

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### Good News



Midst Judah's hills one starry night  
To a little shepherd throng,  
From heaven's portals angels came  
To sing their lovely song.

Attended by a messenger  
With good news from above,  
To prove to all the world around  
The goodness of God's love.

Good news, glad tidings, and great joy  
The angel did proclaim;  
For unto you a Child is born,  
And "Jesus" is His name!

You'll find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes,  
Laid in a manger low.  
And to the town of Bethlehem  
The shepherds then did go.

Inspired by that heavenly song  
That rang throughout the hills  
Of "Glory be to God on high"  
And "Peace on earth, good will."

Let men of every race and tongue  
Help keep the music rolling;  
Of "Peace on earth, good will to men,"  
The Saviour's name extolling.

—Ulysses Phillips

### Remove Not the Ancient Landmarks

By Ostis B. Wilson

(Part IV)

Let us notice the different conditions of conscience spoken of in the scriptures. Imperfect (Heb. 9:9). Purged (Heb. 9:14). Good (1 Tim. 1:5). Pure (1 Tim. 3:9). Defiled (Titus 1:15). Weak (1 Cor. 8:7), etc. Now let us realize that whatever state and condition an individual's conscience is in it will

pretty well set his course for life. A corrupt conscience would allow corrupt things in the life of the individual without remonstrating against them, while one whose conscience was pure would require strict purity in every phase of life and so on with all the different phases and conditions of the conscience. An imperfect conscience will allow an imperfect life while a perfect conscience would demand a perfect life in order to keep clear. Paul persecuted the Church of God in a good conscience. He said in Acts 26:9 that he verily thought within himself that he ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus. We can see then that our conscience can be affected by the way we have been conditioned. Conscience is pretty much governed and regulated by what one believes to be right or wrong. It may be wrong, but if one believes it to be right, his conscience will allow him to do it. On the other hand, it may be right, but if one believes it to be wrong, his conscience would condemn him in doing it. And let us realize that there is such a thing as a "seared" conscience (1 Tim. 4:2) and when that happens the conscience becomes entirely insensitive to anything. This condition is not arrived at immediately but comes gradually through one trifling with his conscience and failing to keep it clear and tender.

I am told that there is in some heathen lands a belief that one can only appease the wrath of his god by sacrificing his firstborn child to the crocodiles in the river. These people take their children to the river and throw them in because their conscience requires that of them and would smite them severely if they withheld. But in more enlightened America our conscience would smite us to death almost if we were to do such a thing. Thus we see that one person's conscience would smite him severely for doing the same thing that another person's conscience would smite him severely for not doing. Thus we see that conscience does not set any kind of a general standard at all and if it did, what kind would it be?

Now let us realize that the teaching of conscience in the New Testament covers only things which are entirely neutral in principle and involve no moral principle of right or wrong at all. Paul brought it

in under the heading of eating meat which was sacrificed to idols and said in his discussion of it in 1 Cor. 8:8 that if we eat we are no better and if we eat not we are no worse. This covers a principle that should be applied and carried through all consideration of conscience matters. It applies only to things of an entirely neutral nature which would neither make one better or worse either way. If it goes beyond this into something which involves moral principles of right and wrong, then we are to be governed by God's Word and not by our conscience or what we think about it.

There has been a great cry in recent years for liberty of conscience. But let us realize that this tendency generally runs into a liberal conscience and there is a vast difference between a liberal conscience and liberty of conscience. But God has talked to me some in times past on the text in Gal. 5:1, "Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made you free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." People today are contending for a great many liberties which Christ did not give them. He has never at any time liberated you and me from the obligations of His Word and the standard it sets forth. All He has done in that respect at the best is to just be patient and merciful and long-suffering with us and allow us time to get to the standard and get straightened out in our conscience and light, etc. But if we would not try to get to it but just contended for our own "think-so" in it, His patience, long-suffering and forbearance would run out on us and we would be cut off. The liberty Christ gave us was never liberty to follow our own conscience alone as a standard of holiness and spiritual life. Many other liberties which people contend for and do not want to be interfered with in are liberties Christ did not make them free in, also.

God has never given to you and me free license to follow any questionable thing even a little bit but has instructed us to abstain from all appearance of evil. (1 Thess. 5:22.) The more we do this the fuller and richer and more complete our spiritual lives will be and the more God's blessings will abound in our souls. Bro. Fred Pruitt and I were together in a meeting in Minnesota some years ago and were staying in the home of a man who was pastor of the congregation where the meeting was being held. This man was accused to us by some of the members of his congregation that he drank beer. Bro. Pruitt talked to him about it and he never said if he did or did not but his answer was that the Bible said to be temperate in all things and that would include drinking beer the same as anything else and one could not be condemned for drinking beer if he were temperate in it. But the liberties Christ gave never extended to such things as this and He does not grant us license to indulge in any evil thing even temperately.

Now in concluding let me earnestly exhort all brethren in Christ that we all stand fast in one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel and that we all present a solid front against the enemy and stand solidly together to defend the church and the

succeeding generations against the innovations of worldly things which today are hammering at our gates trying to push in upon us. Let us see to it that no bounds are removed and no landmarks are destroyed and no corner stones of truth are moved out of their place and let us all earnestly contend together for the faith which was once delivered to the saints. Let us first of all contend for this faith within ourselves that we may possess within us the fullness of this faith with all its fruits, its personal regenerating power, its sanctifying power, its gifts of the Spirit, its unifying power and influence, its personal relationship with God, its miracle-working power and that we may all abound in the fulness of divine love and grace in our personal lives. Let us dig deep in the wells of our fathers and God will surely bless us to be able to meet the problems of our day and overcome them and move on for God. Amen.

—Ostis B. Wilson

(This concludes the series on this subject and this entire article of vital truth will be available at this office in booklet form in the near future. —Editor)

## Holy Living

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared unto all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world." (Titus 2:11, 12).

Not in the world to come only, but in this "present world," the world that now is, we are to live righteously and godly. There is both a negative and a positive side to holy living. Ungodliness and worldly lusts need to be carefully avoided. "Watch" is the command of Christ. "Abstain from all appearance of evil," is the exhortation of the apostle. "O man of God, flee these things," is the warning to Timothy. "Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul," says Peter. There can be no positive holy living if the negative is not in active living force. The Christian life is destructive as well as constructive. Jesus came not only to set up the kingdom of heaven but He came also to "destroy the works of the devil." Life that does not destroy ungodliness, worldliness, and sin is not holy life.

Holy living is the need of the world today. Not just moral, cultured, refined lives, but lives in which there is God and holiness. Carry holy principles into the world if you want to bless mankind to the greatest possible extent.

The question was recently asked, "Is it possible to live holy in this exceedingly sinful world?" To this very hour the prayer of Jesus is heard in heaven, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil." A company of tourists were sight-seeing in a coal mine. Amid the black dust there grew a beautiful white flower. "How can a flower keep such pearly whiteness amid such black dust?" was asked by the party. The guide took a handful of dust and threw it on the flower, the dust rolled off, leaving the white-

ness unstained, then a tourist threw handfuls of dust but the little flower smiled in its snowy whiteness. It had a coating of white enamel to which the black dust would not adhere. God will clothe His people with a robe of such whiteness that the evil world cannot soil.

In some parts of our country is a curious spider known as the diving spider. It is capable of forming a bubble about itself in which, like a diving bell, it sinks to the bottom of the lake or stream. For hours it will live below, breathing the air of the world above. When it returns to the surface it is perfectly dry, not the slightest moisture having penetrated the atmosphere in which it lived. The child of God through prayer and holy thought, surrounds himself with a heavenly atmosphere, while he breathes the atmosphere of a world above.

