the kingdom of God. When the season finally closes, may we hear from no one that plaintive cry: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. The prophet continues: "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" How sad indeed to know that still wandering out on the barren mountains of sins are many of the saints' children and a multitude of others who have heard the gospel invitation and know what they ought to do!

In the time before the flood the Lord said, "My spirit shall not always strive with man." Gen. 6:3. Soon His mercy and patience ran out when He saw that the people had corrupted themselves and the earth was filled with violence. He decreed destruction upon the people with a flood. Noah, a just man and a preacher of righteousness, was told to build the ark for the preservation of all those who feared and obeyed God. Jesus foretold that as it was in the days of Noah so would it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man. In that day the people would not hear Noah's preaching and warning of impending destruction. Neither will many hear and obey the preaching of the gospel today. How sad!

The Apostle Peter writes: "The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9. The Wise Man gives this warning: "He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." Prov. 29:1. Again Solomon has written one of the saddest texts in the Bible in these words: "And so I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done: this is also vanity." He continues: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men are fully set in them to do evil. Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it will be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: but it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God." Eccl. 8:10-13.

It was my happy privilege by the blessings of the Lord to attend the campmeeting at Jefferson, Oregon where Sister Beatrice Spaur is the pastor. By automobile I accompanied my brother-in-law, Willie C. Murphey, (a minister of the gospel) and his family, and together we enjoyed seeing much of God's great creative handiwork enroute to the meeting. I attended this meeting once before, eleven years ago, and this time we found the saints still pressing on with victory and zealous for the cause of Christ. The meeting was well attended, and we were pleased to meet a number of saints whom we had known only through correspondence. Besides the saints in Oregon, there were others from Washington, California, Idaho, and Montana.

Bro. Gene Harmon and his wife, along with local saints, had labored very faithfully for some months prior to the meeting to build more cabins on the campground in preparation for this meeting. Bro. Harmon also helped Sister Spaur with the care of the congregation, which was also much appreciated. Several ministers were present, and the Lord anointed the Word with convicting power. A number of souls found peace at the altar of prayer. The saints rejoiced in the Lord as they were fed on the Bread of Life.

We would pray God's great hand of protection to be over His work at Jefferson and all the great Northwest. Our exhortation to you is in the language of the Apostle Paul: ". . . stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel." Phil. 1:27.

From Jefferson Bro. Murphey and family drove to southern California. Then he, in company with other Mexico workers, went to El Alamo, Mexico and attended the three-day campmeeting at that mission. They reported a very profitable time in the Lord. A number were at the altar for help and ten were baptized.

From Jefferson I rode with Bro. Royal Taylor to Fresno, Calif. and attended the last two days of the campmeeting there where Bro. Trotter is the pastor. It was a real pleasure to meet and worship with the saints gathered in that meeting. While there I enjoyed my stay and visit in the home of my brother, Andrew, and his family.

From Dinuba I went with Bro. Taylor to Pomona, Calif. and enjoyed a visit of a day or two with my sister, Mary Embly, and family. Also I had a short visit with Bro. Harland Smith and his son, Clifford, at Pomona.

Returning home to Guthrie with Bro. Taylor, I thanked the Lord for a safe and pleasant trip. In a few days he went on to Sheldon, Mo. to help in the tent meeting there.

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It was our pleasure again to attend the National campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. Since I have attended all 26 annual meetings since 1938, I can say from personal knowledge that the interest, attendance and spiritual blessings have been steadily increasing over the years. All praise and honor be unto our God!

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For many days before the Guthrie campmeeting, the weather was extremely hot and dry. The grass was burning up and trees were dying. The saints went to prayer about the matter, and in direct answer, the Lord sent a good rain the night before the meeting started. Within two or three days He sent in a cool north breeze, and the weather was cool and cloudy almost the entire meeting. On some days the saints had to wear coats and jackets. Praise be unto our God who hears and answers prayer—the same God that Elijah served!

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Over 300 different titles of gospel tracts are kept in stock. Send for a free tract list and samples. The influence of one gospel tract may save a soul!

OBITUARIES

Eunice Coral (Myers) Johnson was born in Missouri on July 5, 1885, and passed away August 6, 1964 at Guthrie, Okla. at the age of 79 years.

On August 7, 1927 she was united in marriage to John Johnson who preceded her in death in November, 1936.

Sister Johnson met the saints of the church of God about 1900. That year the family moved to Kansas where they attended the saints' meetings. Soon thereafter she was saved and embraced the truth, then moved to Fargo, Okla. where there was a congregation. In 1906 she and her sister accompanied Sister Julia Myers and her husband by horse and buggy to Ima, N. Mex. where they all homesteaded and lived a number of years. For a time she taught in Bro. Willis M. Brown's school for the saints' children in Roswell, N. Mex. From there she, with her mother and one sister moved to California for a brief period, later settling in La Junta, Colo. where she lived about 44 years.

On April 13, 1961 Sister Johnson moved to Guthrie, Okla. and was much appreciated in this congregation, and her smile and sweet spirit will be greatly missed. She loved the old-time truth and was faithful to help every way she could to get the gospel to others. Hers was a true missionary spirit, living a very careful sacrificial life and giving her means for the cause of God. Her greatest desire was to help in her silent way to keep the ministers on the field, help the missionaries to carry the gospel abroad, and aid the spread of the truth by the printed page. Her life for others was a real example to all. Our loss is Heaven's gain, where she is resting from her labors but her works "will follow on." She will be greatly missed by the saints everywhere, but we humbly say, "The will of the Lord be done."

She leaves to mourn her passing a number of nieces and nephews for whom she carried a great burden. At almost every service she requested prayer for some of them. May God bless each one.

The main funeral service was held at the Church of God chapel here at Guthrie on Aug. 8 with her pastor, Bro. Ira D. Stover, officiating, assisted by Bro. O. C. Porter. Many saints and friends were in attendance to pay their last respects, after which the body was, at her request, escorted by Bro. and Sister Stover to La Junta, Colo. where a graveside service was held and interment made in the Fairview Cemetery beside her husband.

Sister Johnson lived alone at her home in the next block from the publishing plant. We would see her often, as she walked to our office most every day to get her mail which we brought from the postoffice. On Sunday night prior to her passing on Thursday she returned home with Bro. and Sister Stover from attending the National campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. Though tired and worn from the trip she was not sick, but up and going each day. She had mentioned that she was not feeling so well. On Thursday morning she did not respond to her neighbor's telephone call or her knock on her locked doors. We were notified here at the office, and immediately several of us went to her house about 9:30 a. m. Forcing our way in at her back screen door, we found her lifeless on the bathroom floor. The county medical examiner was called at once, and he said she had a heart attack which took her without suffering or a struggle, evidently about 8 a. m. Apparently she had gotten up at the usual time and was preparing to dress when she was stricken.

Needless to say, it was a shock to all of us, and her vacant place in the congregation and absence of her daily visits to the office are being very keenly felt. Her race is run and her crown is won.

The staff of workers at the Faith Publishing House extend their heartfelt sympathy to all the bereaved relatives, saints and friends.

The following verses of a poem written by Bro. R. H. Douglas are dedicated by him to the memory of Sister Johnson:

Body, thou art only a dwelling place
From which the spirit freely flies
To Heaven to be forever with God—
Oh, ransomed soul that never dies.

