

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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The Truth Is Marching On!



When the gospel truth first came to man in the morning age of time,
And its golden rays of light and truth on earth began to shine,
Old Satan then became alarmed, with all his wicked throng,
And tried to crush it to the earth, but still it's marching on.

When Satan's kingdom was assailed by Michael's angel band,
The dragon with his mighty host against him took his stand.
And they the truth in fury fought with many millions strong,
But by the mighty hand of God, the truth kept marching on.

The beast then took the dragon's seat and came upon the scene;
And with the sword his army left a bloody crimson stream,
And fifty million saints or more to the martyr's stake had gone,
And when they thought they had prevailed, the truth kept marching on.

The image of the beast then came to scatter and deceive,
And hide the precious truth of God that we have long believed.

His efforts failed, although he fought and labored hard and long,
But still the precious truth we love is truly marching on.

So Gog and Magog then appeared in Armageddon's heights
To fight against the saints of God out in the "evening light."

The battle now is raging hot with truth against the wrong,
And when the smoke has cleared away, 'twill still be marching on.

—W. M. Pettigrew.

The Church of God



"He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God. Jesus answered and said unto him, blessed art thou, Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:15-18). The strength and durability of a building depends largely upon its foundation. The church that Jesus built likewise has a foundation, yea, a strong foundation. "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone." Eph. 2:19, 20. God had revealed to Peter that Jesus was the Christ. Upon his confession, Jesus answered and said, "Upon this rock I will build my church," etc. Who then, is the rock? David said in Psa. 18:31, "Who is God, save the Lord or who is a rock save our God?" Psa. 18:2, "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my strength, in whom will I trust," etc. The Apostle Peter was also among the spiritual stones in the foundation of the church. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 3:11). The hundreds of religions today are not built upon such a foundation.

Paul wrote to the ministers in Acts 20:28, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves and to all the flock; over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he [God] hath purchased with His own blood." How did God do this? Jesus tells us, "I and my Father are one." (Jno. 10:30). Also 2 Cor. 5:18, 19, "All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, to wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself." Also John 14:10, "Believest thou not that I am in the Father and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me, He doeth the works."

Here we see the unity of **Father and Son** working harmoniously together to bring **salvation, deliverance and freedom from sin**, to a lost world. Under the **Mosaic Law** animal sacrifices were offered year after year, but could not remove sin from the heart of **mankind**. "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins." Heb. 10:4. "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh," Rom. 8:3. "For then must he [Jesus] have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." Heb. 9:26.

When John the beloved disciple of Jesus was on the Isle of Patmos for the witness of Jesus, he saw things past, present, and future. In Rev. chapter five, he saw a book written within and sealed with seven seals, (which contained the plan of redemption). A thorough search was made in heaven and earth but **no man** was found worthy to open the book and loose the seven seals. John wept much, but one said unto him, "Weep not, behold, the **lion** of the tribe of **Judah**, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seven seals thereof." Praise God. He further saw a **lamb** (the son of God) standing in the midst of the throne, and in the midst of the four beasts and elders, who came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. Then the beasts and elders fell down before him, and they sung a new song, saying, "Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof, for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood." "Without shedding of blood is no remission" (of sins). Hebrews 9:22.

People today are joining the hundreds of man-made religions seeking rest for their troubled souls, but all is vanity and bringeth not **salvation**. Nothing but the blood of the Son of God can wash away our sins and grant unto us all the spiritual attributes of God. The church of God owns no class-book. When a soul is born, by virtue of a spiritual birth, God the Father writes that name down in the **Book of Life** and He keeps the record. "And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:15.

All the religions of man have a beginning date; so does the **church that Jesus built**. When He was with them Jesus taught his disciples the necessary principles of carrying on His work. Knowing also that they would need power from on high, He instructed them to tarry in Jerusalem and wait for it. In the second chapter of Acts we find His disciples, an hundred and twenty, both men and women in the upper room praying. Suddenly the Holy Ghost descended from heaven and filled every heart. Praise the Lord! The Apostle Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, preached to the multitude, and among other things said, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of **Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Repentance was and is the first step to salvation. They,

of the multitude that gladly received His Word were baptized and there were added to them (the 120 saved souls) about 3000 souls. Verse 47, "And the Lord added to the church [the combined number of saved people] daily such as should be saved." God is still saving souls on the terms of His Word, and adding them to His church, which is composed of the saved of all nations. It was fully established on the day of Pentecost A. D. 33 and has stood the tests for nearly 2000 years. Indeed it has a sure foundation and "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." So we say to the qualified ministers as did Paul, "Feed the church of God which He hath purchased with His own blood." —Sister S. E. Abbott

Who Can Have Salvation?

Was the great sacrifice upon Calvary made only for a favored few? Hear the precious words from the Book of books: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:16, 17. The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

Oh, how sweet these words must sound to the one who is lost in sin, and has become awakened to the awful fact that the agonies of perdition are near at hand, unless a helping hand is stretched forth to deliver from the eternal burning!

Here we find hope for all who will believe and obey the words of the blessed Master. Listen to his gentle call: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30. He does not just say, Come unto me one; but "all." "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:17. Now the matter is left with you to decide and act upon. The responsibility rests upon you. Will you accept and obey? or will you reject the proffered help and go on in your sins and be forever lost? The debt for your sins has been paid, now will you have them canceled? It is one thing to have a debt paid, and another thing to have it canceled in the account book and a receipt for the same.

Through the shedding of his blood upon the cross of Calvary, Christ paid the debt of sin; now who will meet the conditions of his Word and have it canceled from the "book of remembrance" in your own case? This is an individual matter after all. Because he suffered and died for the sins of the world does not remove our responsibilities regarding the same, but only opens the way for our escape, which will do us no good if we will not accept it upon the terms offered. He offers it free, but leaves it for us to decide as to whether we will accept or reject the offered mercy. Once more hear the call: "Ho, every one that thirsteth,

come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me; hear, and your soul shall live. . . . Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:1-7.

"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." Isa. 1:18. He further says these things are to be had "if we be willing and obedient." The offense may be murder, theft, or the most atrocious crime, and the heart stained with sin of the deepest dye, yet he offers pardon, and a removal of all the stains of sin; and the requirements is obedience. Is that not just and fair reasoning? Does it not show forth a spirit of love and mercy which can issue forth only from a throne of grace? They who will not accept salvation upon such reasonable terms need not complain that God is an unjust God. And when the final day of reckoning comes, excuses will be of no avail; men will be rewarded according to their record of their works in this life, and if their peace was not made with their God while here upon earth, it will be too late then to seek his favor in the life to come, but the judgments of his wrath will forever be upon such as will not obey, upon those whom death overtakes while yet in sin. Hear the words: "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." And again, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2.

If people do not accept salvation, it is not because the Lord is at fault. The call is universal; it is to all. The promise is to as many as will accept and obey; it is to "whosoever will." God will not compel us to accept salvation against our will. He sets forth the judgments and future destiny of the wicked who will not accept his ways; also the blessings, joy, and peace, and future bliss bestowed upon the righteous, and leaves the matter for each one to decide, and to act upon the decision. The gospel of Jesus Christ is for us, and "it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16. Who, then, will decide to turn from the ways of sin and believe the gospel, and not only be numbered with the "willing and obedient," and enjoy the blessings of salvation in this life, but reign with Christ in glory in endless eternity? Salvation is offered now, and is for you if you will accept it. Do not think that you have been so wicked that Jesus will not notice you. He came to save the lost. Are you among those who are lost in sin? Then he came to save you; take courage! The way is so plain that "the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." —E. E. Byrum

DIVINE HEALING

"With his stripes we are healed." Isa. 53:5. Do you know that healing for our bodies is in the atonement? How wonderful it is to know that Jesus not only suffered for our transgressions but also he suffered that we might have healing to our bodies. Everything we need we can find in Jesus.

Let us think a little while about Jesus suffering those stripes for our healing before He went to the cross. We read in Matt. 27:26, "When he had scourged Jesus he delivered him to be crucified." We read in Smith's Bible Dictionary what they did in those days to scourge a person. "The punishment of scourging was common among the Jews. The instrument of punishment in ancient Egypt, as it is also in modern times generally in the East, was usually the stick, applied to the soles of the feet-bastinado. Under the Roman method the culprit was stripped, stretched with cords or thongs on a frame and beaten with rods. (Another form of scourge consisted of a handle with three lashes or thongs of leather or cord, sometimes with pieces of metal fastened to them. Roman citizens were exempt by their law from scourging.)" Oh, how terrible that suffering must have been! Why was He suffering this? It was for the healing of our bodies. How much He cared and how much He loved us! Should we not then believe He is moved with compassion when we call upon Him for the healing of our bodies?