There is power in the gospel of Christ to keep the soul in heavenly victory. "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1:16). "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee" (Psa. 119:11). A company of religious workers were discussing how to create among the people, a great interest in their movement. We have our artistic music, our programs, our picture slides, our pageants, our social gatherings but these all seem to fail to hold our young people, what shall we do next? An old brother present and one that had not yet forgotten the "old paths" answered, "Please allow me to suggest that you try preaching the gospel of Christ."

Holy living extends to all life's details, no acts so small but should bear the stamp of holiness. All our words and deeds should be Christianized. As he who hath called us is holy so we should be holy in all manner of life. (See 1 Peter 1:15). There should be no adulteration of the sugar, no placing the finest potatoes on top of the barrel, no material in the building but such as the contract calls for, no neglected work, the yard stick should be thirty-six inches, and the scales give sixteen ounces to each pound. There should be no exaggerations, no saying five or six when you know it is but four, no endeavoring to make things appear a little better or a little more than they are. Holy living extends to all our words. "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" (Eph. 4:29). Filthy, foolish talking and jesting are not consistent with holy living. (See Eph. 5:4). Such is wholly out of place among God's people. There is talk among professors of holiness that is lacking in seriousness and sobriety.

Holy living includes our dress. Women are exhorted to dress in a way that becomes those professing holiness (See 1 Tim. 2:10). It is possible to dress in a way that is unbecoming women who profess to be godly. To know that this is being done is only to go into the many congregations of professed holiness people. You take young people from some of their holiness gatherings and place them beside a company gathered from the theater and there is but

little distinguishable difference in their general appearance—shame!

Holy living includes consideration of others. Holy people do not do all they may feel free to do lest it may be a cause of stumbling to some weak brother. Professor Dager would often take a long walk through the country, his large dog accompanying him. They had a very deep and wide ditch to cross. One day a small dog joined the company. On coming to the ditch the professor leaped across but the big dog would not jump. Instead, he ran up the ditch a quarter of a mile to where he could go down a path and then up on the other side. His instinct seemed to teach him that if he would jump the ditch the little dog would also try it, but fail. For this little dog's sake he would not leap. We should carefully avoid causing any of God's little ones to stumble.

To live holy we must be holy. Holiness of heart insures holiness in life. What is in the heart will break out in the life. A mother lost her only child, a little girl. She had but one photograph of the precious one, and this was somewhat faded and bleached. The mother was quite proficient in painting. Under her brush the features of the sweet coy child-life came out in the picture. The photograph was laid carefully away for a few days. When taken out the eyes were dim and the face marred with the same ugly blotches. The devoted mother wrought over it the second time until the beauty was restored. Again it was laid away only for the same marring stains to appear again. There were some chemicals lurking in the paper on which the photograph was taken that were doing the mischief. The analogy holds in human life. By no act of skill or care can the exterior life be kept beautiful if there is pride, worldliness and selfishness in the heart.

In our talking, dressing, desires, pleasures, occupations, let there be sobriety, righteousness, and godliness. These three things are absolutely necessary to holy living.

—C. E. Orr

## WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD PROVIDES

(Psalm 23)

"The Lord is my Shepherd." Perfect protection. "I shall not want." Perfect Satisfaction. "He maketh me to lie down." Perfect rest. "In green pastures." (Pastures of tender grass.) Perfect nourishment. "He leadeth me." Perfect Guidance. "Beside the still waters." (Waters of rest and quiet.) Perfect peace. "He restoreth my soul." Perfect restoration. "The paths of righteousness." Perfect walk. "I will fear no evil." Perfect confidence. "Thou art with me." Perfect companionship. "Thy rod." Perfect discipline. "Thy staff." Perfect support. "They comfort me." Perfect consolation. "Thou preparest a table before us." Perfect fellowship. "In the presence of mine enemies." Perfect triumph. "Thou anointest my head with oil." Perfect strength. "My cup runneth over." Perfect joy. "Goodness and mercy shall follow me." Perfect love. "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Perfect habitation.

—Lydia J. Jantz

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**EDITORIALS**

**THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL** in the name of the Babe of Bethlehem, whose appearance was announced by a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14.

As this last issue for the year of 1966 goes to press, we are thankful to the Lord and our readers for the hundreds of new names received through the special subscription offer, to whom we will be mailing this gospel paper for the first three months of the new year of 1967. By the time you receive this copy you should have a few days remaining before the expiration date of this special offer on Dec. 8 to send in more names—10 for \$1.00. With your special help at this time we anticipate having several thousand new readers beginning with the January issue. Be an active home missionary and please rush in all the names possible by December 8! May the Lord bless your efforts in spreading the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Through the weary centuries God's prophets had foretold of the advent of the Messiah, the world's promised Redeemer. Perhaps the first prophesy is recorded in Gen. 3:15 after Adam and Eve had transgressed God's command. The Lord God said to the serpent that the seed of the woman "shall bruise thy head." Many years passed. The people became so wicked that God destroyed them all by a flood of water except eight souls—Noah and his family. Later God made a covenant with Abraham. After many years the law was given to Israel through Moses. The judges and kings ruled rebellious Israel, and the prophets brought God's words of warning to the people. After the last prophet, Malachi, there followed about 400 years of gross spiritual darkness, a period in which no word was sent from God to the people. Even in this era solitary souls were looking for the promised Messiah. The Hebrew writer speaks of those of "whom the world was not worthy," and further says (Heb. 11:38), "And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise."

"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Gal. 4:4, 5. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." Heb. 1:1, 2. Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David." Luke 1:68, 69.

The angel of the Lord appeared unto the shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their

flock by night, and said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12, 16.

The Holy Ghost revealed unto Simeon, a just and devout man, waiting for the consolation of Israel, that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the temple, Simeon took him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Luke 2:29-32. Now was being fulfilled the promise which God "spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began," a blessing not only to the Jews but also to the Gentiles.

The Hebrew writer says: "When he [God] bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him." Heb. 1:6. If all the angels were commanded to worship Jesus, surely all mankind should worship Him who came for the express purpose to give His life to atone for the sins of the whole world. The host thus redeemed can sing the song of praise which the angels cannot sing—the song of redemption.

Though Dec. 25 may not be the anniversary of Jesus' birth, the exact date is immaterial. The truth remains that He came at God's appointed time, and we thank and praise Him every day for "His unspeakable gift."

The popular worldly celebration with its revelry, its display of mythical Santa Claus, decorating of evergreen trees, etc. has no connection whatsoever with the advent of Jesus into the world. Only those who have Christ born in their hearts know how to worship Him "in spirit and in truth." Let us offer unto Him the sacrifice of praise continually.

Special earnest prayer is requested for Kenneth Longley, the grown son of Bro. and Sister Robert Longley of Cambria, Calif., who suffered severe head injuries in an auto accident on or about Oct. 22 and was yet on Nov 10 in a more or less semi-conscious condition. Some improvement has been noted in answer to prayer. The family, looking to the Lord for his recovery, remains near him at Ventura, Calif. Your cards or letters would reach them in care of the Circle W Motel, 3075 E. Main St., Ventura, Calif.

On the work days in October a new addition was built to the dining hall on the National campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo. It extends along the full length of the building on the northeast, which will provide more dining area. The main dining hall floor was painted another coat, water pipes drained and

plumbing fixtures winterized, and several dead trees were removed. Bro. Ralph Beisly and many others have worked faithfully. (Incidentally, right near the dining hall a hazardous hollow bee tree was removed which contained about 40 lbs. of delicious honey.)

These improvements should be of special interest to those who attend the National campmeeting. Please send your offerings for the upkeep of the campground directly to Brother Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas 67337.