Thy kindnesses shown in earth,
Thy mercy, love and care,
In obedience to the Father's word,
Thy hours spent in prayer.

Thy interest in the dying ones,
Thy ever-helping hand,
To those in darkness showed the light,
With love did understand.

Oh, ransomed soul, live on and on;
Thy reward the Lord does give,
When thou dost leave the earth behind,
And come to Him to live.

Mary C. Martin, born August 7, 1874 at Rogers, Ark., departed this life Aug. 5, 1964 at the age of 90 years. She was the widow of Joseph A. Martin, a resident of the Webb City, Mo. community for more than 60 years and one of the old-time saints.

Sister Martin is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Mary McClain Moore, Miss Frances Martin, Mrs. Louise Jay; two sons, Cecil Martin, William Martin; seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Mary C. (Lawson) Maycock passed away June 30, 1964 at her home in Ontario, Calif. at the age of 58 years.

She was born in Missouri, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Lawson.

In July, 1960 she was united in marriage to Merrill Maycock.

Sister Connie (as she was known to us) accepted the Lord about 26 years ago and loved and served Him until the end.

Surviving to mourn their loss is her husband, Merrill Maycock; three sisters, Mrs. Frank Clark, Vista, Calif., Mrs. Russell Black, Duenweg, Mo., and Mrs. Sylvester Eliason of Carthage, Mo., five brothers, Paul Lawson, Covina, Calif., Willis and Dennis Lawson, San Bernardino, Calif., Clyde Lawson, Mira Loma, Calif., and Alvah Lawson of Webb City, Mo., besides many saints and friends. We feel our loss is heaven's gain.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Harland Smith and Sister La Vern Manuel.

Ada Florence Barkley, daughter of John U. and Elizabeth (Long) Shoop, was born in Adair Co., Mo. March 23, 1890 and departed this life Aug. 7, 1964 at the age of 74 years, 4 months and 14 days to receive her incorruptible inheritance with our dear Saviour. She was married to Wm. S. Barkley May 1, 1916 and had been a faithful and devoted wife and mother. She accepted the gospel truth before her marriage and lived a continuous Christian life.

Survivors include the husband, one son, Joseph L. Barkley of Dayton, Ohio, one daughter, Mrs. Clifford (Delia) Peacock of Brookville, Ohio; one brother, Isaiah L. Shoop, two sisters, Mrs. Opal A. Williams and Mrs. Samuel (Leah) Thomas, six grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Joseph W. Smith with burial in the Old Teagarden Cemetery.

Campmeeting Reports

HOLLY HILL, S. CAR. CAMPMEETING REPORT

Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: The Lord has been so good to me and the work here at Holly Hill, S. C. I am glad to send in our report of the campmeeting held here this summer. Many of the saints received a greater blessing from the Lord. Eleven converts were baptized and 45 took part in the ordinance service. Oh, how wonderful the Lord was to us. Many came from different states to make this meeting a success. We are not looking for many in these days to come to Christ because sin is choking out the Word and souls are becoming unfruitful. But thanks be to the Lord, there are a few blood-washed saints that will stand.

Pray for me and the work here at Holly Hill.

Yours for lost souls, —Oneal Pratt

AKRON, OHIO CAMPMEETING REPORT

Dear Saints and readers abroad, greetings in Jesus' dear name: We are happy to report victory in our campmeeting held here in Akron, Ohio. As we have stated before, words cannot express our gratitude for the many wonderful blessings our Lord has bestowed on us in these few precious months we have been here.

At our campmeeting in July our Lord made it possible for Spirit-filled ministers to be here to preach the full gospel on all lines. Souls were saved, sanctified, encouraged, edified, and healed.

Our Lord so bountifully supplied our needs from kitchen to pulpit, besides giving us a spacious and convenient building for the meeting. Many isolated saints were privileged to enjoy and to be edified by the anointed gospel that went forth. Seven states were represented here. Now since our meeting closed the Lord has saved five other souls. We shall forever praise His holy name.

We still solicit your prayers for the work here. The harvest truly is white and laborers are few.

Yours for the work of the Lord, —Sister Hazel Clark

GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMPMEETING REPORT

Dear Saints abroad, greetings to you in Jesus' dear name: We want you to know that we are encouraged in the Lord to press on for Him. There is nothing that we left behind in sin that we desire to go back to. The enemy works in various ways to hinder sometimes but we can't afford to give any place to the devil to work.

The Hammond, La. Campmeeting was blessed of the Lord. The preaching was exceptionally good. Several ministers were present from different parts of the country. The attendance was larger than in several years and the Lord sent rain which gave relief from the heat.

Six children were saved and baptized. Several adults sought help at the altar of prayer. The ordinance service was precious with about seventy-five in attendance.

We were glad to welcome Bro. and Sister T. H. Coffey from Mobile, Ala. who have taken their stand

with the saints. They desire the prayers of the saints that the Lord will work out something for them.

Our desire is that the saints pray for us that we will be able to fill our place in the Body to His glory. There is coming a day when we will all have to give an account to God for our stewardship. We do not want to fail the Lord.

—M. F. Williamson

NATIONAL CAMPMEETING REPORT

The 26th annual gathering of God's people at the National campmeeting at Neosho, (Monark Springs) Mo. began and closed with victory over every opposition of Satan.

A number of days before the meeting started the ground was a beehive of activity, preparing for the large attendance of saints and others who came from many states. They kept coming to occupy the many camp tents, the cabins and dormitories until on the first Sunday there were around 600 attending the services. This indicates that there are yet many people who love and appreciate the old-time truth.

Best of all, God's presence was on the grounds, anointing His ministers with holy unction in preaching the Word on all lines and sending conviction on the unsaved. The altars were filled with seekers day after day. The showers of spiritual blessings came down on the saints time after time. About 40 ministers were present. Forty-three converts were baptized, and about 151 happy saints observed the ordinances of God's House—the Lord's supper and feet-washing.

All of the financial needs of the meeting were supplied without money "drives"—just three public free-will offerings were taken during the ten days. Bro. Kenneth Probst, the new business manager, with the assistance of Bro. Ralph Beisly and several others, did excellent work and very efficiently took care of the temporal affairs. At the business meeting plans were made to build a new caretaker's home on the site of the old one which is inadequate, and to make other improvements on the grounds to care for the ever-increasing attendance. The caretaker's cottage is urgently needed NOW, and is to be built right away this autumn or as soon as the funds become available. For this purpose please send your free-will contributions direct to Bro. Kenneth Probst, Rt. 4, Box 172, Carthage, Mo.

All of the lots on the campground have been sold to qualified individuals on a long-term lease basis. Since there is a waiting list to buy lots there, if anyone has a lot to sell, please contact the undersigned, and the transfer will be arranged.

The prevailing spirit of love and unity throughout the meeting was convincing to the onlooker and those who were there for the first time. A number of saints have taken their stand for the whole truth out of false movements and divisions, coming home to Zion with everlasting joy.

"No longer Babel's bondage the bride of Christ can hold, God's children now are holy and free from Babel's fold: For it is fallen, fallen, and it shall rise no more; We cling alone to Jesus as did the saints of yore."

—Lawrence D. Pruitt, Secretary
P. O. Box 713, Guthrie, Oklahoma, 73044.