When Jesus was here on the earth as He left Jericho, a large multitude followed Him. There were two blind men sitting beside the road. They knew Jesus was passing by. They cried out for mercy to Jesus to heal them. The multitude felt that Jesus had more important things to do and should not be bothered. They tried to make the men be still. But they knew that Jesus could heal them. They cried the more loudly. The Bible says, "So Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes." (Matt. 20:34). Oh, how He was touched by their calling! "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Heb. 13:8) Jesus is still the same today. When He walked the shores of Galilee He was concerned about those who were sick in their bodies and He is the same today. Thank the Lord! Jesus did not bear those stripes in vain, dear ones. He bore them for your healing. Ask, and receive healing for your bodies from Jesus. "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Mark 11:24.

"Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord . . . Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is." (Jer. 17:5-9). We will never go wrong to put our trust in the Lord. The flesh fails but God is all-wise and can do all things. He has said, "I am the Lord that healeth thee."

—Sister A. Marie Miles

Just off the press is the reprinted book, **THE MAN OF HIS COUNSEL** by Effie Williams. Paper bound, 112 pages. Price, 50c each or five copies for \$2.00, postpaid.

"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.

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

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EDITORIALS

The campmeeting season is here again, and we pray and trust that in this year of 1965 we will see a further advance of the cause of Christ—the salvation of souls, the sanctification of believers, the divine physical healing of the sick and afflicted, and a greater demonstration of the unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed and gave His life's blood. The season presents wonderful opportunities on every hand for the saints and gospel workers to be consecrated channels through which the Spirit of God can reach many souls with the gospel invitation and convict them of the need of Bible salvation by the godly lives which they behold.

Not only is there much spiritual work to do at these campmeetings, but also there are many temporal preparations and physical work to be done, along with the financial obligations. The Lord is looking for willing hearts and hands through which He can be a blessing to mankind. May each of us be looking for opportunities to "do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:10.

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With thanksgiving to the Lord for answering the prayers of the saints we are very pleased to report that Bro. Ira Stover is recovering from the affliction, and with the Lord's continued blessings upon him he and Sister Stover will return to their home in Guthrie, Okla. sometime in the first part of June. Recently they have been visiting the saints and their relatives in California. Continue to pray for Bro. Stover's full and complete recovery that he will have many more useful years in the great work of God.

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Bro. Ostis Wilson held a ten-day meeting, April 28 to May 7, here at Guthrie, Okla. The preaching of the Word was rich and precious. A number of souls sought spiritual help at the altar of prayer. On the last night a message on the urgent need for more missionary work was brought to the Church, after which we retired to a community hall where he showed pictures of the mission field in Nigeria, Africa.

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The reprinted book, "The Man of His Counsel," by Effie M. Williams is just off the press and a number of orders have already been filled. The narrative relates the true experiences of a family who was led to salvation, and then by taking the Bible as "the man of his counsel" the main characters were led into the doctrines and practices of the New Testament Church. It is very encouraging and instructive, consisting of 112 pages. Very reasonably priced, 50c each or five for \$2.00.

As time permits and the Lord opens the way, other out-of-print books will be reprinted which presents the precious truths that brought forth this "evening light" reformation.

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It is amazing how far the multitudes have drifted from the old-time truths. On the other hand, many

new people have come in contact with the movement who have very slight knowledge of the teachings of the pioneer ministers. In Prov. 22:28 we read the commandment of the wise man: "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set." The landmark is still there in spiritual Israel—the church—but many have lost sight of it, and some have never received a clear vision of beautiful Mount Zion, the joy of the whole earth.

The prophet Isaiah gives this exhortation: "Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; he will save us." Isa. 33:20, 22. Again the gospel prophet exhorts us in Isa. 54:2 to "strengthen thy stakes." Many would like to pull up and move the stakes to suit themselves, but when God sets the stake—His truth—it remains unmovable. Men come and go, but the truth stands unshaken. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:35.

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Some six years ago, in the year of 1959, more than 70 ministers of the Church of God signed a statement setting forth its position that the use of the television was wrong. Scriptures were given to cover this popular instrument which is very largely controlled by evil forces to accomplish Satan's diabolical purposes. The last clause of this statement reads: "Therefore, we warn every one against its [television] use, and advise that anyone who has professed to be out in the clear light of God's truth and has begun using the television or bringing it into the home over which they have control (1 Tim. 3:4, 5) has lowered the standard and has disqualified himself as a pattern for the saints." Recently every living signer of this teaching who was contacted has reaffirmed his conviction and belief in this Scriptural position which continues to be the uniform teaching and practice of the saints in light of the Church of God. However, forbearance and time is extended to those who have been caught in this snare while they are in the process of eliminating this evil influence from their homes.

Any person who uses or has a television in the home over which he has control is Scripturally disqualified to act as a minister of the gospel, neither is he eligible for ordination to the ministry. As long as he uses or has the television he could not be a good example or pattern for the saints. The people of God love every soul, but they do not love or fellowship the evil. The Apostle Paul wrote: "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Eph. 5:11. May God help all his ministers to follow Isaiah's exhortation: "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Isa. 58:1.

God has a pure Church, and in order to maintain her holiness He must "sacrifice" those who refuse

to walk in the light of His Word and come to the unity of the faith. This He has done many times over the centuries. Note this truth in verse by Bro. D. S. Warner:

God is sweeping through the nations
With an awful searching eye;
Every spot of imperfection
Must be purged, or hope must die.

Jesus gave his life to purchase
For himself a spotless bride—
All who fear him and obey him,
Cleansed beneath the crimson tide.

To preserve her pure and spotless
He must make a sacrifice;
Give to evil spirits supper,
All who give to sin a place.

See, his sword is bathed in heaven,
And the mountains strewn with dead;
"All ye birds and beasts assemble,"
Lo! a feast for you is spread.

Hear the angel loudly crying,
Standing in the blazing sun,
Wake, O man! while time is flying,
For the judgment has begun!

Prayer Requests

Iowa—"My limbs swell."

Ky.—"Back trouble."

Colo.—"High blood pressure."

Tenn.—"My husband, sister and nephew are very sick."

Ind.—"Kidney trouble."

Tenn.—"No one close to call for prayer. I have gall bladder trouble. My daughter is very sick."

Kansas—"My teen-age daughter is doing things behind my back. She has been with a married man. He has been talked to several times but he continues to see her. It is breaking my heart. She is not the sweet girl she used to be. Remember her earnestly."

Ohio—"I fell and hurt myself. Perhaps I have some fractured ribs. I am holding fast to the Lord."

Colo.—"I have a hurting in my chest."

Miss.—"I am not well. My son is trampling on my heart."

Va.—"Have been very ill. I have hurting in my back."

Ga.—"My grandson who is in service is depressed."

La.—"I have some trouble in my side and since it is worse it causes my hand to shake some. Remember my wife and me both."

Calif.—"I have some serious problems. I do not know what to do."

Mo.—"My son had a breaking out, looked like ringworm, which broke out on his side. It drains and his limbs are swollen. He is trusting God completely."

OBITUARIES

Paul G. Lambert was born December 27, 1905 to Dr. Hause and Ella Lambert. He passed away May 2, 1965 at the age of 59. He was born in Tennessee. He had a stroke about two weeks before he passed away. He attended services at the Dayton, Ohio congregation before the wreck he was in January. He is survived by his widow, Lulu Lambert, one brother, George of Columbus;

a step-father, Frank Lower; two step-sisters, Mrs. Ruth Poling and Mrs. Hazel Cyphers of Springfield, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Wm. McCoy, assisted by David Baird.

Herman A. Rabausch was born on April 15, 1921 to Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Rabausch. He departed this life on April 22, 1965. We were down to see him at Dixon State School on his birthday. He was all right then. A few days later he passed away with a heart attack in his sleep, which was six weeks after his mother died. God never makes a mistake. He is with his mother now. She always prayed for him. —Bro. Adolph Rabausch

Stephen James Henry was born in New Orleans, La. Oct. 1, 1948. He came to live with Steve and Audrey Henry at their home in Baton Rouge, La., Dec. 16, 1949.

Stevie responded to the gospel message by kneeling at a public altar of prayer, seeking pardon and forgiveness. One of Stevie's classmates said to him one day, "Stevie, you are different, you don't talk like all these other boys talk." A minister from the Woodlawn school area where Stevie attended school said to Audrey, "Mrs. Henry, I want to tell you this, the school children respect Stevie as a true Christian."

On April 7, 1965 Stephen left for school as usual, having received admonitions from father and mother. He never came back home again. Stevie, now a youth sixteen years old, collapsed in physical education class at school and died on the way to the hospital.

Funeral services were conducted by M. F. Williamson, assisted by T. H. Coffey and Charles Smith. Scriptures used were Job 14:14; 19:25; 1 Tim. 5:22; Isaiah 57:1; St. John 11:25; and I Cor. 15:12, 19, 51-58.