Word was just received of the departure from this life on Nov. 9 of Bro. N. E. Adams, Swifton, Ark., an aged saint who had served the Lord many years. He would usually sing a song of joy and praise whenever the saints would visit and pray with him during his extended illness. Our sympathy is extended to Sister Adams and the family in their loss. The obituary will appear in the next issue.

As we come to the close of this year of 1966, we look back upon the weeks and months that have passed so swiftly. We are reminded of the brevity of life, and whatever we do for God's cause and precious souls must be done in the present.

Through this year God has been very gracious to us and the gospel publishing work. We appreciate all the co-workers and readers who have so faithfully co-operated to get the gospel literature out to this lost and dying world. The volume of literature has increased in the form of papers, tracts and books. Many thousands of pages of gospel messages have been mailed in this country and to foreign lands free of charge, yet many fields remain untouched with the pure gospel. So much more needs to be done.

A number of requests have come for a reprint of the large clothbound book, "The Cleansing of the Sanctuary" by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggie, consisting of 541 pages. Though its production will be expensive, Lord willing, we plan to start work on it in the near future.

—L. D. P.

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## OBITUARIES

Gertrude Benyard Brightwell was born April 26, 1889 to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brightwell in Decatur, Georgia. She departed this life November 3, 1966 at the age of 77 years, 8 months and 9 days.

She was married to George Washington Lounds on May 6, 1907. To this union thirteen children were born. Her husband and four children preceded her in death.

She met the saints and accepted the truth of the Church of God in 1910 and kept the faith until death. Her

survivors include four sons; Henry and Jesse of Roxbury, Mass., Carl of Los Angeles, Calif., and Stanley of Oklahoma City, Okla.; five daughters: Mrs. Oretta Price and Mary Lounds of Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Melia Viser of Perris, Calif., Alberta and Juliette Lounds of Oklahoma City, Okla., eight grandchildren and many saints, relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Bros. Herman Kelley, Archie Souder, and Woodrow Warren.

Viola Mae Fiddler Nottingham was born March 13, 1885 to Hiram and Olive Fiddler and departed this life October 11, 1966 at her home in Union City, Indiana.

She was united in marriage to John Nottingham on August 16, 1903. To this union three children were born, one son and two daughters. She is survived by her devoted husband, her son, Harold, Union City, Ind., two daughters, Aurita Tritschue, Dayton, Ohio, and Edith Baxter, Greenville, Ohio, a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Sister Nottingham was born again into the Church of God at an early age. She was a faithful wife and mother and a devoted child of God. She will be missed by all who knew her.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. Mart Samons, assisted by Bro. Wm. A. McCoy.

Thomas Samma Wilson was born March 8, 1877 at Athens, Tennessee and departed this life October 1, 1966 at Tillamook, Oregon at the age of 89 years, 6 months and 23 days.

On August 17, 1902 he was united in marriage with Beulah Smith. To this union ten children were born, three sons and seven daughters. Five of these children preceded him in death.

The first home of Sam and Beulah Wilson was on a government homestead in Woodward County, Oklahoma. Those were the pioneering days in that part of the country and living conditions were not as good and convenient as they are in most places today. It required rugged people to comply with the demands of rugged living such as there was in those days. But Sam and Beulah Wilson were equal to the occasion and gloried in what life offered them and demanded of them and in those early years their lives were welded together in a solid way which lasted through 64 years of marriage.

They lived in other parts of Oklahoma in those early years and then for a time lived in Missouri and Arkansas. They moved to Oregon in 1923 and lived at Tillamook for 10 years. They had made their home in Jefferson, Oregon for the past 22 years.

Sam Wilson was converted to Christ in early life, but drifted away as many do and made other starts as is often the case with younger people, and in some cases older ones, too. Those who were with him during the closing years and months of his life felt that he was in good relationship with God and was ready for it when his summons came. This is surely a great comfort and consolation to all of us friends, relatives and saints now.

He was a member of the Church of God (Evening Light Saints) and a minister in that church for several years. He was known and loved by many across the far reaches of this country where he went preaching the gospel during those active years of his ministry.

He is survived by his wife Beulah; four daughters, Mrs. Myrtle Haugen and Mrs. Orpha Mapes, both of Tillamook, Oregon; Mrs. Alice Neiger of Nyssa, Oregon, and Mrs. Lois Biggs of Madera, California; one son,

Clifford, of Guthrie, Oklahoma, 17 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Ostis B. Wilson at Waud's Funeral Home in Tillamook, Oregon. Following that service the body was taken to Jefferson, Oregon where it lay in the saints' chapel for one hour for viewing by his friends of that area, among whom he had lived for many years. There was a brief service before going to the cemetery for burial and a brief service at the graveside for those who had not been able to get to the chapel. Sermon text was 2 Samuel 14:14. Burial was in Jefferson Cemetery.

—Ostis Wilson

## WICHITA, KANSAS MEETING REPORT

Dear Sister Marie, holy greetings of love to you in the precious name of our Savior:

I'm glad to report victory over the devil. I'm saved, and by the grace of God I mean to hold on until He calls me from labor to reward. I am sending a report of our fall meeting. The Lord certainly did bless and gave us beautiful weather. Six adults were baptized, a number of children got saved, and some were at the altar for spiritual help. After our meeting I understood better than I ever did why we will have to have new bodies, because these mortal bodies can just stand so much.

There was a good spirit of unity throughout the meeting and much rejoicing in the Lord.

Ministers present were Bro. Mart Samons, Fairborn, Ohio, Sister Katherine Williams, Okla. City, Okla., Bro. Willie Murphey, Guthrie, Okla., Bro. Woodrow Warren, Okmulgee, Okla., and Bro. Roy Harmon, Overland Park, Kansas.

The meeting was well attended each night and some who have never heard the truth before are yet attending our regular services. I believe it was one of our best meetings. That's saying a lot.

Preceding this meeting, Bro. Ostis B. Wilson from Pacoima, California came and preached to us nine nights, and we are yet rejoicing over that meeting, also.

Pray for us here at Wichita that we will lift high the blood-stained banner. —By Sister Gladys Williams, Bro. Lewis Williams, Pastor

## Meeting Notices

### OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 60th annual Okla. State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, at Guthrie, Okla., beginning Dec. 23 and continuing through Jan. 1, 1967. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people. The chapel is located on the corner of 6th St. and West Warner Ave. The dining hall and dormitories are located in the same block for your convenience. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met as usual by the free-will offering of money and groceries. Send these to Bro. M. A. Davis, Route 4, Guthrie, Okla.

We are praying and expecting the Lord to send in Spirit-filled ministers to preach the Word with heaven's anointing. All hungry souls seeking light or any spiritual help, come, and God will meet you here. If you are sick in body, come—the Lord still heals those who have faith. He is able to save, sanctify and heal and keep us by His divine power.

Saints, come praying with a burden for the unsaved and all who need help in soul or body. These are perilous times and we need to be about our Father's business.



## CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God (Evening Light Saints) will be held on the saints' camp ground located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California beginning December 23, 1966 and continuing through January 1, 1967, Lord willing.

Pacoima is a suburb of Los Angeles in the northwest part of the city and joins the city of San Fernando on the south. Any who come in from the south or east of Los Angeles by car may take the Golden State Freeway toward Bakersfield and follow it to the Osborne Street off-ramp. Go right on Osborne St. to the "Y" and continue straight ahead on Osborne Place about the distance of two city blocks and watch for our sign "Church of God Camp Ground" over our entrance. It will be on your right. If you come in from the north, take the Golden State Freeway toward Los Angeles and follow it to Osborne Street and turn left going under the freeway and continue as outlined above.