OKLAHOMA STATE CAMPMEETING REPORT

The Oklahoma State campmeeting of the Church of God here at Guthrie has come and gone. This was the 30th annual campmeeting at this location. Truly, the Lord has blessed us again in a precious way, and many

remarked of what a sweet spirit of unity and love prevailed. The meeting was a time of real spiritual uplift and encouragement for all hungry souls.

The attendance was good and the preaching of the Word was rich and precious. The ministers came with a burden for souls and to prepare the saints for whatever the future holds for the glorious Church of God in this awful sinful world. We can say of a truth that the Lord blessed in a wonderful way in stirring souls, edifying the saints, saving, sanctifying believers and healing the sick. All praise and glory be to His matchless Name!

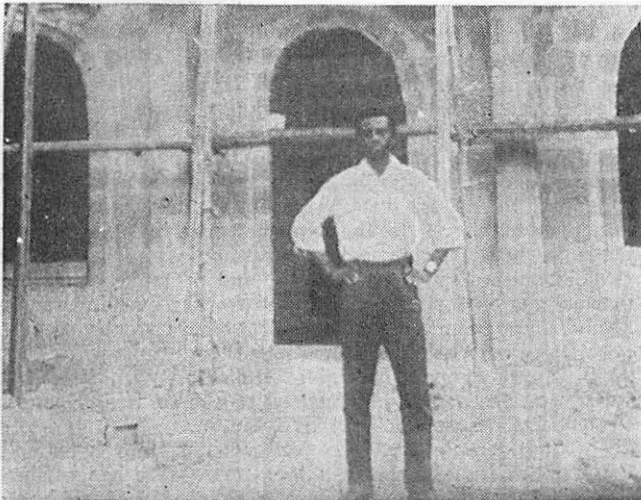
The dear Lord saw fit to call Home our precious Sister E. Coral Johnson of the Guthrie congregation just before the meeting, and we had her funeral on the first Saturday morning of the meeting.

One outstanding blessing appreciated by all was the way the Lord cooled the weather. It had been awfully hot right up until the meeting started, and then in answer to the saints' prayers, it was real cool almost the entire meeting. Praise the dear Lord for His goodness!

Let us all be faithful and true to the end, for remember, there will be a glorious reward if we endure, never looking back.

May the Lord ever bless you is our prayer until we meet again. Your Brother in Christ, —I. D. Stover

NIGERIAN MISSIONARY REPORT



The permanent-type chapel nearing completion with the carpenter standing in front.

Ever since the July paper was mailed we have continued to receive regular reports and letters from Bro. R. U. Etuk, minister of the Church of God Mission in Nigeria, and his secretary in regard to their activities in that needy field. Much of their temporal work has centered around the preparations for the arrival of Bro. and Sister Ostis Wilson, for whom they have been anxiously waiting for some weeks. On July 25 Bro. Etuk wrote that, on advice from Bro. Wilson, he had rented a furnished house for them nearby.

Regular monthly bank drafts were sent from the Missionary Fund for the support of the native workers at the various stations. Some weeks ago a bank draft was sent to Bro. Etuk to cover the cost of completing the roof on the new cement-block headquarters' chapel building where Bro. and Sister Wilson plan to do much of their work in training native workers.

On Aug. 13 Bro. Etuk wrote that the roofing of the chapel pictured above had been completed one week be-

fore, and would be ready for Bro. and Sister Wilson's reception on Sunday, Aug. 16. Installation of the doors and windows, and plastering of the walls and floor are yet to be done, but he stated "that should not in any way hinder the August 16th plans."

In the same letter of Aug. 13, Bro. Etuk wrote that he had received a telegram from Port Harcourt, Nigeria the evening before which read, "Ship arriving Aug. 11." He was under the impression that Bro. and Sister Wilson did arrive at Port Harcourt, some 80 miles away. He was going the afternoon of the 13th to meet and bring them back on the 14th. Previous to this time they had gone to Port Harcourt twice, as they did not know exactly what date their ship would arrive.

Bro. and Sister Wilson's Journey to Nigeria

Bro. and Sister Ostis Wilson embarked on a ship of the West Africa Line on Wednesday, July 15, at New York, having been brought over to the port from Kalamazoo, Mich. by Ralph and Dorothy Wilkins in their station wagon, and they stayed until all their baggage was unloaded and in proper hands.

It was a remarkable coincidence in the time and way in which Bro. Wilson was able to contact, meet and visit about two hours in downtown Manhattan with his brother, Clifford, whose ship had just docked at Philadelphia from Japan.

Leaving New York, their ship passed the brightly illuminated Statue of Liberty about midnight. On July 16 Bro. Wilson wrote us a letter when they had been out 10 hours. They reported that they had real nice first-class accommodations. He was doing well, but Sister Opal had been feeling a little sick. All twelve of the passengers aboard were missionaries bound for different fields in Africa. The ship was going up the coast of New England enroute to Halifax, Nova Scotia to take on some more cargo of flour, as this is primarily a freighter. From there, after a one-day stop, it would head out to sea to cross to Monrovia, Liberia. At Halifax he mailed the letter to us which closed with this request, "Pray for us and the success of our mission, and for our safety and health."

On Aug. 9 Bro. Wilson sent an interesting letter of their sea voyage from their ship anchored outside the port of Lagos, Nigeria to Bro. and Sister Stover. It was received on Aug. 14 and read to the saints assembled here at the Guthrie campmeeting. They had been on the ship over three weeks, and were anxious to get to their destination at Port Harcourt which was not too far away. At the time of writing their ship was waiting its turn to get into the port of Lagos.

Bro. Wilson wrote in part: "Opal and I have both been sick, but not anything severe like we hear of some folks having. It affected us in different ways—Opal being affected in her head with dizziness and light-headedness, but not bothering her stomach. I was never bothered in my head at all, but it hit me right square in the stomach. I had a few brief vomiting spells," and did not feel like eating very regularly. "Opal could always get straightened out by lying down and lying still for a while. So we think we have gotten along just fine and have been able most of the time to go out on deck and enjoy the water and visiting with the other passengers any time we wanted to. We are surely thankful to the Lord that we have gotten along as well as we have and, in the main, the voyage has been a very enjoyable one. The trip has been nice and interest-packed all the way, and has supplied us with several new experiences. But now we are anxious to reach our destination and get started in our work there and the experiences it holds for us.

We know there are problems that we know nothing about so could not possibly make any plans or preparations for meeting them only through God. But we are looking to Him by day and by night to qualify and equip us for all eventualities and to meet every problem that arises both spiritually and physically."

"Give our Christian love and best regards to all the saints, . . . and remind them we are depending much on their prayers."

The Wilsons' Ship Docked at Port Harcourt, Nigeria on August 12

Two letters in the same mail came from Bro. Wilson just before this paper went to press, telling of their safe arrival at their new mission home in Nigeria, W. Africa. Thank the Lord for answered prayer thus far! Following are excerpts from each letter:

"We send you greetings of Christian love in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who has kept His good hand stretched out over us and brought us safely to this place. We docked in Port Harcourt about 7:00 yesterday morning (Aug. 12).

"We thought maybe Bro. Etuk would be there, as I had sent him a letter from Monrovia letting him know we had reached Africa and telling him where and how to check on the ship as to its arrival time. So we stood out on the deck leaning over the rail for quite a little while when the ship docked so in case he was there he could locate us. But he was not there, and after so long a time we went on about our affairs. The immigration officer never came on board until between 9:30 and 10:00, so we never got off the ship until about 10 o'clock. We could not leave the ship until he had cleared us.