Card of Thanks

May God bless each one of you for everything you did to help ease our great heartache. The letters, cards, and most especially the prayers were greatly appreciated. We do not sorrow as those who have no hope, but with God's help expect to meet Stevie again some day. When our burden gets heavier than it seems we can bear, we think of the verse, "All things work together for good to those who love God . . ." Someone said to us the other day, "I believe your religion has done most to sustain you." Please continue to pray for us for we miss our dear son and brother more than words can tell.

Christian love, —Steve, Audrey, and Jeannine Henry

Arthur Roy Cade was born in Strout, Illinois, January 19, 1887 and departed this life April 17, 1965 in the Golden Rule Home, Shawnee, Okla. at the age of 78 years, two months and 28 days. He was united in holy matrimony to Syndia Rilla Lovejoy on May 19, 1912, and to this union ten children were born. Sister Cade and two children preceded him in death.

Bro. Cade sought the Lord when but a young man and remained true to his consecration unto the end. Just a few hours before his departing he remarked how he loved us. We told him that was mutual. He said, "I am dying, I know." I said, "You are dying?" He said, "yes." I said, "Is the way all clear ahead?" He said, "Yes, I have lived fifty years for this very time." God lifted pain from our brother and he went with much mercy from the dear Lord.

He leaves to mourn his passing six daughters, Mrs. Sylvia Hovey, Mrs. Hazel Miller, Mrs. Winnie Byers, Mrs. Lois Colbert, Mrs. Barbara Mitchell, Mrs. Maxine Bollenbach; two sons, Byrum Cade and Kenneth Cade. One sister, Sister Dolly Williams, 30 grandchildren, 19 great-

grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren, a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services and interment were at Shawnee, Okla. with Bro. Charles R. Smith officiating. —C. R. Smith

Jimmie Spratt Menser was born to Mr. and Mrs. Spratt of Paris, Texas April 12, 1893. In 1959 she got saved in the Church of God at Boley, Okla. and maintained her hope unto her death. She was united in marriage with Charles Menser March 10, 1914. To this union six children were born; four daughters and two sons. Her oldest daughter preceded her in death. She loved her family dearly and labored hard for their welfare.

Sister Menser departed this life on Sunday, April 4, 1965. She leaves to mourn her demise her husband, Charles Menser; three daughters, Hortense Menser, Boley, Oklahoma, Olene Ashley, Englewood, New Jersey, Gladys Menser of Indianapolis, Indiana; two sons, Byron Menser of Boley, Okla. and J. C. Menser, II, of Wichita, Kansas; eight grandchildren, five great grandchildren, many more relatives and friends.

Services were conducted by Bro. Woodrow Warren, assisted by Sister Katherine Williams.

CHRISTIAN TAPE RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

The Evening Light Tape Recordings is a non-profit tape recording library for all saints, the blind, the disabled and shut-ins. This is a lending tape library of messages by saint ministers and songs by saint singers, also of books printed by Faith Publishing House put on tape. The tapes are in all four speeds and sizes. Postage is paid both ways by the tape library. Address your request for tapes to the recorder, Edward G. Kroker, Box 904, Mehama, Oregon 97388.

AGED SAINTS NEED CARE

Sister Lulu Lambert would like for a sister who is getting a check each month but would like to have a home, to come share her home with her. She is 67 years old. If you have any correspondence you would like to have with her you can send it here to the office and we will forward it to her. She lives in Springfield, Ohio.

Bro. Earl McFarland would like for some man and wife to come and live with him in his six-room modern home and keep house for him. He is 89 years old. He lives in Springfield, Ohio. You can send any correspondence for him to this office and we will forward it on to him.

PROPOSED NEW SONGBOOK

Some of the saints have expressed a desire to publish a little songbook consisting of songs composed by them and some of their loved ones who have gone on. Any of you who have songs not previously published and would like to have them in this new book, please send a good copy of both words and music to the undersigned. This is not intended to replace any present hymnal. It is an addition to the joy of singing unto the Lord.

Getting this book into print will not be a small undertaking, but we are sure it will be accomplished if it is the Lord's will. We would appreciate your views concerning this, and of course, your prayers.

—Bro. M. Eddens, Arcadia, Okla.

—Bro. R. H. Douglas

Rt. 2, Box 21, Edmond, Okla.

FREE BOOK

Send three yearly subscriptions for the "Beautiful Way" paper at 80c a subscription and we will send you a book free, called "The Dangers of Ben-onies." This book is written for juniors. Children and even teen-agers will receive much good from its true stories that give much good instruction. Send the three subscriptions today.

Meeting Reports

MEETING REPORT FROM HAMMOND, LA.

Dear Brother Lawrence and saints abroad: Greetings in the name of our wonderful Saviour and Healer.

We have just closed a meeting here at Hammond. Bro. Ostis Wilson was richly anointed of God each night for the preaching of the Word, and there was much rejoicing in the camp of the saints. Several souls bowed at the altar for spiritual help. The meeting was climaxed on Easter Sunday with dinner on the grounds.

On January 31 the Lord placed us as pastor of the church here at Hammond. Bro. Max Williamson, who has been pastor here for several years resigned, feeling it to be the will of the Lord to make a change.

The Lord has been blessing in the services and we desire your earnest prayers that God will continue to bless and save souls.

General Southern Campmeeting will convene here at Hammond, La. June 25 to July 4. Come and help make this meeting a blessing and success. For further information write or call T. H. Coffey, P. O. Box 1177, Hammond, La. 70401. Telephone 345-2412, area code 504.

JEFFERSON, OREGON SPRING MEETING REPORT

Dear Saints scattered abroad: We want to report our meeting of April 9 through 18. This meeting was wonderfully blessed of God. Bros. A. E. Harmon, H. P. Huskey, and Charles Elwell were with us from California, and also Bro. Dan Kroker from Bend, Oregon. The Lord anointed them with wonderful messages as the Holy Spirit moved. Bro. and Sis. Harmon came a week before the meeting started, which was a great help and encouragement to us. There was much rejoicing all through this meeting. Many were at the altar for spiritual help and some for healing. The saints were together in sweet fellowship and unity.

Among those who came to the altar was one woman who got saved and renounced the Catholic doctrine. She shouted, praising God, saying "I am so happy." All the saints were praising the Lord at the same time. This sister, Alicia Valerial, comes regularly to services, thanking the Lord for salvation. She has two sons and she desires to see them saved and out in the truth. Dear saints, pray much for Sister Alicia. Others, too, have come out and taken their stand for the truth.

May the Lord bless one and all.

Your sister in the Lord,

—Bea Spaur

Meeting Notices

ALL-DAY MEETING AT SHREVEPORT, LA.

Everyone is invited to come and be with us at Shreveport, La. on June 13. We expect to have morning service, dinner, and gospel singing in the afternoon. For further information write C. C. Carver, 6125 Willard Ave., Shreveport, La. The chapel is located at 7106 Southern Ave.

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA TENT MEETING

An old-time tent meeting began May 9 to continue to June 9 or longer. At first, services will be every week end, Friday through Sunday, until further notice. We pray the Lord will make it possible to have services through the weeks at night as attendance increases. Come one and all, ready to work. Ask God to send qualified ministers. All who can, bring own cots and bedding. Meeting will be held by free-will offerings. For further information contact Bro. L. S. Davis, Sr., 518 W. Wilson Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89106, phone 384-3622 or Brother I. C. Chandler, 415 11th St., Bakersfield, Calif. phone 325-6752.

Campmeeting Dates for 1965

Following are some of the Church of God campmeeting dates for the coming summer. Dates for others have not been received. Complete notices will be printed in later issues.

Holly Hill, S. Carolina Campmeeting—June 4 to 13.

Tulsa, Okla. Campmeeting—June 4 to 13.

Hoffman, Okla. Campmeeting—June 18 to 27.

General Southern Campmeeting at Hammond, La.—June 25 to July 4.

Oregon Campmeeting at Jefferson, Oregon—July 2 to 11.

Akron, Ohio Campmeeting—July 9 to 18.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.

July 23 to Aug. 1.

Oklahoma Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla.—Aug. 6 to 15.

Bakersfield, Calif. Campmeeting—August 6 to 15.

Missouri State Campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo. Aug. 13-22.

California State Campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif.—Aug.

27 to Sept. 5.

Dover, Okla. Campmeeting—Sept. 3 to 12.

Campmeeting Notices

HOLLY HILL, S. CAR. CAMPMEETING

The Holly Hill, S. Car. campmeeting will begin June 4 and continue through June 13. Pray for this meeting that the Lord will send more ministers this year to the meeting. Pray that this will be the greatest meeting ever had at Holly Hill. All are welcome. Please write me a card if you are planning to attend this meeting. O'Neal Pratt, Rt. 1, Box 38, Holly Hill, So. Car.