If you come by bus from the north, get off at San Fernando and phone 899-2022 and someone will pick you up. If you come from the north by train, get off at Glendale and call this number and you will be picked up at the station. Those coming from east or south into Los Angeles by bus or train call for someone to get you at the Los Angeles station.

Let us all pray much for this meeting and for God to visit this place as He has in former years and pour out His Spirit and power and anointing and grace upon this meeting that it may accomplish all that He would have it to.

We are expecting Holy Spirit-filled ministers to be present to preach the Word of God in its fullness and are expecting God to confirm His Word with signs following and that souls may be saved and believers sanctified and the sick healed and the church edified and that mighty signs and wonders may be done in the name of His holy child, Jesus. Let us all pray and believe to this end.

All who come to do good or to get good will find a welcome at this meeting and will find God waiting to be gracious and to bless you.

We hope to see you at the Assembly Meeting Dec. 23, 1966 through Jan. 1, 1967, Lord willing.

Yours and His in the Master's Service, —Ostis Wilson

## FALL MEETING IN OKLAHOMA CITY

The fall meeting of the Church of God at Oklahoma City, 800 N. E. 3rd St., will be held on November 18 through the 27th, 1966, Lord willing. We will have all-day meeting on Thanksgiving Day.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this meeting. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers of His choosing.

—Bro. Herman Kelley, Pastor

He [God] chooses men for elders and deacons, as "governments" and "helps," but these, as well as all members of the body, have no right or power to act, except as "it is God that worketh in them."

—D. S. Warner

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## Prayer Requests

W. Va.—My brother is in very much need of prayer. He has a hurting in his stomach and internal bleeding, arthritis of the spine, and trouble with one of his limbs. He fell and hurt his back and can't lie down to sleep. He is unsaved. Pray the Lord to save him and heal him.

Pray that my two children will get saved. They are not very well. Also pray for my mother. She is not well at this time.

God bless you all,

—Sister Essie Carter

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

Okla.—Dear Saints: I am happy in the Lord today and trust that you are, too. We have so much to be thankful for. I would not want to trade places with anyone.

I have a prayer request and would like to tell you a little about it. Ever since last Monark Springs, Mo. campmeeting my physical strength has been going down. I can be on my feet only short periods of time. It's not that I'm so sick—it's mostly the weight I'm carrying, which I judge to be between 30 to 40 pounds. I might walk a half a block by taking it real slow, but I wouldn't want to try it if it wasn't necessary. I sit down to cook a meal and making up a bed or other such things tire me so that I have to sit down often between jobs. I hardly go anywhere unless I have to, and I've missed meeting a lot lately.

I thank the dear Lord for my little daughter, Jody. She is such a help and blessing to me. Sister Imogene Taylor helps me a lot and drives the car for me sometimes.

With all my heart I desire not to get down and have to be cared for. My family needs me. I want to do for them. Please pray for my speedy deliverance. The Lord knows my heart, that I want to live and work for Him. He has given me a little typing work to do for Him and it's an encouragement to my soul.

In Christian love,

—Jessie Taylor

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

Please remember dear Sister Carrick of Webb City, Mo. She has been going through some severe suffering but is standing firm with faith in the Lord. She is now with her son and family in Tulsa, Okla.

Remember Bro. Oscar Williamson and Bro. Sam Barton in prayer.

Bro. and Sis. Arthur Klatt, who had been in the Golden Rule Home but are in Wisconsin now, are quite ill and need a miraculous touch from God. —Bro. C. Smith

Bro. Darius Gibson writes, "We have been away in some of the states east of us. We had meeting in different places and the Lord blessed. Two went on their knees for salvation. I am gaining in health for which I am thankful. Evelyn suffers much yet with her eyes. Still needs prayer. Let us keep in mind that our days are swifter than a post. (Job. 9:25)."

Sister Sam Abbott writes that Bro. Curtis Williams still needs prayer. He is having pain in his other lung and is seldom without pain.

Calif.—"I sent for prayer for depressed feelings. Thank God for healing. Pray for my nephew who is in the Marines."

Ill.—Sister Arthur McClain writes, "Arthur is improving slowly." Still pray for him.

Ind.—Arthritis of spine, pains in neck. —Mae Hill.

Calif.—Sister O'Malley has served the Lord many years. She needs healing of a tumor or growth that is large. She writes for earnest prayer.

Miss.—Diabetic, needs spiritual help, a sister in deep trouble. —Mary Miller.



Okla.—"My heart has given me trouble. Please continue to pray for me."—Nellie Poulos.

Va.—"Hurting in chest."—Nannie Connell.

Texas—Sister Essie Moore's husband has a serious heart condition.

Ohio—"Suffering with swelling in feet and legs."—Ella Clark.

Ky.—Dale Baldridge's eyes are very bad.

La.—Unspoken requests. —Sister N. P. Futch.

La.—Sister Lillie Miller writes that she thanks the Lord for what He has done. She still needs prayer for her eyes and a swollen nose; she has to breathe through her mouth, also has headaches.

Mo.—Sister Goldie Knapp has a place on her arm and wrist that she is expecting God to heal.

Calif.—Internal growth. "I know God is able."—Mamie Gonzales.

Ky.—"We were almost overwhelmed with burdens. God heard those prayers and answered in a most wonderful way! ... We thank God's children for praying ... Pray for me as I am not in good health."—Wilma Horsley

Md.—Arthritis, gall bladder trouble, "closer walk with God."—Mrs. Myrtle Warner.

The Lord is blessing Sister Sylvia Busbee. Her feet are better but she is expecting a complete healing of this condition. Remember this dear mother and minister's wife. Her hands are full and she needs her health. She is worthy of your prayers and is looking to the Lord.

We have received letters from many more who need help. Some want prayer for the Lord to work out problems, to save wives, husbands, children, sisters, brothers, and relatives that they carry a burden for. God is able, so hold on with faith. As long as there is life there is hope, so keep praying earnestly.

Some want prayer for broken homes and for those who are bound under drink and other habits. May the Lord have mercy upon all is our constant prayer.

The first of the year a growth came on my face. I was told by a nurse that it was a skin cancer and that I should have it removed. It could give me trouble. I, of course, had it settled to trust God without any other thought in mind. God has been my healer all my life. I kept looking to God and I knew He would take care of it. A few weeks ago it began to dry up and two weeks ago it came off. Oh, I do thank the Lord for taking it off. I tell the Lord that this body belongs to Him.

Saints, let us hold a steady faith in God. He will bring us through. Stand upon the Word of God. It is solid and will support you.

—Sister Marie Miles

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### REPORT ON NIGERIAN MISSION

As this issue goes to press, the report of the mission activities in Nigeria, W. Africa for the month of October has not been received from Bro. B. U. Etuk and the secretary, Bro. Nse Umanah. However, we received letters from them in regard to other matters, and the gospel work is progressing about as usual.

Bro. D. U. E. Enu, pastor of the mission at Benin City, Nigeria, writes that the gospel work is progressing satisfactorily there and that the congregation is searching for a parcel of ground to purchase on which to build a chapel. They already have a fund started for that purpose and hope to acquire the land by the end of this year. He stated that there had been political trouble in the country for the past four months, that everybody lived in fear, and asked prayer for their safety. They are planning a gospel literature campaign and we mailed them several pounds of tracts, in addition to rolls of papers.

Bro. Jackson Etuk, a very zealous and energetic minister at Ikpa Ikomo, writes that in spite of some recent disappointments he intends to build up a congregation of the Church of God in the village where he lives. He is praying that the Lord will provide him with a suitable site on which to build a chapel.

Of course, all the native workers in Nigeria are still praying and expecting the Lord to call and qualify missionaries from America to come over and teach them. Let us agree in prayer that God will supply this urgent need.