"The agent of the steamship company was there and took charge of us as soon as we were released, and got some boys to carry our baggage, and we trailed them away on down the line to the customs office. They went through all our [hand baggage] and decided it would cost us 15 pounds customs duty. The shipping agent kept arguing with them and telling them we were missionaries and were not going to stay in the country long and there should be no duty. . . . Since we could not understand them enough to get the connection of their conversation, about all we knew to do was just let the ship agent argue the case and tell us what we were to do. . . . Finally he came out and said they would settle for five pounds." We paid them a sum "which would amount to about \$12.80 total. . . . Pretty soon they came out and put their mark on all the pieces of luggage and cleared it.

"Then we had to go back up to the ship and get the trunk and two large boxes which had been carried in the baggage locker of the ship and not unloaded yet when we had left with our hand baggage. Then we had to go back to customs with that." The agent went in and talked a little, then the authorities "came out and put their mark on all those pieces and cleared them without anything."

"The agent stayed with us until we got everything cleared and got our stuff out to the gate.

"As we were going up the road leading to the gate out of the docks, a man walked up to us and wanted to know if we were the Wilsons. We told him we were, and it was Bro. Alalibo. Bro. Etuk had been down last week when the ship should have been in and had come back and left instructions with Bro. Alalibo to keep check on the ship and send him a telegram when it would arrive. So he came to meet us and took us out to his place, arriving there about noon or maybe 1 o'clock, and spent the afternoon there with him and went to service with him that night. He asked Opal to preach to them, which she did, and Bro. Alalibo interpreted for her. . . . I suppose

there were about 25 at the service. . . . They seemed like an earnest, sincere group of people, and really made the room ring with their singing, and listened attentively to the gospel.

Bro. Alalibo, his wife and three children live in two rooms, and they have a cousin living with them, "so we proposed to go to a hotel that night. . . . He took us down to one. We got a room with bath, but the bath did us very little good as we could hardly get enough water to wash our faces and to get shaved." Until a late hour they kept us awake with loud music and talking . . . and we never slept much that night.

"Bro. Etuk and Bro. Friday Ekpo and a few others came after us yesterday (Aug. 13) in a Volkswagen bus which they had rented. . . . We got out here about 5:30 or so in the evening and they delivered us right to our place. And our place far exceeds anything we imagined we could get in this area. The Lord has well provided for us a real good situation. They had rented for us the upstairs part of a real big house. We have three large rooms with a covered porch front and back, and wood floors instead of dirt, and lots and lots of windows so we can get all the breeze that is available. It costs us \$21.20 per month. They had paid one month's rent, but we refunded them that money and are really happy and thankful to the dear Lord for providing us with such a good place. It is about a mile from the chapel. Our house is right out in the jungle, but has been cleared out all around the house and is nice and clean around it. But it is just a short distance to real jungle in any direction.

"When we got here they had already carried water for us, so we set up our little kerosene camp stove we had bought in Port Harcourt and soon got us some water boiled so we could have a drink. . . . This morning by the time we got up some of the sisters came carrying us more water for today. There have been folks coming in all during the day today to welcome us and to get acquainted. Different ones of the elders and pastors have been in and all seem real happy that we have come. They all speak reverently of David Madden, and how grieved they were to hear of his passing and said they feared when they heard of that, that we would change our minds about coming. But they say they are real glad we did not change our minds but came on, and they thank God for bringing us here for the sake of the truth. Bro. Friday Ekpo says they are convinced that what the Church of God is teaching is the truth.

"It has not rained for a few days, but they say it will come again a little later for a month or so real heavy, and then the dry season will start in October. We have had some pretty good sweats when we exert a little, but so far it has not actually been too hot—perhaps not as hot as there.

"Bro. Etuk's car is in the shop now until about next Saturday, so we are about grounded until he gets it going again. The chassis broke and he is having to have another chassis put under it, and some other work, maybe.

" . . . All of you pray for us all the time.

"Will close now with Christian love and prayers from

—Ostis B. and Opal Wilson."

"DEATH DOES NOT DENOTE DEFEAT"

(Editor's note: We are pleased to share with our readers the following very inspiring letter recently received from Bro. Robert Longley who some 36 years ago was a missionary in the Fiji Islands and visited other mission fields around the world. In regard to Bro. Madden, I must add that we are still receiving letters of

appreciation from the Nigerian gospel workers whose lives were touched and blessed by his Christian spirit, for the songs he taught them to sing, and the encouragement he gave them to translate gospel literature into the Efik language. Will the Church in America rise to meet the challenge of the foreign mission fields?)

Dear Lawrence, Marie and Co-Workers:

Greetings to you in the Spirit and Name of Jesus. After Bro. Royal Taylor told me, and then I read in the "Faith and Victory" of what might seem the untimely death of Bro. David Madden, I felt impressed to write you of an incident that occurred while I was in the Fiji Islands—not necessarily for any publication—but that if possible, you and co-workers there might have your courage strengthened in praying for laborers to be raised up for the great and needy harvest field.

In the fall of 1928 a boat docked there, traveling on which was a man that, about thirty years before, in company with another devout man, had gone to the interior of Africa. He came ashore and talked to a group of five or six of us. His first name was Charles; his former co-laborer, Tom. They had been greatly burdened for souls in the interior of Africa. This love, burden, and devotion called them to leave their good jobs, homes and loved ones in this country, and they made their way to the West Coast of Africa. Most all the established workers there on the coast counselled—even pled with them not to undertake a venture to the interior—warning of the hazards and tragedies that could befall them. They did not want to ignore this advice and pleadings, so decided to spend a week in prayer and fasting and waiting upon the Lord. He said their burden was greater and heavier at the end of this period—with a definite witness and assurance that it was God's will for them to go into the interior. They employed some native carriers and within about six weeks were 1,000 miles inland, and felt there was where God would enable them to establish a mission. They set about with their axes and other tools to build a shelter-hut and also somewhat of a crude mission building. Within six months Tom was stricken with fever. They prayed, but the fever grew worse. The Lord made known to Tom that He was going to receive him unto Himself. He called Charles to his side and told him not to be discouraged—that death did not denote defeat. He also asked him to take his mother a few keepsakes if he ever returned to their home. After Tom had gone, Charles labored on for a few months, but keenly felt the need of help. He made his way back to the coast and on back to this country.

He said he went rather trembling and grief-stricken to Tom's home, but told them of the faith and love and courage with which Tom gave up the fight. As the mother received the few keepsakes sent from the death bed of her son, she told Charles that she had much rather Tom had obeyed God's call than to have refused or neglected, that he probably could have prospered materially but lost out spiritually, and that God had comforted her with the assurance that Tom's death would be as a fertile seed in that darkened land.

Charles went about the U. S. and Canada speaking of the great need and of Tom's noble sacrifice in laying down his life for Jesus and souls. Charles told us that within two years nearly 100 volunteers had been inspired to take up the torch and cross that Tom had laid down, and thus started what is known as the African Inland Mission.

Bro. Madden had a very short stay and contact with the dear people in Nigeria, but I feel that his death will be as seed sown and many will be stirred and inspired to

answer the urgent calls to that needy field. "Death does not denote defeat."