TULSA, OKLA. CAMPMEETING

The Church of God campmeeting at Tulsa, Okla. will be held June 4 through June 13, if the Lord wills. Please bring bedding, if possible. For further information write Bro. Sam Barton, 2262 No. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla. Phone WE-9-8995.

HOFFMAN, OKLA. CAMPMEETING

The Lord willing, the Church of God Campmeeting at Hoffman, Okla. will be held from June 18 through June 27. All are invited to attend. Come and bring someone with you. We are looking forward to a good meeting and expecting the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing. The meeting will be supported by free will offerings. Those who can, bring your linens. Pray for us and the meeting. For further information write Bro. W. W. Crawley, Okemah, Okla. or Bro. Felix Taylor, Rt. 3, Henryetta, Okla., or Sister Earnestine Myles, P. O. Box 63, Hoffman, Oklahoma.

GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMPMEETING

The annual campmeeting of the Church of God will convene Friday, June 25 on the General Southern campgrounds at Hammond, La. and will continue through Sunday, July 4. The campground is located in the southwest part of Hammond.

We are expecting a wonderful time in the Lord. Meals will be served on the free-will offering plan. Sleeping quarters will be provided for those who come from afar. All are invited to attend, both saved and unsaved.

We are trusting God to send in ministers of His choosing.

For further information, write or call T. H. Coffey, P. O. Box 1177, Hammond, La. 70401, telephone 345-2412.

AKRON, OHIO CAMPMEETING

The Lord has blessed the Ohio saints with a chapel and facilities at Akron, Ohio for a permanent campground. We are praising His name for the same. The campmeeting will convene the 9th of July and continue through the 18th if the Lord wills. On the 8th and 9th of July, some of the older ministers will be here for a two-day session with all ministers in these parts and any others that would like to come. All are welcome. We are expecting good, profitable, spiritual instructions, exchanging experiences, etc.

Come praying that the Lord will have His way through the entire meeting. There will be plenty sleeping space for all. All are welcome. We are fighting a battle for our Lord in this vicinity. Pray much for us. Church location: 419-421 W. Thornton St. Parsonage: 544 VanEverett St. Phone 724-5683, Akron, Ohio. —Sister Hazel Clark

OREGON STATE CAMPMEETING

The Oregon State Campmeeting at Jefferson, Oregon will be held, the Lord willing, July 2 through 11, 1965. It will be run on the free-will offering plan. We extend a hearty welcome to all who can attend this meeting, to come and enjoy the precious Word of God, which will be preached by ministers under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. We are looking for a wonderful meeting. We, the saints here in Jefferson, urge all who can, to attend this meeting, for surely we are nearing the end of time. Come, should you have a spiritual need, whether salvation from sin, sanctification as a second definite work of grace, or healing of the body. Come, expecting a real blessing. We have cabins and other sleeping quarters furnished. Meals will be served in the dining hall.

For further information write Sister Bea Spaur, Box 254, Jefferson, Ore. Phone 327-2855, code 503, or write Sister Hilda A. Nielsen, Box 34, Jefferson, Ore., Phone 327-2564.

NATIONAL CAMPMEETING AT NEOSHO, MO.

Time is moving swiftly toward the 1965 National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo. and soon many of God's people will again gather together for a time of refreshing and spiritual edification. The dates are July 23 to August 1. As we look forward to this time of year we see many duties which lie ahead in preparations for the temporal needs and also realize the need of prayer for the spiritual needs. We are expecting an even larger attendance than in previous years with several being there for their first time.

We want to encourage all who possibly can, to put forth an effort to be in this meeting. Many times well-meaning people have, through hearsay, passed judgment on some of God's people and said "they are just a bunch

of old-fashioned fanatical folks." Many times real saints are hindered from fellowship because they accept what they hear without trying the spirit. We feel you will find a warm fellowship and freedom in the Lord and be blessed in your soul to meet with a portion of God's people who are endeavoring to stand for the truth once delivered to the saints.

Come and be with us this year and pray for God to bless. As in previous years, meals and lodging will be provided on the grounds. Due to the necessity of having to rent tents, etc., we ask those who are able to help with the expense to do so. The nominal charge for a tent is \$5.00 with \$1.00 per cot and \$2.00 for cot and space in dormitory. However, if there are any who desire to come but are unable to meet this, please do not feel backward or stay away, for our God will supply our needs according to His riches in glory. We would encourage you to bring bedding, if possible.

We would appreciate receiving all orders for tents and reservations in dormitories by July 2.

Concerning the quarters for a caretaker on the campground, we would like to say that the board has located a 1962 Detroit mobile home, 10 feet by 50 feet, which is in good condition with an air conditioner and automatic washer for \$2,800.00. The board has deposited \$300.00 earnest money and trust to close the transaction soon. This is approximately \$1,000.00 less than a new trailer similarly equipped. To date there is considerably less than half of the amount necessary for this purchase with the expense of the septic system, etc. in addition.

Let us all pray and move as God directs. Especially let us pray for the spiritual success of the meeting.

Notice of Work Days on Campground

We are planning to be at the campgrounds each second and fourth Saturdays of each month until campmeeting and have a list of necessary things to do. Of course the week end of the 3rd of July will be the annual work day to attend to the final preparations.

I am suggesting that the pastors of the congregations in driving distance assemble a group from your congregation and feel responsible for at least one Saturday. In this manner all could be workers together without placing an undue load on anyone. We will endeavor to begin work at 8 a. m. on these work days or earlier if desired. If another week end other than the second or fourth is more convenient, let me know and we will arrange to be there.

If anyone owns cabins or lots on the campgrounds which he would like to sell, please contact us as we have inquiries for them.

—Bro. Kenneth Probst, Business Manager
Route 4, Box 172, Carthage, Mo.

MEXICO MISSIONARY REPORT

Dear Readers of the "Faith and Victory," greetings once again from Mexico, in the wonderful name of Jesus: I'm glad to report victory in my soul over the world, the flesh, and the devil through the matchless power of our God. The Lord has been blessing with His presence in services in La Huerta on Sunday afternoons, at a ranch in Ojos Negros on Saturday afternoons, and this past Sunday I was privileged to conduct Sunday morning services in Santa Catarina. It had been some time since this writer had been in services there and it was a real joy. The Indians there expressed a real desire for services regularly, so with the Lord's help I'll endeavor to be there. (Sisters Ruby Marken and Opal Kelly left for their respective homes on April 30 and you may correspond with them there.)

Bro. Bill Hite and I enjoyed a meal and good visit with Bro. Tomas Mendoza and family Saturday evening in El Alamo. They are much encouraged in the Lord and pressing on for souls. The two young men who were saved recently there are standing firm and are a real blessing. The elderly woman is holding true also; the middle aged woman is still in need and seeking some definite deliverances. Remember all four in prayer.

Bro. Tomas and the brethren in Valle de Trinidad are working toward having a meeting place there that will be ample for the people. Remember that project, too. Bro. Tomas goes there for services on Sunday p. m. and has been spending two or three days a week there working on the well, etc.

Some more about the Mendoza family: Diamantina, (which means little diamond) Tomas' wife, was sanctified during the last Assembly meeting at Pacoima, Calif. She testified thus: "I had not been able to turn completely loose of my three children but knew it was hindering me. When I said 'yes' to God, Someone came into my heart, and now I have perfect peace." Well, that Someone was none other than the Holy Spirit Himself. The children are Lupe, 4, (a girl) and two boys, Tomas, Jr., 3, and David, 2. When they sit down to eat you never know which one will pray, and with the two oldest ones, you'd think it was an adult for they cover the work of God in general, name specific needs, etc. They are really precious. One time they began playing with their food and—bold me—I said, "Now, we don't play at the table." That ended the playing and neither Tomas nor Diana showed one sign of resentment for someone else correcting their children. (Some people professing two works of grace would have shown a carnal spirit. Or if they could hide their feelings outwardly, they would be as bitter as gall on the inside. I'm not advocating that people should go about looking for opportunities to correct other people's children. Most people have their hands full with their own.)

Back to the missionary report: Sisters Edith Cole and Carrie Sheppard are busy, busy at Ejido Patcuaro, Mexicali, and God is blessing. There has been some salvation work there, for which we thank God. They have opposition from another religious group there that tells the people if they attend our services they will go to the bad place. They also are paying some of the children not to attend. Saints, just pray that God will make stepping stones out of those things and make the truth shine out clearer and clearer. Jesus said the gates of hell would not prevail against His church. Amen and amen!

Bro. Hite spent a week on the field with Sister Hite, Rebecca and Sister Kathleen Murphey in Ensenada. He gave a very favorable report of the interest and spiritual quality of the work there. They are thrown right into a community of many Catholics but God is giving the workers the hearts of the people. Continue to remember that large field of many thousands in that seaport town.