—Lawrence Pruitt

### MEXICO MISSION REPORT

Dear Saints of God and all readers of the "Faith and Victory": I greet you again in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer, and am happy to report victory in my soul. God has and is blessing me in soul and body, for which I do praise Him. Your prayers are greatly appreciated and I surely desire to benefit more and more as God reveals Himself to me and deals with my soul.

The gospel work in Mexico continues to progress by God's help, your prayers and support. All the workers are of good courage, and the interest among the people is good. At Rosarito, Sister Opal Kelly and Sister Carrie Sheppard are working together. Personal visitation on Sister Sheppard's part has resulted in many new ones in service. Going out alone has helped her much in her Spanish (which has been somewhat slow for her). She is encouraged and blessed with the results and gives Sister Kelly much credit for her increased use of the language. They desire to do some needed improving on the building in Rosarito, such as a new roof before the winter rains, new windows and screens that will open and close, and a general clean-up, etc.

Sister Edith Cole is continuing to serve in Patzcuaro (Mexicali) and the surrounding area as God leads. Remember her much in prayer. She is the only American on that station at the present time, but is very brave and courageous about it.

Bro. Tomas Mendoza and family are still in El Alamo, serving several communities, and also going regularly to Valle de Trinidad where the interest is increasing and the people are begging them to come and live where they can be in closer contact one with another. Bro. Tomas is patiently waiting on God to send someone to El Alamo before making that move.

I have been privileged to conduct services at Santa Catarina in recent weeks and the response is very encour-

aging. In Ojos Negros the people are still eager for a chapel and regular services. Do pray for all these needs.

Bill and Geneva Hite are still looking and praying for a piece of property in Ensenada on which to build a much needed chapel. A 16-year-old boy has recently taken active part in one of the meeting places there—leading in singing, praying and exhorting. One Sunday Sister Hite was ill with the flu and was so weary after driving 200 miles she was unable to conduct the service. George was asked if he could conduct the service, and after a brief hesitation answered, "Yes, I think I can." With God's help he took the responsibility and did just that. This was a real blessing to everyone. Pray that God will lead this boy and keep His hand upon him.

Remember the Huskey family who are at La Mission, that God will bless and prosper the work there. God and God alone knows just how to work out all things to His honor and glory. It seems it would be good if the Lord would supply someone to help with Charlotte's children so she could be more at liberty to minister in spiritual things.

All the mission stations and chapels built in Mexico are in possession of the Church of God and are being used regularly for living and/or services.

At a recent workers' meeting, I suggested that since I expect to be on the field full time in the near future, it would be good for the saints to be encouraged to have the mailing address of each worker and to seek God for leading to send any gifts and offerings directly to the workers as God so leads. This was agreeable to all. Each worker can supply all donors with proper receipts when desired. Please keep in mind that, for the most part, the workers are completely dependent upon the Lord to supply their needs through His people. Don't hesitate to give because you can't give a big offering. God wants a man to give according to that a man hath, not according to that he hath not. (2 Cor. 8:12). We surely thank all who have stood with us in the Mexico work, and encouraged others to seek God's leading about their part.

Here is the list of workers and addresses:

Edith Cole, Box 1425, Calexico, California.

Opal Kelly, Carrie Sheppard, and James and Charlotte Huskey use this address: Box 2262, San Ysidro, Calif.

Bill and Geneva Hite, 3827 E. 9th, Pomona, Calif.

Bro. Tomas Mendoza, c/o Bro. Harland Smith, 317 E. Cucamonga Ave., Claremont, Calif.

This writer shall continue to use offerings which are designated for general expenses in just that way. May God bless each one.

Sincerely,

—Bro. Harland H. Smith

### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

Oct. 16—Dear Bro. Lawrence Pruitt: Thank God for the privilege given to us to greet you once again in the joy of the Spirit, and love of the heart.

I have received your good loving letter and the enclosed check. Thank you very much and thank God who can and will direct you and the dear saints there to give cheerfully for the gospel work here. We walk by faith as you do. May the Spirit of God direct and guide us to move forward in His will.

Soon after my visit to North Kerala, I had to hurry once again to that part because one of our brethren left this world for his eternal home. He was a strong believer who stood against the apostasy. I stayed with the remaining brethren, comforted them and strengthened them with the ministry of the Word. They were very much encouraged and established on account of my visit. I received letters from them that some backsliders are

healed and reclaimed as a result of my visit and several have been awakened. They are planning to hold a convention soon after the monsoon rains are over.

Now the rains are incessantly pouring day and night. Consequently I was driven to the disagreeable necessity of postponing the convention proposed to be held in the new chapel. The believers find it very difficult to travel in such a time of heavy rains. Hence I am looking forward to a very convenient time for that. All are cheerfully looking for that blessed time. I will let you know before hand the exact time when you and all saints can help us with prayer.

I am helping the new congregation to open up a new center for their work. I am happy to see how they are revived. We move on in faith undaunted. Our request is for your earnest prayers.

Your saved brother,

—C. M. Verghese

### A Message from Mexico

Dear Sister Anna Marie, Staff, and all of God's children: I'm glad to be able to declare victory this morning in the name of Jesus. Though it is a gray morning outside, I thank the Lord for the sunshine of His love in my heart. The brighter it gets, the more I see the needs all around us.

We had a precious meeting here in Rosarito, Mexico last evening. The presence of the Lord was felt very strongly, as He dealt with hearts that had never been touched before. Three were at the altar seeking sanctification and one for the salvation of her soul. Several workers from round about were here to help in the service, and Bro. Harland Smith brought a touching message. It stirred our own hearts, and we are able to see more clearly than ever the need for deeply consecrated workers, who are qualified, deeply settled in the truths of God, and ready to impart these truths of His Word to the people. I would that every resident of Mexico could have heard this message, and others that are going forth to only a few in proportion to the many who have not yet been reached.

Our hearts are burdened. There are so few workers in comparison to the need. Our prayer is that the Lord will deal with hearts to consecrate themselves to teach and preach the Word without thought of the comforts of self, and that in turn they will be willing to accept the dealings of the Lord. He can talk to hearts continually, but as we have the choice to make in being saved, or damned, we also have a choice to make here, too. I would that many would listen to the call of God, and see and know and do those things pleasing to Him, regardless of where it is or under what conditions they need to work. How shall we face the Judgment if we neglect to "Go into all the world"? If you could talk to each and every one of the workers here in Mexico who came at the call of God, I believe I can say of a surety there would not be one of them that would tell you they were sorry they answered the call of God. They would not trade their experiences for anything they ever did, knowing they are in the will of God. If we are able to produce the fruit of the Spirit, we are a testimony of that call.

Brothers and sisters in the Lord, as you go daily into your closet of prayer and supplicate before the Lord, if you are unable to give the Lord the opportunity to send you out (if it be His will to do so), then there is a lack in your consecration to do all the will of God.

We trust that each reader of this letter will know that we are writing each word in love, but with a heart

burdened because of the shortage we see all around us where work has been started and there are not enough workers to go around to keep these places going nor to release others who have the burden to go further on.

We are praying for all of God's children that we may all be faithful, that we may meet in that great and notable dwelling of the Lord to be together forever with Him.

Continue to pray for all of the gospel work in all parts of the world, for time is short, and "but few can we save at the most" is certainly true at this writing.

Your Sister in the Lord,

—Opal Kelly

## TESTIMONIES

### JOHNNY RAY MIRACULOUSLY SPARED

Guthrie, Okla.—Greetings to all the saints in Jesus' name. During the days and nights following the accident in which our son John was critically injured, we eagerly desired the prayers of the saints. Surely we can say that the response was greater than we could have asked or hoped for. We were assured by children of God near and far (by word of mouth, by phone, and by mail) that they were earnestly praying for us.