MEXICO MISSIONARY REPORT

Aug. 14—Dear Saints of God everywhere: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ our Lord, and in the name of our Father, God, who swore to our father Abraham "that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life" Luke 1:74, 75. Glory be to God! "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification" 1 Thess. 4:3. "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 our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it!" 2 Thess. 5:23, 24. Again, I say, glory to God!

Ejido Patzcuaro, Mexicali—The Lord has permitted services every other Sunday lately. On July 31, 70 people were in attendance. The Spirit blessed wonderfully. Two women were gloriously saved. One elderly saved man, sorely afflicted in body several weeks, requested prayer for healing. A number of Mexican brothers and sisters gathered around for agreement of prayer. Heaven fell. Shouts went up to God, to whom we give all praise. Aug. 9, a very hot day, approximately same attendance, separate classes for adults and children; six of the children raised their hands for prayer to be saved. Pray for them. Upon leaving, one brother who lives in Delta, 3 miles from Patzcuaro, pleaded with us to come to that town and help them erect a chapel where, he said, "there are about 70 children and many adults who want to hear the gospel and cannot get to Patzcuaro (no transportation), besides others who could probably be persuaded to meeting if there were services in that town." (Dear readers, this is the general picture all through that country. Hundreds of hungry souls in the many villages. We would that more would get a vision like Paul did in Acts 16:9 when he saw a man standing and saying, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Just be sure that the Lord has called!)

Santa Catarina: Thank the Lord for answered prayer in behalf of Bro. Tomas' wife, Dama, who is well after some weeks of illness. Brother Tomas is much encouraged and inspired in the work in S. Catarina, Valle de Trinidad, Llano Colorado, and gave such a good personal testimony the weekend of Aug. 1 and 2 in spite of car break-downs, being stuck in the mud after three days of much-needed rain, wife and children being away because of illness, not being able to make a long-desired trip to Coahuila to their home state to visit Sister Mendoza's people and give out the gospel as the Lord would direct, and other things that try our faith and patience.

Brother Able in Valle de Trinidad, a recent convert, is showing much growth in the Lord and promises to be a pillar in the Church of God and also indicates a call to preach. A few weeks back an elderly woman was saved in that congregation. Previously there had been four saved one week, then on Easter Sunday three more were saved in a general meeting at El Alamo, (three from the Valle de Trinidad congregation) so there is a good nucleus there to grow from. Attendance there is usually forty, in a small house. The Mexican brethren are making adobes with which to erect a chapel.

El Alamo awaits with anticipation the Sunday school and worship services each week; however, there too, it has been about every other week because of some workers being home on leave. We rejoice, however, to know that soon some shall return to the field, the Lord willing.

The death of 11-year-old Jose Chacon has brought a deepening down in the life of the mother and, as she stated to Bro. James Huskey, "I am a changed woman." She and the father both asked each other to forgive them for their short comings, prayed and wept, and, we trust, purposed in their hearts to live better for God. The congregation in El Alamo is precious to our hearts and we love them dearly. Pray that the Lord will direct the ones He would have to return there as resident workers. Sister Ruby Marken reports that she will not be able to return to the work at this time. Her mother has been a very sick woman and our prayers go up to God for the entire family.

Recently Bro. Chilo Quintero accompanied me on a trip and he marvelled at how quickly the Indians at La Huerta gathered for service without any foreknowledge of anyone arriving at that particular hour to conduct service. On crude benches under a shade tree the Lord blesses us from time to time and the young people seem disappointed when services are ended because they love to sing so well. They also need and desire a resident worker to minister to them. Pray for this need. Many cannot read for themselves.

Ojos Negros, midway between Ensenada and Santa Catarina and 10 miles from La Huerta, offers a real challenge to my soul. This fertile, prosperous little farming valley with its several hundred Mexican inhabitants, is waiting, literally waiting for the Church to erect a chapel and establish a work there. We have had services in a house there from time to time, but certain conditions and circumstances seem to make it imperative that we have a meeting house ample to meet the need. At such a time as God enables the workers to do this, my faith takes in 200 people in attendance, on Sunday, as well as a well attended mid-week prayer and praise service. We have a big God—let's believe Him for big things. (Space will not permit me to unload my heart.)

Asseradero, the sawmill up in the pine forest, with its several hundred people nestled closely together, offers us another open door where, at the present, there is no fundamental work of God, but sin is on the rampage. My heart bleeds for the needy souls in these places. Please pray much that they be reached! We have sown the town with the Spanish gospel papers; seen a good response, heard the children ask, "Is there going to be a service?" As we waited upon God from week to week, one day a 'door' opened. A man said we could have his house, his yard, anything we desired to hold services. (Months before he had been shown kindness and favor when given a ride along the road, taken to his destination, given food for the night out of a lunch sack.) "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days." Eccl. 11:1.

Brother James Huskey and wife Charlotte report victory from Rosarito, in the midst of battles which they have cast upon the Lord, and desire the saints' prayers for various burdens. Young Brother Estephan and wife are faithful to service, Bro. Estaphan showing continued evidence of a call to be a spiritual leader. Prayer request comes for Sister Esquer. God knows the need if we don't.

Continue to pray for the work Sister Hite has started in Ensenada, that it will expand and grow in that city of many thousands of people. There is a great need there for a chapel, also. Pray for God's will to be done!

We extend a hearty thanks for the offerings toward the purchase of a new truck for the Mexico work. At this writing, \$1,628.50 has been received. God bless you richly.

Your unprofitable servant, writing in behalf of all the workers,
—Bro. Harland Smith

(Editor's note: The response has been very good but \$2,500 is needed to get a truck. Please continue to send your offerings for the truck and the general support of the Mexico work direct to Bro. Harland Smith, 317 E. Cucamonga Ave., Claremont, Calif.)

EVANGELISTIC TENT REPORT

Dear Saints scattered abroad: We send greetings to all who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb. We are thankful to be numbered with the redeemed.

We just returned from the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. We enjoyed the good fellowship with the saints. Our souls were blessed to see new faces and to know God is still calling His children into one fold. The Lord blessed with lots of good help in the work on the grounds. We appreciated every one. We appreciated the cooks who so faithfully worked in the kitchen and all the good cooperation of young and old alike and even the little children who wanted to help. Surely our souls do magnify the Lord. We want to say we commend our young people on their good conduct. We appreciate their consideration and help in every way. May the Lord enrich their lives with His blessings and make each one a blessing to many at home, school, or on the jobs. We want to see them again next year with added strength and abounding in the graces of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

After we arrived home Monday evening from Monark we found our basement with eight inches of water in it and our washer and dryer sitting in the water. It was a disappointment especially with a large washing to do, but God who is rich in grace gave us such quietness and satisfaction in knowing that He knows all things. Even though we were tired and worn, we could just commit it all for the best. The Lord is so good in times of adversity. Let us recommend Him to you! We had to pump water until almost midnight. We still don't know the damage it did to the appliances but feel assured that all will be well. We rest assured in the precious promise that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.

For the benefit of those who didn't attend the business meeting at Monark, there was a financial report read of the National Missionary fund. We are thankful how God is blessing in this effort of reaching souls. The trailer house debt as of Aug. 15 has been paid in full. We praise the Lord for all His leadings and dealings in this matter. A tent meeting has been held at Grubbs, Arkansas for ten days, and from there it will move to Fairview, Okla. to start a meeting there on Aug. 21. We are praying the Lord to bless by His Spirit in these meetings and others that may follow. Bro. and Sister Albert Eck and daughter, Bro. Eddie Wilson and Bro. Royal Taylor have consecrated to go and work. Let us pray that God will bless them richly.