James Huskey has been reporting from Rosarito, so I'll only say keep praying for some problems there that God may have His way and the work move forward.

The work needs your prayers and support. May God richly bless each one.

Yours for souls, Bro. Harland Smith

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

Mexico—Beloved Brethren in the United States: May the peace of God rest in your hearts.

Today I am writing this letter to tell you some about the work here in Mexico. It has now been three months since we arrived in El Alamo, and the Lord gave us a great burden, but very precious, for two men. At first, one of the men did not believe; but God who is abundant

in mercy, showed him His power and what great love He has for His children.

One evening when I arrived to have services in Valle de Trinidad my youngest son was very ill with fever, and it seemed for a while that he was about to die. I went to call the man who did not believe and told him to gather the sisters from Santa Catarina and Llano Colorado. They arrived at about 2:00 a. m. in the morning, and we all went to our knees in prayer to God. God answered our prayer very quickly, and in that moment this man saw the love of God. In a short time he was saved and the other man and two more women. Glory to God!

I am joyful continually in the Lord and desire that you all pray for me and my wife and for my children that we follow Christ, bearing our cross. I ask also that you pray for more workers, because there is a need for more laborers here in Mexico. Pray without ceasing that the Church may grow. —Tomas Mendosa

THE MISSION TRAIL BROADCAST

(Following is the printed message of The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla., which was broadcast over Radio Station XEG, Monterrey, Mexico, at 11 p. m. on Friday, May 21):—

May I say a very hearty welcome to all who are in tune with The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Oklahoma. We are very pleased to be back with you again at this time, and may I add that we have looked forward with anticipation for this time for we have with us a very special guest which I mentioned on the last broadcast. Many of you, I know, are personally acquainted with Brother Ostis Wilson and will be glad to hear his report from the mission field of Nigeria in West Africa.

But first listen to this scripture in Luke, chapter 10, and verse 2. "Therefore said he unto them, the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." So without further comment let me turn this microphone to Brother Ostis Wilson.

(Brother Ostis): "Greetings in the name of Jesus to all of you out there in radio-land. Brother Willie, I surely appreciate this privilege to speak to the people who listen to your broadcast and thank you for this invitation. This program is fundamentally a missionary program and, therefore, the comment we would desire to make will be more along that line. The Jerusalem church in the beginning of this Christian era was not originally a missionary church even though Christ had given the commission to his apostles to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. It seems that they were spending their time together there in Jerusalem in the temple and breaking bread from house to house and were finding great joy in doing so. This is not exactly a weakness in the early church because this infant church must have time and chance to establish its roots well in the earth before launching out upon its mission to get the gospel to the entire world, but God, when He saw that the time had arrived for the church to step up and fill a man's place in the world, so to speak, indicated His purpose and plan for the church by permitting severe persecutions to come among them to scatter them out of their cozy little nest and send them to other parts of the world, and they went carrying the gospel of Christ as they went.

"This is God's plan and purpose for the church, and the church today has developed into its full-grown stage and, therefore, should be launching out with missionary activities in any and all parts of the world as is manifestly God's purpose for it.

"We are told in the first chapter of Acts that Jesus began to do and teach during His life and ministry. The work of getting the gospel out and teaching the millions of earth the ways of God and the way of salvation through Jesus Christ was only begun in His ministry. When He went away, He left this responsibility on the shoulders of His church in the earth which is declared in the scriptures to be His body to carry on His life and ministry in the world to the glorious end of time.

"Then, we are told in Acts 1:11 that this same Jesus who was taken away from them into heaven will so come in like manner as He went away. How solemn and stirring this is. This same Jesus who gave us this commission to go into all the world with His gospel and let all men know that Christ died for all is coming back again some of these days to see how well we have carried out this commission, and to reward us according as our works have been. Jesus said in His last commission to His apostles in the 28th chapter of Matthew to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things as I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

"This is a grand and glorious promise, but let us ask ourselves if we have any right to claim this promise if we are falling down on the condition on which it was predicated.

"I just recently returned from a visit to the mission field in Nigeria, West Africa. I found there a great field of labor with much work to be done. They knew very little truth as we know it in this country, and yet, there are a considerable number among the people Opal and I worked with who have considerable light on different lines of truth and are reaching out for more.

"They had many questions to ask and were eager for an increase of light and truth. I found some real sincere people there and, of course, as is always the case in our own country, as others wherever it may be, some who were not as sincere as they should be.

"There is a wide open field in this area, and we should be pushing our efforts to get the truth to these people as rapidly as possible. Doors for the gospel and the missionary worker are closing one after another in different parts of the world and we have no way of knowing how soon these things will develop in this area, but it is open now, and we should be driving hard to capitalize on the possibilities there while we can.

"Even while we were there the doors pretty well swung shut for missionary work in the Congo only across two states from where we were, and several missionaries who had not left the country perished."

"Thank you, Brother Ostis, and I want to add that we are very pleased to have you with us on this broadcast. Now let me ask you what do you think would be the best approach for the saints to take to help solve this great need for the gospel message in Nigeria?"

(Brother Ostis): "Brother Willie, the best I would know to say in answer to this question is that there is an urgent need for consecrated and dedicated workers to fill the need in this area of Nigeria. Let each young person among us ask God what He would have them to do with a willingness to lay their lives on the altar for God for sacrifice or service. Until this need is supplied for qualified workers in this field, my opinion of a most effective way to help in this work would be for different ones of our brethren to accept the responsibility of sponsoring a native minister. This can be done for about \$18.00 per month. A small group of brethren of a small congregation in any place could accept this responsibility together. Whether it be an individual or a small group of individuals,

if you are interested in a program of this kind, you could contact Brother Murphey here at Guthrie, and you would be supplied with the name of a native minister and instructions as to how to send your money to him."

Yes, this is true, we will be glad to furnish the necessary information for those who are interested in supporting a native minister, so please keep this in mind.

Now one other thing, Brother Wilson. We have not forgotten the great loss to the church and the work of the Lord in general which we suffered when God saw fit to take your companion, Opal, Home to Himself while she administered to those in this mission field of Nigeria. She is not here and, consequently, is unable to speak for herself, but if she were, what do you think would be her desire for the mission fields of the world?

(Brother Ostis): "Willie, Opal had the heart of a missionary. Her heart was in the missionary field for years. She has shown an avid interest in the work in Mexico ever since it has been going on, and she was extremely happy over the privilege to serve in the area where we went in Nigeria."

Then there was a question which I understand you repeatedly asked Opal during her last illness. Would you kindly repeat that question for us, and then give the answer she made to you?

(Brother Ostis): "I asked her after she became ill if she were glad she came. She bounced back at me with this: She said, 'Yes, aren't you?' That jarred me a little. I confess I answered rather timidly for I was feeling pretty far from home at that time, but in her deepest illness, she had no thought of leaving the field. She said that our work was only begun, and we should not run because we were having a trial, and she continued to carry the interest in that work to the last."

Thank you, Brother Wilson. It has been a real pleasure to have you with us today, and I know there are those out in radio-land who will be glad to get this message directly from you.

Now until next Friday night, this is your speaker, Willie Murphey, bidding you one and all a very pleasant "Good night."

TESTIMONIES

Okla.—To the dear Saints, we send greetings in Jesus' name—the sweetest name we know. I feel impressed to tell a few of the blessings the Lord has bestowed on us. We may hear testimonies of past experiences, but what is our testimony for the present? We also testify that we'll trust the Lord unto death, but we really prove what we'll do when put through the test. We feel we have been through a light test and found His grace sufficient to trust Him to the end. While going through the test our affliction seemed severe, but now we look on it as a light affliction.

On April 17 we moved to another house in Guthrie, and that night about 9:00 I took sick with a gall bladder attack. About midnight I was in such pain I thought the Lord might take me. There was no fear of death, but a sweet calmness about it. We called Sister Miles to come anoint me and the Lord so sweetly touched my body and erased the pains. I was sore but felt good until the following Wednesday. I suffered from Wednesday night until Friday afternoon when again the Lord touched me. The scripture that came to my mind was, "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." April 24 and 25 I was very weak since I had kept very little food down all week. On the 26th I was getting worse and on Tuesday, April 27, I suffered all day—couldn't

keep food or water down. The saints were so faithful to come and pray for me. On April 28 Sister Marie Miles took the children to Sister Estelene Cramer's and took me to her home and put me to bed. I began to improve some on the 29th and on the 30th kept down the first meal in two weeks. On Saturday, May 1, they told me I had yellow jaundice. I was still unable to care for my family but the saints in Guthrie were faithful to care for them and take care of me. I kept improving, but was still weak in body, so it was decided that I should go to my parents' home until I was able to take care of my home and family. I have learned that in most cases those who have yellow jaundice stay yellow three to four weeks, but in one week's time I was almost cleared of the yellowness. All praise and honor goes to the Lord who has power to heal and perform miracles in this present day. I surely love the Lord and it thrills my soul to tell others what He has done for me.