It isn't possible at present for us to answer all who expressed their concern and interest and helped us in numerous ways; so we are using this means of expressing our appreciation. You'll never know what it has meant to us.

It is only because we are serving a true and living God who hears and answers prayer that John is with us today. This fact is acknowledged by many people who are not enjoying God's blessings in their souls. He is not completely well yet, but improves each day and we are confident that God will finish the work which He has begun. "The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up." We are still in need of your prayers.

Sincerely with Christian love, Hyrum and Geneva Ray  
1223 W. Cleveland, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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

S. Dakota—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' sweet name, the One altogether lovely, our wonderful, wonderful Saviour: "I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and He will make my feet like hinds' feet, and He will make me to walk upon mine high places."

Thank you so very much for taking precious time from your busy life for the Lord to write me the sweet encouraging letter. My burdens are so very heavy, but when they are too great, "I must tell Jesus, I must tell Jesus, I cannot bear these burdens alone." And He gives grace and strength for each day. Bless His dear Name! "I trust in God, I know He cares for me, on mountain high or on the rolling sea. The valley steep is dark and deep, but O, the Father guards His lonely sheep. The billows roll, He keeps my soul. My heavenly Father watches over me!"

It would take too much space to tell of the Lord's manifold blessings to this unworthy child, but these two following outstanding instances of the great mercy, goodness and mindfulness of the Lord to His unworthy children might prove a blessing to others.

About two months ago my husband was working late in a field some distance from home. Our son, Ted, and his family were staying with us until they could secure a home in the near-by town where he taught school. Upon his arrival home from school, Ted went to the field to

finish the evening's work for his father. His two little sons, Jon, age 5, and Barry, 1½ years, went with him to the field and they were to return home with Grandpa. This was unusual as Jon was very timid, not yet being well acquainted with his Grandpa.

When Ted arrived at the field, Husband disengaged the tractor from the seeder and sent Ted to a distant part of the field to finish some discing, and as he was about to return home with the children, he thought he would fill the seeder with wheat in readiness for an early start the next morning. As he climbed upon the seeder, it became overbalanced and turned over on him, catching his foot so that he could not get out from under it. Day was growing dusk. Ted was too far away to hear him call and the frightened children were alone in the car. He called to Jon, but he was too small to help his grandpa. He told Jon to run to the near-by road and call for help if he saw a passing car. Just at that moment a truck came into view. Jon bravely waved and called for help. The trucker went by, but came back to investigate. He extricated Husband from the overturned machine and helped him to the car. His foot was hurt, but no bones were broken and he was able to drive home with the children. How great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord, to me! Let us magnify His great and Holy name!

Sister Eldeen has asked me to relate this experience for the glory of God, as she does not write English.

Sister Eldeen is very frail. She lives with her daughter, and is unable to go about the house freely without a walker. On this occasion, the daughter and family planned to drive to a distant town to spend the week-end with her husband's folks. Sister Eldeen wished to stay at home lest she be a burden. I have often stayed with Sister Eldeen at such times, but it was impossible to leave home at this time. Her daughter was very reluctant to leave her mother alone, and asked a relative to look in from time to time to see that all was well with her mother.

About six o'clock on the Saturday evening of the day the daughter had left, suddenly a great burden came upon me to go at once to see Sister Eldeen. I was very busy preparing supper. I told Husband I felt I must go to see Sister Eldeen as I feared she had fallen and asked if I should get his supper first. "No," he said, "If you feel you must go, let us go at once," so we started for the city, twelve miles away. When we reached the house, all was dark. I went into the house and called, and I heard her feeble voice from the kitchen directing me to turn on the light. I found that she had fallen from a chair onto the kitchen floor as she was trying to reach to the cat's dish to fill it with water, after she had finished supper. She was lying in such a painful position in the water, and had been there for over an hour, praying fervently for the Lord to send help. She thought, "Who will come to help me? The house is dark and everyone will think I am in bed, and they cannot hear my feeble call." Earlier in the evening the lady had stopped by to see her, and Sister Eldeen told her she was getting along fine and she need not come again as she was going to bed as soon as she had finished supper. There was no human help available. Suddenly this Scripture came to her mind, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." And she prayed, "Oh, dear Lord, send Thy Spirit to cause someone to come to help me." She said she was never so glad to see anyone in her life. And I never was so humbly thankful that I had obeyed the voice of the Holy Spirit. The Lord gave me strength to lift Sister Eldeen into the walker and then to the bedroom and into dry clothes. She was not hurt at all, only shaken up. We

had a real praise service to the Lord! "Great is Thy faithfulness" to thy trusting children, wonderful, wonderful Lord!

Had the Lord not intervened and sent help, Sister Eldeen would have been lying on that hard floor all that night and until late the next afternoon, until the family returned. I fear she would not have survived such an ordeal. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits."

I have not had an opportunity to attend a campmeeting nor a revival this year. My great desire is to attend the Assembly Meeting at Guthrie in December, the Lord willing and the way opening. Please pray for me.

Remember to pray for Sister Eldeen. We long to see others find salvation and the true way. Remember my husband and children. We need a closer walk with God.

May the dear Lord bless all the dear saints there and elsewhere is my prayer. —Sister C. A. McFarling

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

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings of love in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. This leaves me still saved and much encouraged to live for God. I am desirous of the Holy Spirit, and I am seeking God for it. I believe if I keep on obeying His Word and keep my mind stayed on Him, He will sanctify me. I have been here in the hospital 11 years, but I was saved when in a San Francisco hospital about thirteen years ago. I would let my mind wander off the Lord and He could not keep me. I know the truth, for Sister Katherine Williams took me out of the hospital and I lived with her about a year. I met other saints, too. It seemed I wanted my way and the Lord's way, too, therefore I just did not grow in the Lord. I was living off the prayers of the saints, because some doctors came back here and were surprised to see me still alive. God is so merciful and longsuffering and I am so thankful, I am going to live for Him. By His help and grace I am going to keep my mind stayed on Him. I used to love T. V. but the Lord helped me by taking the desire from me. Sister Williams has held on to God for me and the Lord answered prayer in my behalf. Praise His name! I thank the Lord so much for the saints, for I love all of God's people everywhere.

I thank the Lord for this typewriter and that I am able to use it. We have all kinds of therapy here, but they never thought about me being able to type because I can't use my hands. I haven't been able to write a letter in about 15 or 16 years and I had no idea of ever being able to unless the Lord healed me. After Sister Williams left for Oklahoma, I never wrote for years. After I found that some of the nurses did not mind writing for me, I began to send a letter every month. After a while it became too difficult as they were too busy. We have volunteers here, but I have a speech problem and it is hard to understand me unless one is around me for awhile. One day one of the patients was having someone write a letter for her, so I told the Lord how I wished I could write to Sister Williams for I had not written her that month. I asked one of our nurses but she was new and we both had a hard time. I know if the Lord had not helped me I would have thanked her and maybe tried some other time. She even stayed overtime, helping me and I was getting tired. But we finally finished. That same day my therapist asked me if I wanted to go downstairs and see if I could use the electric typewriter, so I said yes. And from the first time I started to type, I never had any trouble whatsoever. I give the Lord all the praise for it.

I guess you are wondering how I type. Well, with my mouth—I use a wand with a rubber tip, and a flat surface to go in my mouth and I just type all I want to.

Please remember me to the Lord, both soul and body. I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper very much.

A Sister in Christ,

—Nell Austin

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

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' name: I want to tell you how wonderfully God worked to make it possible for me to come here to the Rest Home at Pacoima, Calif. My mother wanted to know if any saints would care for me. The answer came through the saints' prayers. I am happy and contented here. We have a beautiful home. Every morning at 9 a. m., except Sundays, we have prayer together. Bro. Ostis Wilson reads a chapter in the Bible and explains each verse thoroughly, which gives us a good understanding of the Word. We have good nourishing food three times daily, and a fruit snack, juice and crackers before retiring. We have a wonderful manager and kitchen staff here.