Bro. and Sister Curtis Williams and Bro. and Sister Martin Samons told us at Monark that they would be going in meetings in Ohio and North Carolina. Our hearts rejoice to know that God is calling laborers in this great harvest field in America as well as to foreign fields. Let us help them with our prayers and financial support. May the Lord richly bless all of you who have made it possible for this work to go forth. Pray for us that we will prove faithful at our post of duty.

Remember the request the Lord left, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth

laborers into his harvest." Let us all have a part by supporting those who go.

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

GOSPEL SINGING AT WEBB CITY, MO.

The saints at Webb City, Mo. invite you to a gospel singing to be held in their chapel on Friday night, Sept. 11. Bring your songbooks and come prepared to make melody in your hearts unto the Lord. For further information contact Sister Ersa Carrick, 502 S. Hall St., Webb City, Mo.

Out-of-Print Books Wanted

If you have for sale any of the following books, please contact T. N. Walker, 9049 So. Princeton Ave., Chicago 20, Ill.

"The Birth of a Reformation," by A. L. Byers, "Winning a Crown" by C. W. Naylor, "God's Will and How to Know It" by C. W. Naylor, "The Way of Prayer" by C. E. Brown, "A Celestial Pilgrimage" by R. L. Berry, "Christian Theology" by R. Byrum, and "Baptism, Lord's Supper, Feet Washing" by H. M. Riggle.

Tape Recorder For Sale

As a service to our readers who may need a tape recorder in the Lord's work, we insert the following ad: Webcor Royal Tape Recorder, excellent condition, recent thorough check. New price about \$250. Will sell for \$100, plus transportation. Used comparatively little. Write R. F. Wilson, 1439 Wendell Way, Yuba City, Calif.

"EVENING LIGHT" TAPE LIBRARY

This is a tape library, from which recorded tapes are loaned to you as you would borrow a book from any public library. These are sermons by "evening light" ministers only, and songs and special singing by "evening light" saints only. Please mention speed wanted—15/16, 1-7/8, 3/4 or 7/8. This project is the Lord's. No charge is made. You may help with postage if you desire. Tapes must be returned in 30 days so others may use them.

—Edward J. Kroker, Box 904, Mehama, Oregon.
Phone 859-3535.

Slight Change of Address

Bro. Curtis Williams, a full-time traveling evangelist, requested that our readers be informed of a slight change in his mailing address. It is Route 3, Box 166 (not 98), West Alexandria, Ohio. He may be reached by phone through Eaton, Ohio, number 456-2977. Recently he has been holding meetings in South Carolina and at present he is in a meeting in Pennsylvania.

Also, there are several other traveling ministers. If you desire and can arrange for a meeting in your community, please send your request to this office and we will forward it to these consecrated traveling ministers.

ORDINANCES OBSERVED IN "DEATH ROW"

Dear Saints and readers: On July 2, 1964 the New Testament ordinances of feet-washing and the Lord's Supper were observed in "death row" at Angola, La. This is the first feet-washing in "death row" at Angola prison that we can find any record of. The group consisted of Bro. Cecil Carver, Bro. Wayne Turner and myself. We observed the feet-washing and the Lord's Supper. Bro.

Carver washed Bro. Turner's feet, Bro. Turner washed mine and I washed Bro. Carver's and we all received a great blessing. We had prayer and the Scripture reading, then sang a portion of a hymn. At first Bro. Turner was nervous, then became calm and he received a real joy and blessing to his soul.

On August 8, 1964 I visited Bro. Turner again and found him very much encouraged and deepening down in the things of the Lord. He seemed to get such a blessing from this visit and was much encouraged.

The Amite, La. jail service is still going good and much interest has been shown. The last two Sundays there has been deep conviction with a number of the prisoners raising their hands for prayer that they might be saved.

Please continue to pray for us that we might have wisdom in this work.

Your brother in Christ,

—E. B. Pinkerton

TESTIMONIES



Tenn.—Dear Saints and readers, greetings in the lovely name of Jesus: I desire to write my testimony for the glory of God. I'm glad to report victory in my soul today and to say that I'm walking in all the light that shines on my pathway as I'm able to understand it. I praise the dear Lord for His precious truth. He says, "But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." My only desire is to please God in my life at all times. I'm glad that God knows the intents of our hearts. There are no secrets from Him. Man will misunderstand and misjudge us sometimes, but our all-wise God is a righteous Judge. He knows everything. He is merciful to all people. More like Christ every day my heart does say. I realize it surely means much to live according to the teaching of the Holy Bible and to try to go to heaven any other way than by the teaching of the holy Scriptures would only be a foolish venture. The holy Scriptures will be just the same in that great Judgment Day as they are today. God's way is best, I'm sure.

My heart has been much encouraged by the dear Lord being so mindful of us isolated saints here in Tennessee by sending Brother Ray Key to preach to us three very precious messages. I believe all were encouraged in the three nights' services. I know I enjoyed every service. I thought what a sacrifice that was for the two brothers to come so far to be a blessing to the saints here. Nothing pleases me any more than to be privileged to attend services with the saints.

Yours in the everlasting Kingdom, —Nora Clayton



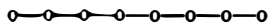
La.—Dear Saints, greetings in the name of the Lord: He is such a patient and merciful God.

I feel inspired to tell of some of the things God has done for me. Back in the month of June, I severely cut my toe on a root while swimming. The first few minutes it pained terribly, and all I could do was groan and hold my foot. Then the pain subsided somewhat. I got up and started walking to the car, and as I walked I told God how my life was consecrated to Him. I told Him that I was putting this foot into His hands. The very next day after the accident took place the toe started to knit. Within two days I could limp around a little, but the toe was still draining. By another two days it was knitted except right under the toe where it was still draining. Six days after it was hurt the Lord told me in the night that He would heal it entirely if I would send a testimony to the saints through the "Faith and

Victory." And He did heal. Praise the Lord! One week after the accident I went to morning services, jail services, and night services. That night I came home, looked at my toe and it was healed! Praise God! He tested my faith and the devil tried to discourage, but by God's living grace, He brought me through victorious! Praise His name!

Pray for me that I will always stay in the center of God's will.

Your brother in Christ, —Melvin Doolittle



Oklahoma.—Dear Sister Marie and Saints: I wish to share with you what the Lord has done for me. I know God has heard and answered our prayers. He has healed my body. We want to give thanks to the dear Lord for His wonderful healing power. Since going through this affliction, God has helped me much. I want to be a better Christian and live closer to Him, so I can be of help to someone else. We appreciate all the prayers of the saints.

I get pretty nervous at times and have gas attacks, but we know He is able to take care of this also. Please pray for us that we will be what the Lord wants us to be. May God bless each one.

Your sister, —Florence Sisk



Oklahoma.—Dear Saints, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I am still saved and much encouraged to live for the dear Lord. I thank all the dear saints for their prayers in my behalf. I just thank the dear Lord for how He blesses me from day to day, how He keeps me encouraged to live for Him and how He heals my body.

During the campmeeting at Hoffman I had a severe pain in my body and it had been painning me for some time. The saints anointed me and prayed for me and I haven't felt the pain since. Truly, the Lord is good to His children. I just thank and praise Him for His goodness and mercy unto me. What a mighty God we serve!