I would like to tell how the Lord helped us last November when our girls had trench mouth. The youngest girl took it just before our baby boy's arrival, November 3, then when we returned home from the hospital our second girl had it. A week or ten days later the oldest girl took it but our baby didn't take it, nor did Donald or I. We were so thankful the Lord kept us and the baby from taking it.

We desire the saints' prayers that we will prove true to the Lord through every test. We love Him with our whole hearts and desire to please Him at all times.

Christian love,

—Lois Sharp

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

Mo.—Dear Saints and friends, greetings once again to all of you in the sweet name of Jesus: I'm still determined by His help to press on to glory. The enemy throws many fiery darts in the form of trials and tests, but we still find His grace sufficient. My desire is to live for Him who has done so much for me and to always do His will.

My heart is very burdened for our dear young people. The enemy is working so hard to get every soul he can to destroy it. Many of us have unsaved children and we all know how terrible a condition the enemy can get them in. Recently I attended the funeral of a close relative who had departed this life as a result of the enemy's work. Her husband shot her and is now facing trial for first degree murder. Dear ones, take thought and consider your condition. The enemy makes us do things we think we would never do. Think what it means to be in a lost condition. If God should call you from this life, how would it be with your soul? Take time for Jesus. Take thought for your soul while you have life and opportunity. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all other things God will take care of. We often get so concerned about many other things, such as the material things of life, that we completely forget about the soul, but dear ones, some day God will call and we will have to answer whether we are prepared or not. It is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment. When the death call comes, all hopes, plans, and dreams are forever laid aside. All earthly work is finished. Life here is over but life goes on in eternity. Somewhere this soul will live on. Where will it be for you? We draw our last breath and men say we are gone. The body is dead, but not the living soul. It has only taken its departure from this life on earth, but it is surely living on somewhere. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of the saints, but surely God is grieved over those who do not yield to Him and who die lost and doomed to live in everlasting punishment. Take time for God and prepare now for eternity. His grace is now being offered to you. Don't

be weighed in the balance and found wanting. Accept Jesus and be ready when your call comes to take your departure from this life into the next. Jesus loves you and gives you a chance to dwell with Him in eternity.

With Christian love,

—Zella Dollins

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Ind.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name: Enclosed please find a check for \$4.00. Please send me five books, "The Man of His Counsel," also three books, "The Secret of Salvation." I read these books many years ago and am happy to know they are in print again. They were of much help to me as a boy, and I believe they will help this younger generation, too. They are also good for older folks.

—C. S. Mark

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

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and all the dear ones in the holy family everywhere, greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I thank God for saving my soul, giving me His Holy Spirit to keep me saved, also a deep desire to press on and to keep humble that He might make me a fit servant for Him, to use in any way that He sees fit.

Sister Marie, I am writing to tell the church what the Lord has done for a toothache I had. It's been over two years ago. I promised the Lord then if He would stop the pain I would testify to the church. After He had come to my rescue I forgot what I had told Him I would do. I testified to different ones, but I had not done what I promised. Recently I had a severe headache. I prayed for my head and I got no relief. I asked the Lord that if there was something wrong with me to please reveal it to me. He made me know that I had not kept my promise and I asked His forgiveness and asked Him to spare me to testify to the church through the "Faith and Victory." He has spared me. Thank God!

At the time of the toothache, I was working for a doctor and family and living in their home. I had two teeth that needed extracting. One side of my face was very swollen. It even hurt to talk. One night it hurt so severely that I couldn't lie down, but cried and prayed. I told the Lord that if He would take the soreness out so I could have them pulled I would testify to it. The dentist had wanted me to take something to take the soreness out. I told him I didn't want to take it. I kept begging the Lord to come to my rescue. It seemed I had prayed out. I didn't know what else to say. I told the Lord that I had said all I knew to say and would He please lay it on some other saint's heart to pray for me. I don't remember saying another word. I fell asleep. Some time in the night I awoke, still sitting up in bed. All the pain had gone and all the soreness with it! I was able to lie down and go back to sleep after praying and thanking my dear Lord. I thank God for His healing power, all His goodness, kindness, and mercy to all of us. I need your prayers for the Lord to strengthen me in Him and that I will keep low down in humility. May the Lord bless you all.

Your sister in Christ,

—Sister Ezella Gant

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

La.—Dear Saints scattered abroad: We send greetings of love in the name of Jesus to each and every one of you. We can report victory in our souls over all the imposing powers of the devil. We wish to take this means to thank each and every one of you for the help you have given us, and the love you have shown to us since we lost our home and car in a fire. Words cannot express what it has meant to us to see how the whole church has borne the burden with us and has helped us in every way that they could and has borne us up with their prayers. Just two days after we lost our home, car, and all that we had

in the fire, our two boys had a car wreck. The fifteen-year old boy was cut badly about the face and had an artery cut in his temple but the Lord was merciful and spared his life even though he lost so much blood that he almost went into shock. He had over 30 stitches taken in his face. Only the Lord knows what it meant to us to have Brother and Sister Carver with us at this time. They were such a blessing to us. May God bless each and every one of you and reward you doubly for all you have done for us. "For inasmuch as ye do it unto the least of these . . . ye do it unto me."

In Christian love, —Bro. and Sis. B. E. Goldsberry

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

La.—Greetings to all the saints with love in Jesus' dear name. Bro. Wayne Turner is still in death row waiting his return to Amite, La. county jail. We don't know just when that will be. The papers have all been signed for his return. Bro. Turner is still holding on to the Lord and looking to the Lord to work out everything as it pleases Him. He has fully committed everything to the Lord and he sends greetings to all. Now is a good time to pray for Bro. Turner. The Lord can work out things for him. Pray much.

The jail work at Amite, La. is still going good. Pray for us that God will give us heavenly wisdom in this work. In the past two years and 10 months, 39 prisoners have knelt in prayer, asking God to help and save them. We give the Lord the praise for what has been done.

I have an affliction on my body and I want the saints to pray for my healing. Much love to all.

Your brother in Christ, —E. B. Pinkerton

(Editor's Note: Later word from Sister Betty Howell informs us that Bro. Wayne Turner was transferred from Angola State Prison back to the parish jail at Amite, La. on May 19. The Lord has answered prayer and granted his desire. Continue to pray for him that his future will be worked out to the glory of God.)

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

Kansas—Dear Saints, I would like to give my testimony of how the Lord spared my life. Surely it is only the mercy of God that I am able to write this. On Friday morning, April 9, I was driving on my way to work in rush-hour traffic in Kansas City on a six-lane expressway. I was driving about 65 or 70 miles per hour in the inside lane when another car, coming in the opposite direction at a high rate of speed, jumped across the median curbing and hit my car on the left front fender and then ripped down the entire left side of my car, spinning my car around and demolishing both cars. He then hit a car behind me. It was only the hand of God that kept me from hitting another car or another car from crashing into me as I spun across three lanes in fast, heavy traffic. I received a cut on my face, injured my knees, twisted my back and was strained internally and had bruises over my body. The other drivers received some bruises and scratches. The Highway Patrol said it was a wonder that someone wasn't killed. Several have said that I was surely lucky to have gotten out alive but I know it wasn't luck, but the love and mercy of God. What a mighty God we serve!

After I got back home I started getting sick and very nervous. My father was called home from work and prayer was offered for me. From then on I started improving. That night I slept real good without being bothered with bad dreams. The next morning I was feeling well enough to take a trip to a wedding. I was still very sore and my knee gave me quite a bit of trouble. The Lord touched my body until a week and a half later I went and climbed a steep hill without any trouble. The

boy who climbed it with me said I must be feeling good because it was about all he could do to climb it.

I know the Lord could have prevented the accident but I wouldn't have received the blessings from it. It has given me a greater desire to please God and has helped me to draw closer to Him. I know this was one of those "all things" which work together for our good.

It pays to keep things clear with God. Everything happened so fast that I had no chance to dodge, much less to pray. Too many times people will put off getting right with God, thinking they will have time later. As I left home that morning as I had done many times before, little did I realize what was ahead of me. This has given me a greater realization of the fact that we know not what hour the Lord may come for us.

I appreciate the interest the saints showed and their prayers for me. Surely we owe the Lord a debt which we can only pay by serving Him.

I desire your prayers,

—Bob Harmon

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

Pa.—Dear Saints, I wanted to write to all of you to let you know I'm still living for God, following Jesus in every step of life's way. God's way is a happy way.