—Marilyn Rendall

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

W. Va.—Dear Sister Marie and saints everywhere, greetings of love in Jesus' dear name:

I felt I should write my testimony and tell of my recent healing. My daughter was here from Columbus, Ohio. She was leaving to go home, so I prepared dinner and they ate before they left. I saw them off and came back to wash the dishes and took sick. I had a hurting in the left side of my back, with pains running down my left side. I thought it would pass in a little while, but it kept getting worse. I had someone call the saints at Dayton, Ohio for prayer. I got some better but then got worse again. I wrote to Sister McCoy and told her to have all the saints to pray for me for I was in so much pain I could hardly stand it. I could not eat or even drink water. When the saints got my letter and had prayer, the Lord healed my body. I fixed myself something to eat and I have never been bothered with that since. I want to thank all the saints for their prayers.

I thank the Lord for that sick spell. I believe He permitted it for a reason. Through it, I was drawn closer to Him. While I was sick I read that little book on "Sanctification" and I see a greater need for it in my life than I ever saw before. Ever since, I have been consecrating my life more and more to Him. I want to ask all the saints to pray that He will fill me with His Holy Spirit for I want to be just what He would have me to be.

I have another affliction on my body I desire prayer for. My head has a place on it that gives me quite a bit of pain at times. I have been prayed for in the campmeetings the last two years and I would get better then worse again. I'm looking to the Lord for complete healing.

I need to be able to get work for I don't draw enough to keep me, especially in the wintertime when the bills are high. Pray that the Lord will work out things for me.

Will all the saints pray with me that the Lord will send someone this way to open a place of worship? It is really needed here in Huntington.

May the Lord bless all the saints everywhere is my prayer.

—Sister Essie Carter

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

Calif.—Dear Saints, greetings in the love of Jesus our Lord: I feel it is good to write once again. The Lord has been blessing and doing many things for us since we last wrote. Among the blessings have been many trials, but the Lord has brought us through, praise His name.

I'm praising the Lord for this wonderful salvation that saves, keeps, and satisfies my soul. I know my God is real. We hear of some who say God is dead, but that

is because they do not know Him. He is very much alive to those who are acquainted with Him, and He manifests Himself to them. Thank the Lord!

It is precious how God blesses and comforts and encourages His children and supplies their needs. What a mighty God we serve! He's a great big God. Let us all press on in the power of His might. In these troubled times we need to nestle closer under His wings and lean on His mighty arm. The world conditions would look most alarming if we were not trusting in God. But He is more than able to take care of us and cause us to stand. He has never lost a battle yet and we can safely say He never will. All we need to do is trust Him and do His will and claim His promises.

I'll testify to the healing of my right hand. A few years ago I broke my right hand in or near the wrist and I could see the bone through the skin. It often gave me trouble, the bone would enlarge and then go down, but, praise be to our God, He has healed it and made it as normal as the other one. Recently I took a job working in the olives. It is a job that is hard on fingers and thumbs. The leaders in my arm got so sore I felt discouraged about going back to work. I felt I would not be able to go back on Monday. In looking to the Lord, there came a real strong encouragement and I knew it was the Lord. He enabled me to work even though He didn't see fit to remove all the soreness. I got along fine.

It is precious how God cares for His children. I do want to draw closer to Him each day and live more for others. Please pray for me and my unsaved loved ones that before too late they will come into the fold of God.

Love and prayers, —Sister Loretta Miles

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

La.—To the dear Saints scattered abroad, greeting: I feel it would be to the glory of God for me to write my testimony. The dear Lord is so good to us. I thank the dear Lord for His saving, keeping and healing power and for His care and protection over us. For several months an affliction had been bothering me so much, but I was anointed and prayed for, and I am thankful the dear Lord has blessed and I am expecting complete victory. We are so thankful for the great love of God to us and all His dear children.

We enjoy reading the many testimonies in the paper each month. We miss dear Sister Katherine Key who labored among us many years and now has gained her reward. But we thank the Lord for sending Brother Herbert Probst and his family to labor among us.

By the help and grace of God we expect to be faithful to Him who has done so much for us. Pray for us.

With Christian love, —Elva Joiner

## Power to Perform

In this world in which we live we are surrounded by sin on every side. Temptation presses in on us from day to day, trying to lead us away from our heritage in heaven. We who are saved have an inheritance of eternal life through repentance and faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 7:10) The Bible calls this salvation, which means deliverance from sin.

Human weakness tells us that power is needed to resist the pressure of temptation. We need power to forgive, power to love. We can talk about love but we need power to possess it. We need power to

live a holy life, power to live above the fashions and ways of the world. In this plan of salvation, God has just that kind of power. In Acts 1:8 we read, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Webster says power is that energy or force that gives us the ability to act.

We read in the Word that there are two definite works of grace, justification and sanctification. We are justified by faith (Rom. 5:1) and we are also sanctified by faith (Acts 26:17, 18). Sanctification is that standing grace (power to stand) that we have access to. Read Romans 5:1, 2. In sanctification the Holy Ghost purifies (cleanses) our hearts by faith (Acts 15:8, 9), cleanses us from the Adamic nature which is a nature of depravity or bent to sin and evil. With this cleansing, which comes through consecration and faith, the Holy Ghost will give us the ability to act according to holiness. It is given unto us freely by God if we seek for it. Luke 11:9-13. Do you want power? Seek for it and it is yours. "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed?" (Acts 19:1, 2) It is for believers. The greatest failure that will quickly bring defeat is failing to do the will of God. It is His will that His children be sanctified. "This is the will of God, even your sanctification." 1 Thessalonians 4:3. —Bro. Donald Sharp

## An Open Letter to Our Precious Girls

I love you girls, and as I have watched you blossom into womanhood, it has caused me to thank God for you. Some of you I do not see very often, but every year brings its changes for you. You have changed from the girl who was ill at ease and nervous, into a settled, composed girl, sure of her actions. You have taken on an air of maturity and neatness in your person that was not there such a short while ago. You now have a place to fill that is very important. Those of you who have not ruined your faces with "make-up" have a beautiful complexion; and those who have not ruined your hair by "teasing" it, have beautiful hair. I thank God for you.

But, girls, I trust that you are aware that the devil is after you. He wants to ruin the natural beauty that God has given you. He wants you to put something on that will degrade you and cause you to be looked upon by wicked men with lustful eyes. You must beware of this trap. God has so planned it that the woman is to be the most beautiful and loveliest of all His creation. She has a high and noble place. Let us keep that place, girls. Don't let anything blight your sweet virtue and loveliness. When the time comes for you to take your place as a wife and mother and guide the household, you need to be prepared. Girlhood is that time of preparation. You must maintain high and noble ideals. Now is the time for you to develop those graces that will enhance your womanhood, for time will soon bring you to that place.

The first and most important step is to make Christ your Saviour. You need the Christian virtues of kindness, love, peace and serenity that God can give. He will teach you how to act, live and be in this life. He will help you to develop truthfulness, honesty, gentleness and sympathy for all. Oh, girls, you need Him so much to help you guard the precious life that He has given you, from the evil ways the devil has planned to lead you into. God wants to "beautify the meek with salvation." Jesus was "meek and lowly" and having Him will give you that wonderful ornament of a "meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God [and God's children] of great price." (1 Peter 3:5). I trust you will not forget to always have this ornament.