Dear saints, I desire your prayers. Continue to pray for me that I will be all in this life that God would have me to be. Truly, I mean to press on—I mean heaven at any cost. I desire to grow stronger in the Lord and to do the little things that the Lord would have me to do.

Pray for our unsaved children that they will get saved before it is too late.

Your saved sister, —Fannie Taylor



Texas.—Dear Saints, greetings in the name of our wonderful Savior, Jesus Christ:

Surely, I have many things to be thankful for. Most of all I am thankful for salvation. I promised the Lord that I would send in a testimony to the paper if He would help me fix the generator on my car. It was a trial to me this past week, but thanks to our God, He helped me fix it. Not only do I trust God for my healing and my future, but I know also that the Lord is well able to fix cars if we can believe and have faith in our Almighty Saviour and Guide.

I desire the prayers of all the saints concerning my life and my future. And, I am pressing towards that wonderful goal of eternal life with the Lord. Pray for me that I'll be more consecrated to the cause of our Lord.

Enclosed is a small offering for the work at the print shop. I truly enjoy the testimonies and the messages that are in the "Faith and Victory" each month.

Pray for the work of God here in the "panhandle" area of Texas.

A brother in Christ, —Kedron Ellis

S. Carolina.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints of God: May our Lord bless all of us in these evil days. May He keep us near the cross and in the strait and narrow way that leads from earth to heaven.

I truly thank the good Lord for what He is to me. I love the Lord and I mean to serve Him until I die. I enjoy living for the Lord. I want to get closer and closer to Him each day.

I want all of the saints to remember me in their prayers. I have an affliction on my body that has been on me for about a year now, and I want all of the saints and ministers to join with me and ask our Lord to heal it if it is His will. If it is not His will, His will be done, and I will give Him the praise for it all.

I truly thank God for His true ministers and saints. May He ever bless each one of them. Pray for my family and my in-laws. I still love my Lord.

I did not get to attend the campmeeting as I wanted to, as we had moved away and I could not walk to it but I prayed for it just the same. I enjoyed what I did hear and it was strength to me.

May our Lord bless all of you. —Carrine Russell



Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and all the dear saints: We would like to send in our testimony of what the Lord is doing for us and how He is blessing and healing today the same as when He was here on earth in person. He is just the same yesterday, today, and forever. Praise His sweet name!

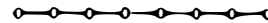
He has done so much for us recently. One night not long ago when my daughter and I had just gone to bed, I heard her in her room trying to call me. I got up, went to her and saw she was in pain. She finally told me she couldn't swallow without terrible pain in her neck and throat. We went to prayer and looked earnestly to the Lord for help but she didn't seem to get much relief. I felt impressed to call some minister for prayer. I asked her if she wanted me to call Bro. and Sis. Darius Gibson and she said she did. About five minutes after calling them, we were praying too, and the dear Lord heard and answered prayer. She began to get some relief. Then she said, "It's all gone." Oh, how we did rejoice and thank the dear Lord! She slept well and felt normal the next day. Praise the Lord!

The dear Lord has blessed and helped us to get a nice chapel for the saints around Senath and Kennett. We are so thankful for this, as it is so good to have a place of worship where we can have plenty of seating room. Do pray that the dear Lord will continue to bless and help others to come out to Sunday school and meetings when the Lord sends the ministers here. We plan, the dear Lord willing, to have Sunday school every Sunday morning and Bible study Sunday nights after the campmeetings are over. We need earnest prayer for the work here that God's will be done in everything. We know the Lord has all power in heaven and earth. The desire of our hearts is to do His precious will and keep humble at His feet.

May the Lord bless all the workers and the work there at the Lord's Print Shop.

Pray for us, as we don't feel very strong in body, and we also have some unspoken requests. Pray for our unsaved children that God will save them.

With Christian love, —Mrs. Effie Miller



Ohio.—Dear Brother Pruitt and saints: About a month ago I asked you to pray for the Lord to heal me of arthritis and I also asked you to send me an anointed handkerchief. Before the handkerchief was received I had to use a cane when I walked around in the house and I

would have staggering spells. Since the Lord has healed me I can walk from one room to another without the use of a cane. Praise God for His wonderful healing power and many thanks to all of you dear saints for your prayers for my healing.

I am now having trouble with my left eye. I can see how to write, but I can't see how to read small print. Please send me another anointed handkerchief and please pray that the Lord will heal my eye so that I can see how to read and dial the telephone.

Your saved sister, —Mrs. Elnora Ayers

Miss.—Dear Sister Marie and saints abroad, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I said I would write a testimony for the glory of God if He would heal me of my distressing cough which I have had for five years. I just could not have enough faith to be healed of it but I did like the leper that went to Jesus and said, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me whole." And Jesus said, "I will: be thou clean." I received the anointed handkerchief and applied it and I have almost recovered from my trouble. Praise God! He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Amen.

I am asking prayer for our son, Lenard who has inward trouble. I know our Lord is able to heal him. He knows how many times God has come to my rescue after the offering of prayer, so he is not altogether without faith. He is 42 years old and has five children.

I am living alone on the old farm which is close by the Pine Grove Church of God but there are no services there at present. I want a closer walk with God and to be a soul winner for Jesus.

Yours in Christian love, —Sis. Minnie Strickler

Okla.—Greetings to each of the saints at the print shop: I truly enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper. If you make some changes, for my part I would rather have a paper twice monthly than just one big paper. However, as God wills, it will be my will.

I appreciate the interest of your prayers and have felt God's touch to my body.

I am enclosing a check for \$1.00 for which send me two copies of "Trials and Triumphs of Eva Grant." I read it a number of years ago and enjoyed it so much. I feel it is a precious booklet for anyone to read and own. I am so thankful to get it once again.

Yours in the One Body, —Mrs. Chas. Kelse

Ore.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' dear precious name: Tonight I am saved, sanctified, satisfied and encouraged to go all the way with the dear Lord.

God completely healed me of a bad case of nerves. I had been in bed most of the time for five days because of nerves. But when God healed me, after I was anointed and prayed for, I got up out of bed and have been up and going ever since. Praise the dear Lord.

Our boys (ages 4 and 2) had light cases of the flu and then I was in bed seven days with flu. I was unable to be up and help my husband. I also had serious throat trouble. (I wasn't examined so I don't know what it was.) One day there was a great pressure on the right side of my neck as if something were going to push out and I could feel it swelling inside. I called to Jefferson, Oregon for prayer and it got better. Later I was anointed and prayed for and God healed my throat and the red sores that were on the outside of my neck that were caused from the throat trouble. Then the boys had measles and God took care of them.

We went to the Jefferson, Oregon campmeeting, and while there my husband had flu and God took care

of him although he isn't saved. Also during the meeting I was anointed and prayed for, and God healed me of a kidney infection. I wasn't able to eat seasoning or spices without suffering. Now I can eat anything. Praise God.

I have been healed by God many times during the past seven years that I have been trusting Him.

On Saturday night, July 4, during the campmeeting service, God made me to know that He wanted me to be anointed and prayed for and He would heal my left ear. I went by faith before Him. The service was just about over. When it ended I went right out to our cabin where my husband was still sick in bed. Without realizing what I was doing, I put my wrist watch up to my left ear and could hear it ticking for the first time in 15 years. I couldn't use the telephone at my left ear without covering my right ear and then would have to strain to hear. Now when using the phone the voice comes to my left ear so clear and I don't have to strain to hear. Pray for me that I walk worthy of this miraculous blessing from God, as I feel so unworthy.