It was four years on the 11th of this month that I was saved. Praise God, within those four years there has been a great change in my life in many ways. All of those sinful habits have been taken away, such as drinking, smoking, and many others, and through the guidance of God's Word and the Holy Spirit I am learning to understand life more each day. When I think of how much greater God's way is, also happier, I want to testify more to others to help them see God's way. As the wonderful hymn says, "let me lose myself and find it, Lord, in Thee." I want God to use my life to help others. The song says, "Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free?" That is a good question for us to ask ourselves. This morning I had my radio on listening to the news while getting ready to go to work. There was something mentioned about interference in Japan coming in over radio waves from Russia. The way Communism is working to interfere the world in this way made me think of how Satan is working every day right around us to keep God's Word from getting out to the world. These things should make every one of God's spirit-filled, chosen people get on our knees and pray for more guidance to spread the gospel around the world. Every day at work or no matter where we go, if we are following Jesus, God's work can be done. "To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 1:79. "For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death." Psalms 48:14.

I want to thank all of you wonderful people for praying for me. Only God knows how thankful I am for your interest and prayers for me. I promise to do the same every day for all of you. I'm working in York, Pa. I am in the structural division. I got out of school nine weeks early to start working. Only God could have made this possible. Again I want to thank all of you.

Very sincerely,

—Bro. Jerome Park

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

Miss.—Dear Ones, I think about you dear saints but do not have much chance to write. I am expecting to go all the way with God. He is so good to me in different ways, for which I praise Him.

I would like to tell you a little about what He has done. I had double pneumonia one time and wrote for prayer. About the time the letter got there, God healed me. This winter when it was so cold I was up one night.

I started sneezing so I went back to bed. I had such pains in both sides and it felt like I did when I had pneumonia. I suffered much. I got up and thought I would write for prayer but decided to go to the closet and pray first. God blessed me and I began to feel better. I went back to bed and went to sleep. When I got up all the pain was gone. I give Him all the praise.

In 1950 God healed me of a bad looking place that was said to be cancer. It was spreading and getting worse until I was prayed for. My folks worried so about it. One said he would pay for the treatment if I would take it but I preferred trusting God. He has done so many other wonderful healings for me for which I praise Him very much.

—Dorothy Bridges

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

Mo.—Dear Saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory," greetings in Jesus' dear name: We want to say we are still saved and living for the Lord the best we know how. The dear Lord is blessing us both with health. We are able to be in meeting for which we do thank and praise the dear Lord. We do love the Lord for His goodness to us. We surely don't feel worthy, but we are glad the Lord is no respecter of persons. What He has done for us, He will do for others. The Lord permitted me to be in three campmeetings last summer. I was in the ordinance services at each one. I surely was happy for that.

Last fall the Lord provided me with a good saved companion and a nice home for which I thank and praise Him. We both love all the saints. I thank all for their prayers in our behalf. The Lord permitted us to go to Guthrie for the Assembly meeting. We got such good soul food there. We thank the Lord for protecting and giving us a safe trip there and back.

We love to read the little paper, "Faith and Victory." We will enclose one dollar for a three-year subscription. We trust all the saints are encouraged to press the battle on for the Lord. I feel we don't have much further to go, so do keep courage. Pray for us that we will keep in His will at all times. We don't want to displease Him in any way. Pray that we will know what to do and say that we will be a help to others, especially our unsaved children. We do desire for them to get saved before it is too late. We do pray for the work and workers at the print shop. We pray the Lord to supply every need and keep the old-time truth going out.

Love and prayers, —Bro. and Sister Asa Gibson

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

La.—To the precious saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper, greetings in Jesus' name: For some time I have desired to send a letter for the paper. We have so much to be thankful for. Our heavenly Father has been mindful of us all along the way of life and as one has said, "just before He fails us, He doesn't fail us." He stands by us all the time, even when we feel for Him and can't seem to find Him, He is there anyway, and though the process seems ever so slow to us, God is working, doing the job well and He always gets it done in plenty of time. Oh, that we might learn patience! Psalm 27:14 says, "Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."

Much praying has been done about the work of the Lord here in Hammond. Many of us have greatly desired the Lord to show Himself strong here. We do thank the Lord for the campgrounds here in Hammond. I am so thankful God led me this way and to the truth. My soul has been fed with heavenly manna. I have enjoyed the privilege of sitting under the sound of the gospel. I have appreciated Bro. Max Williamson's preaching; many

precious scriptures are recorded on my heart thereby. Bro. Williamson felt led of the Lord to step down and let some one else fill in here as pastor. He is still quite busy for the Lord in different places.

The Lord has led Brother and Sister T. H. Coffey here to be with us. We have enjoyed their sweet fellowship ever since we met them last summer. Little did we realize then just how much they would mean to us. As we have said before, we prayed much for the Lord to send the ones He could best use to His glory here. When we began to pray we did not even know Brother and Sister Coffey. But the Lord knew them and they knew the Lord. We feel that Brother and Sister Coffey are truly all on the altar for God and carry a burden for souls and God's work in general. We are happy that the Lord called them to work as pastors here. Much good has already been done and we see things of encouragement daily. Surely God is leading and our souls are being blessed to have them here in the work.

Bro. Coffey preaches the truth in its fulness and lives by it. Our services are precious. The attendance has been good and we are working and praying for continued increase.

Please remember us in your prayers. We invite all who can and feel led of the Lord to come and be with us in the coming campmeeting.

In Christian love,

—Gladys Cashio

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

Calif.—Dear Saints, I have been impressed to write my testimony to the paper. I am saved and satisfied with the Lord's way. He has been so precious to me. When things go wrong the Lord is right there to take me through. He has promised never to leave us nor forsake us so my daily prayer is for Him to keep me sweet in my soul and to fill me with love. Without love it is impossible to please the Lord. I have so much to thank the Lord for. He is a present help in all things. He is a healer and comforts when sad hours come. I have it fixed in my heart to go all the way.

I wish to thank all who have sent up prayers for me. As each one knows, prayer changes things, so will one and all pray with me that my loved ones will come to the Lord before it is too late. Pray for me that I always do the Lord's will. May the Lord bless all.

—Alpha Daniels

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

Ohio—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints abroad, greetings and best wishes to all: It has been some time since I have written you. I am not well and have been hurt recently in a hard fall, but am trusting and holding fast to the Lord and encouraged by the promises of the Word.

I have been much encouraged by Psalm 91 since that terrible tornado a few weeks ago in this area that took so many lives. Of course we were not in its path and did not suffer any bad effects from it. It did not get anywhere near, but there was much wind, thunder and lightning. That wonderful chapter in Psalms was brought to my mind and I felt safe and secure. I am afraid it caught many unaware and unprepared. I could not help but think how it came upon so many like the coming of our Lord will be—unexpected and unlooked for. There were over 240 lives snuffed out and hundreds injured, some seriously. Surely these are the days of vengeance and coming wrath. But it is my conviction that America is asking for it, and we are only reaping as we are sowing.

I am sending an offering, though small, to be used where most needed. I would like to be remembered in prayer for my injury.

Your brother,

—L. Hassinger

Wholly Sanctified

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly." 1 Thess. 5:23. "Make you altogether holy," is the rendering of another translation. By reading the whole of this text we will understand that this entire sanctification includes the sanctification of the body. Our human body can be wholly sanctified and preserved blameless until Jesus comes. If our entire body can be sanctified and preserved blameless then it follows that every member of our body can and must be sanctified. This will include the sanctification of the tongue. When the tongue is sanctified and preserved blameless we can quite safely conclude that the whole body is sanctified.

Our words are to be sanctified. They are to be wholly free from jest, foolishness, idleness, fleshliness, impatience, harshness, selfishness, forwardness, pride, etc. To speak only sanctified words is to speak only such words as are seasoned with grace. Words seasoned with grace will minister to the hearers. (See Eph. 4:29.) Sanctification of the tongue means that the seasoning of grace has been given to our words. The world is so filled with joke, jest and slang, that if the saint is not kept filled with the Holy Spirit—the Sanctifier—these will find way into their conversation. We hear people talking about "putting more pep" into their singing. We would think it better to put more of the Spirit into it. "Pep" belongs only to the flesh. To put more "pep" into singing, is to arouse the physical powers and put in more bodily exertion, and "bodily exercise profiteth little." There is entirely too much bodily exercise, or fleshliness in what is called worship today. We have heard folks talking about getting a "kick" out of a song or a sermon. This is very shameful. It belongs wholly to the flesh. It is the language of the theatre, shows and sports of the world. What we get from God out of singing or a sermon is spiritual blessings. Again we hear folks calling children "kids." Now, kids belong to the goat family. The Bible does use sheep and goats to represent the two classes of people in the world—the saint and the sinner. Christians are represented by sheep, and their children are called lambs. "He will carry the lambs in His bosom." Kids belong to goats.

We hear the words "mercy," "goodness," "glory," "Lord's sake," "my Lord," used as by-words. These are sacred words and can be filled with grace, but when they are used as by-words, they are made fleshly and are not sanctified.

—C. E. Orr

A Woman's View

Speaking before a medical convention, a Chicago orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Carl Scuderi, declared that the ratio of foot patients is now nine women for every one man. "Pointed toes and high heels are responsible," he said. They cause bunions which become painfully crippling and must be corrected by surgery. I don't see how anything could be more unbecoming or hazardous than the spike heels which are

all the rage. Apparently women would rather break their bones or become cripples for life than look different from other women.

Everybody knows, too, that when her shoes pinch, Mama is not at her best. The wife who goes in for uncomfortable shoes is bound to be uncomfortable to live with.

Are shoe designers and manufacturers without the milk of human kindness? Do they desire to destroy the health and happiness of the nation? Are they enemies of the American home? What moves them to such vindictive lengths against the welfare of our gullible, spineless, style-conscious women?

I beg you, Good Sirs, to come to our rescue for we do not have the common sense to rescue ourselves.

—Mrs. W. Ferguson in the "Tulsa Tribune"

Following is an editorial comment on this subject from the Scriptural standpoint:—

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor. 6:19, 20.

We must remember that God made this body that He has given us. It is not ours to do with as we please, but God is requiring us to take care of it. When I was in school, over thirty years ago, we had pictures in our hygiene book that showed what high heels would do for the back and body. It threw the whole body out of position. This was definitely taught as being injurious. Will God hold those guiltless that purposely injure the body?

—Sister M. Miles

Hypocrisy

It is all in vain to preach of truth
To the eager ears of trusting youth,
If, whene'er the lad is standing by,
He sees you cheat and he hears you lie.
Fine words may grace the advice you give,
But youth will learn from the way you live.

Honor's a word that a thief may use,
High-sounding language the base may choose.
Speech is empty and preaching is vain,
Though the truth shines clear and the lesson's plain.
If you play false, he will turn away,
For your life must square to the things you say.

He won't tread the path of your righteous talk,
But will follow the path that you daily walk.
"Not as I do, but do as I say,"
Won't win him to follow the better way;
Through the thin veneer of your speech he'll see,
Unless you're the man you would have him be.

The longer you live you will find this true;
As you would teach, you must also do.
Rounded sentences, smooth and fair
Were better not said if your deeds aren't square.
If you would teach him to live to his very best,
You must live your life to the self-same test.
—Sel. by Manley Jones

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BIBLE STUDY

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June 6, 1965

DAVID AND ABSALOM

Printed Portion 2 Samuel 15:10-13; 18:31-33

2 Sam. 15:10 But Absalom sent spies through out all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.

11 And with Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not any thing.

12 And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

13 And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.

18:31 And, behold, Cushai came; and Cushai said, Tidings, my lord the king: for the Lord hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee.

32 And the king said unto Cushai, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Cushai answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do thee hurt, be as that young man is.

33 And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

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

Practical Truth: Rebellion brings trouble, heartache and ruin, unless repented of.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Absalom, the son of David "stole the hearts of the men of Israel." (2 Sam. 15:2). He had been a rebellious son against his father, David. David had sinned and his ability to discipline his son had been weakened, although he had repented, yet his son had not followed him in repenting.

When Absalom gained enough support, he asked his father if he could go to Hebron and offer sacrifices. He sent out spies from Hebron. Our lesson begins with this account. After the messenger told David of Absalom trying to take his kingdom, he fled, as his life was in danger. David's army fought and in the battle Absalom was killed. It was a tragic end to this rebellious son. David wept over him. We do reap what we sow. His son had failed in being an obedient child. He was filled with the spirit of rebellion and wanted his own way. The time to conquer rebellion in a child is when it first shows itself. A small sprout is easy to cut down but if it is allowed to become a full grown tree it takes much effort and hard work.

There is much rebellion against God and His Word in the world today. The divine love of God can break the rebellious heart of a person and reconcile him to God.

June 13, 1965

SOLOMON'S OPPORTUNITY

Printed Portion I Kings 2:1-4; 3:5-9

1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;

3 And keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

4 That the Lord may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

3:5 In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7 And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

Memory Verse: Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying, I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man. I Kings 2:1, 2.

Practical Truth: If we put God first all the other things in our life will work out right.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Death is no respecter of persons. Some have declared they will live forever. Others have believed in them but death came just the same. Death comes to the kings, rich, poor, slave, commoner, and the middle class. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Heb. 9:27. There are two appointments all of us must keep, and that is death and the judgment. Now is the time to prepare for death, for as death finds us so will the judgment.

David knew that his hour had come to die. He still had the work of the Lord upon his heart. He wanted to see it carried on after his death. He called his son, Solomon, to his bedside and gave him some good last-minute instructions. Those instructions are good for us today. God had promised he would establish his kingdom and through Solomon this was to be done. And "in the fulness of time" Jesus was born who was of the seed of David and He is the head of the kingdom today, which will last forever.

The last part of our lesson is the wonderful example of how God wants us to feel when we are as we ought to be. If Solomon felt his great need, then how much more should we feel our need in the work of the Lord. Only through our complete surrender to God can He work. Each of us needs to daily ask God to help us to always have an "understanding heart."

June 20, 1965

THE TEMPLE CONSECRATED

Printed Portion I Kings 9:1-9

1 Kings 9:1 And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all of Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,

2 That the Lord appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared unto him at Gibeon.

3 And the Lord said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, that thou hast made before me: I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

4 And if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, in integrity of heart, and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded thee, and wilt keep my statutes and my judgments:

5 Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel.

6 But if ye shall at all turn from following me, ye or your children, and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods, and worship them:

7 Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast out of my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people:

8 And at this house, which is high, every one that passeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss; and they shall say, Why hath the Lord done thus unto this land, and to this house?

9 And they shall answer, Because they forsook the Lord their God, who brought forth their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and have taken hold upon other gods, and have worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath the Lord brought upon them all this evil.

Memory Verse: And the Lord said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, that thou hast made before me: I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually. 1 Kings 9:3.

Practical Truth: Today God is dwelling in His church which is His temple.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple, he said, "Will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee! how much less this house that I have builded?" (8:27). Just to think of how great God is and then for him to condescend to dwell in a building was almost too much for Solomon to take in. Today we are still overwhelmed at the great thought and the wonderful truth that God is dwelling in our bodies, which is the temple of God. (1 Cor. 6:19, 20) How carefully we ought to walk so we can conduct the temple in a way that God will be pleased to dwell within us.

When Solomon's temple was filled with the presence of God that day, it is said that the 120 priests, who were sounding the trumpets, and the singers were all of "one accord." We read in Acts, second chapter, about the 120 being together, waiting for the infilling of the Holy Spirit. They were all of "one accord" and it came to pass as the

prophet Malachi prophesied hundreds of years before of God's Spirit, that he "shall suddenly come to his temple." (Mal. 3:1). Thank God, his Spirit does not today dwell in a house but dwells within our hearts. We have the Lord with us continually. His Spirit is dwelling within and gives us power to live without sin each day of our lives and to work for Him.

June 27, 1965

SOLOMON DOES WRONG

Printed Portion 1 Kings 9:20, 21; 10:21, 22; 11:3, 4

1 Kings 9:20 And all the people that were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, which were not of the children of Israel,

21 Their children that were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel also were not able utterly to destroy, upon those did Solomon levy a tribute of bondservice unto this day.

10:21 And all king Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver: it was nothing accounted of in the days of Solomon.

22 For the king had at sea a navy of Tharshish, with the navy of Hiram: once in three years came the navy of Tharshish, bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

11:3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father.

Memory Verse: For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. 1 Kings 11:4.

Practical Truth: Little seeds of wrong bring big troubles.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We are always made sad when we read of how Solomon's life ended when he had such a wonderful beginning. A little here and a little there, letting down on the principles and decisions that he had made in the beginning brought this to pass. How dependent he felt on the Lord at first but our lesson tells us that "his wives turned away his heart after other gods." His heart sought after the pleasures of this world. He was given wisdom, riches, and many things of this world but he did not know how to handle them. He lost his soul. It would have been better had he been like the poor man Lazarus who sat at the gate of the rich man begging, than to have had what he had and lost his soul. God knows what he can trust us with. If things of this world would turn our hearts away from God we do not want them.

Nowhere in the Old Testament does God give his approval to polygamy. God only made one woman for Adam. This was the custom of the neighbors of the Israelites and they followed in that course. Under the New Testament teachings a man is to have only one wife and she is his wife as long as she lives.

Samuel, the prophet, told the people that their king would make servants out of them. The levy was "bondservice." (1 Kings 5:13). Solomon had many public building projects.