Sister Marie, I am so full of what God has done for me that I just want to tell everybody, so thought I would write to you. Your letters of the past have always helped and encouraged me. I find I had forgotten what it was like to hear in a normal way. I want to encourage others to trust God for the healing of their bodies. I had prayed and asked God to strengthen my faith and give me more patience, endurance, etc. and I truly thank Him for all these illnesses and afflictions because they have been good for me spiritually.

Pray for me as I keep pressing on.

Christian love and prayers, —Beverly Wattenbarger

BIBLE STUDY

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

September 6, 1964

LEADERS FOR TROUBLED TIMES

Printed Portion Judges 2:11, 14-23

Judges 2:11 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim:

14 And the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

15 Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord had said, and as the Lord had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed.

16 Nevertheless the Lord raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.

17 And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the Lord; but they did not so.

18 And when the Lord raised them up judges, then the Lord was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it repented the Lord because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them.

19 And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way.

20 And the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice;

21 I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died:

22 That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the Lord to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not.

23 Therefore the Lord left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

Memory Verse: There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. 1 Cor. 10:13.

Practical Truth: Sin must be punished.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Israelites did not obey the Lord and drive out all of their enemies out of the land of Canaan, therefore they got into trouble. People today who want to live for God but do not go all the way are in for trouble. We cannot serve God and Mammon. (Luke 16:13). After Joshua died the Israelites "did evil in the sight of the Lord." They forsook the Lord. God was grieved because He knows the misery that sin brings. "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." (Deut. 30:19). Now since they had chosen to worship the idols of their enemies, God gave them over to them. Only through the power of God had they been victorious and now God just turned them loose. They now were helpless in the hands of their enemies. It is a fearful thing to let go of God and for Him to let go of us.

We notice the mercy of God, though, to the Israelites when they cried unto Him. God raised up judges to help them. It is said of the first judge who was called Othniel, "The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israel." (Judges 3:10). Having the "Spirit of the Lord" is the secret of those leaders of that day and of today. They were only great as they willingly became instruments of God. Today each of us can be a leader in righteousness, justice, mercy and help others.

We are living in troubled times. Our neighbors need God. We need to be strong in God.

September 13, 1964

A SPOKESMAN FOR GOD

Printed Portion 1 Samuel 3:19, 20; 7:5, 6, 10-17

1 Sam. 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord.

7:5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the Lord.

6 And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the Lord, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the Lord. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.

10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the Lord thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar.

12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.

13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

14 And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

16 And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places.

17 And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the Lord.

Memory Verse: Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5, 6.

Practical Truth: Don't forget your Ebenezers along life's journey.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In studying the Old Testament we want to apply it to our lives today. In that day God led them to fight their enemies, but today we do not physically fight our enemies, but we use spiritual weapons. The enemy of our soul is just as great as the Israelites' enemies but God can give us the same victory. As they moved by faith against their enemies who were greater in number than they, today we can have that same faith. God will give us the victory.

Our lesson brings out the thought that God talked to Samuel and he told others. Today God does not speak audibly from the heavens and tell us what to do but speaks to us through the written Bible, His Holy Spirit, His teachers and ministers. We are to listen to His Voice.

We remember how God gave Samuel to his mother in answer to a prayer that she would give him back to God. He loved the Lord and grew up to be a great leader and was a man of God.

Our lesson brings out how God gave them a great victory. They set up a stone and called it Ebenezer. We need to set up Ebenezers along our life's journey. We should not forget how God has helped us at different times. As we look back upon those Ebenezers we can rejoice and our faith will be strengthened to continue to fight on until our last battle is fought and we go to be with our Lord and Master forever in eternity.

September 20, 1964

THE PEOPLE DEMAND A KING

Printed Portion 1 Samuel 10:17-25

1 Sam. 10:17 And Samuel called the people together unto the Lord to Mizpeh;

18 And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you:

19 And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes, and by your thousands.

20 And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken.

21 When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found.

22 Therefore they enquired of the Lord further, if the man should yet come hither. And the Lord answered, Behold, he hath hid himself among the stuff.

23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

24 And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

25 Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

Memory Verse: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance. Psalm 33:12.

Practical Truth: We should trust God to give us what is best for us and not all we want.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

If we delight ourselves in God our desires will be the right kind of desires and God's approval will be upon them. We must trust God's great wisdom to give to us those things that are best.

The Israelites wanted a king. They had had Moses, then Joshua and the judges who had helped them. Samuel wept because they were rejecting God as their King. They wanted to be like their neighbors. Man's ways are not God's ways. It is also interesting to note that Samuel did not think of himself but he was still an instrument of God to help the people make choice of a king. After the tribes had passed before him and Saul could not be found they made a search for him. They found him hid among the supplies and baggage that had been brought to the great gathering of the people. The Lord gave them the kind of a man that they wanted. They were not interested in the spiritual leadership but wanted one who had good physical appearance of power and greatness. In the unprinted parts of our lesson, God let them know He disapproved of them wanting a king. Sometimes God lets people have things that they desire that are not good for them. Those lessons must be learned.

The last verse of the lesson made them know that there would be taxes to be paid and their sons would be taken for an army and their daughters as workers. Saul did not prove to be humble and a good king. They had many troubles.

September 27, 1964

THE RIGHTEOUS ACTS OF GOD

Printed Portion 1 Samuel 12:6-15

1 Sam. 12:6 And Samuel said unto the people, It is the Lord that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

7 Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the Lord of all the righteous acts of the Lord, which he did to you and to your fathers.

8 When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the Lord, then the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

9 And when they forgot the Lord their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

10 And they cried unto the Lord, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the Lord, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth; but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.

11 And the Lord sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies, on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

12 And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Amman came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the Lord your God was your king.

13 Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired! and, behold, the Lord hath set a king over you.

14 If ye will fear the Lord, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the Lord your God:

15 But if ye will not obey the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then shall the hand of the Lord be against you, as it was against your fathers.

Memory Verse: And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. Heb. 11:39, 40.

Practical Truth: We should not forget what God does for us.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Saul wisely stayed at his home until the people were in need and God made him know to move. Before this time Samuel called the people together. Samuel was getting old now and he wanted to remind the people about the "righteous acts of the Lord." He goes back to the time when Joseph had his father Jacob and family brought to Egypt. He reminded them that God sent Moses and Aaron as their leaders and brought them out of Egypt. He told them that when their fathers forgot the Lord He punished them but when they cried unto God with repentant hearts that He heard them and delivered them from trouble. In verse 9 we see the acts of the Lord and the acts of the people. God had delivered them from Egyptian bondage but they answered his righteous acts with unfaithfulness. How sad! How true it is today for people to do God this way.

We notice that Samuel mentioned a few of the judges of that day that helped them after they had cried, turned and were delivered. When they obeyed the Lord they "dwelled safe." There is no better place to dwell than in God. Regardless of what may come we can be safe in God.

Samuel reminded the people that even though they had chosen a king that they must still look to God. They must still reverence and honor God to have peace. If they rebelled they would be punished. Today we must recognize that God is still the Ruler of the universe. God permits and withholds. Only the repentant will be saved. The rebellious people will be lost. —Sister Marie Miles