Now, my dear girls, you need to have a right attitude toward your dress. God has told us in His Word how to dress. We want to be careful to obey God's Word. It is the right way. It will guard your virtue and the high position you hold in life. The Bible tells us what kind of clothes we are to wear. "That women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety." (1 Tim. 2:9). Modesty means "chaste; decent; not displaying one's body; quiet and humble in appearance." (Web. Dic.) The short skirts, which are the style of today, are contrary to the Word of God. To disobey God's Word is sin. God will be merciful and long-suffering, but there comes a time when we must come to God's terms. This morning as I drove to the office to work, I saw some precious girls with their dresses four or more inches above their knees. It grieved my heart, and the tears came as I thought about the danger they are in. I thought about the girls who were killed in Chicago and how the newspaper said this man had been watching them take sunbaths from the park across the way. How sad it is that girls will expose themselves in such a manner. Then I thought about the man teacher who had to ask a woman teacher to talk to the girls in his class because of their short dresses. This should not be, especially among those who profess to know God. You are leaving yourselves open to harm and danger.

One time I was with a group of women who had on such short dresses that it grieved and embarrassed me. I began looking to the Lord about it, and He let me know that modesty is a commandment of God and it is immodest for a woman to wear a dress so short that she cannot cover her knees when she sits down. The Bible says, "Sin is the transgression of the law." (1 John 3:4). Where does that place those who wear such short dresses? My dear girls, we want you to make it into heaven. We only want to help you and we do pray that you will take these instructions, so that you can have the favor of God upon you. Don't dress in such a way that it embarrasses others and stirs lustful thoughts in the hearts of unregenerated men. God is not pleased. You are precious and we want you to stay that way.

—Sister Marie Miles

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## False Courage

False courage is a terrible thing; and the thrill seeker, having the first taste of this courage, finds it easier and easier to let the barrier down each succeeding time to where it tends to grow on him and becomes a living part of the thrill seeker. Then try to break it—try to stop it, and the devil laughs at you for your folly. I wish every youngster in this world today could take a good look at a narcotics user during a withdrawal period as they are coming off dope. The sight is so revolting and sickening, that I'd be safe to say not another ounce of dope would ever be sold illegally in the world. I wish every youngster in this world, before he took his first drink, could see a drunkard with the D. T.'s, cowering in a corner for fear of snakes, or rats, or bats that aren't there. To them it's real, because drink has warped their minds and caused them to literally see things that aren't there. Could you see it, you'd never touch a drop of liquor as long as you lived. I wish, every youngster, before he stole the first car for a joy ride, or went with someone in a stolen car just for the thrill of a joy ride, could see the accident and bodies of another group of thrill seekers who crashed their stolen car by going too fast, or running from the police—teenagers killed seeking a thrill, looking for some "kicks." What a degrading waste it all is! And I wish you could see it all. I have, and let me assure you it's revolting to the point of sickness within a person. So where does it all end for the smart man, the man with a chip on his shoulder, the lazy man, the man who feels the world owes him a living, the thrill seeker? I'll tell you where it ends—in prisons, in mental institutions, in graveyards, in heartbreak. But even worse than this, it ends with the devil in hell. So if you are this day seeking that easy living, or feeling too smart, or planning to go out for some "kicks" with the gang, I implore you to stop and come to a realization of where your deeds will take you. False values and false loyalties will lead you to destruction and to hell, believe me!

—Wayne Turner

(Editor's note: The writer of the above was marvelously converted in jail several years ago. His own testimony in tract form is available at this office. Continuing to serve the Lord and serve his life sentence for murder, Bro. Wayne Turner is now assisting the Chaplain in the State Prison at Angola, La. At this season of the year he has asked us to extend his warm Christmas greetings to all the readers, since he will not be in a position to send out very many cards. He is permitted to receive Christmas cards, and no doubt you would like to make him happy with a greeting. In case you would like to include a little gift of money, do not send cash, but a money order. The Lord will bless you. His address: Bro. Wayne Turner, P. M. B. 62895 R. C., Angola, La. 70712.)

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## BIBLE STUDY

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December 4, 1966

### PROPHECIES OF PEACE

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 11:1-9

Isa. 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his reins.

6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den.

9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Memory Verse: Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.

Practical Truth: Those who growl like bears need to let the Prince of peace come into their hearts today.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

What a wonderful picture of peace is foretold in our lesson! The people were sitting in darkness and they needed Jesus to come as their light to lead them into the place of perfect peace in their souls. But sad to say, some teach that these Scriptures will be fulfilled in a future day, but thank God, we know that when Jesus came, He brought peace. Not many will accept this peace that He has brought. This peace comes into the heart of man. Only the humble and contrite in heart can have it today.

One time Jesus spoke of Herod as a fox (Luke 13:32), thereby signifying his craftiness. He had a fox-like nature. In our lesson it tells us that the wolf would dwell with the lamb. According to the nature of a wolf, it would kill a lamb, but when the Prince of peace came, He was to change those who had a wolf-like nature and they could get along with the lamb. Did you ever see anyone who would snarl and growl when things did not go to suit them? The Prince of peace wants to take that out of people and make them peaceable. The Lord will make those who have a nature like a leopard or lion so humble that even a little child can lead them. Thank

God, in the holy mountain or the kingdom of God, there is peace and all dwell together in love, harmony and peace right here in this present world.

December 11, 1966

### REDEMPTION THROUGH SUFFERING

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 53:4-9, 12

Isa. 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

12 Therefore will I divide his portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Memory Verse: But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5.

Practical Truth: We love Him because He first loved us and gave Himself for us.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

After reading our lesson for today, the words of Jesus came to me in John 10:17, 18, "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." How much we do love and adore our blessed Savior, Lord and Master, for His great love for us! He was innocent, but he took our punishment. He was "bruised for our iniquities." When God sees that we have accepted the death of Jesus on the cross for our sins and have confessed them, He looks upon us and sees the precious blood of Jesus covering them and then we can come into God's presence, or into His favor. We become His child.

Just think, He had the power to forego that horrible suffering. He could have called 12 legions of angels to deliver Him, but Jesus said, "How then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be." (Matt. 26:53, 54). These scriptures in Isaiah were written and Jesus came to bring them to pass. Just as all these scriptures were fulfilled concerning Jesus as written in our lesson, so all the promises that Jesus gave will be fulfilled, also. There is a heaven and a hell just as Jesus taught. It will come to pass that those who do not accept Jesus will get their punishment. But through Jesus it will be heaven for those who believe.



December 18, 1966

## PROPHET OF THE MOST HIGH

Printed Portion ..... Luke 1:67-80

Luke 1:67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,

68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people.

69 And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

70 As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

71 That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;

73 The oath which he sware to our father Abraham,

74 That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear,

75 In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

76 And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

80 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the desert till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

**Memory Verse:** Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. Mal. 3:1.

**Central Thought:** The Lord wants us to prepare the way for others to come to Him.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

After John was born and God gave his father, Zacharias, his voice back, he was full of the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit spoke through him and he knew that God had visited His people to redeem them. He thanked God for the "horn of salvation," which was to come through the house of David, just as it had been prophesied by the prophets. He was to fulfill all the prophesies and even fulfill the oath that He had sworn to Abraham. Jesus did come and today we can rejoice because we have been delivered out of the hand of the devil. When we have salvation we can serve God in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life.

Then Zacharias looked at his baby son and said, "Thou shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; to give knowledge of salvation [we can know we are saved] unto his people by the remission of their sins." We find that John was prophesied to be the forerunner of Jesus. (Mal. 4:5). He preached to the people, "Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance." When he saw Jesus, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." The tender mercy of God has been manifested through Jesus. Those who "sit in darkness and in the shadow of death" can have peace. Jesus bruised the serpent's head and gives us victory over the devil in this life.

December 25, 1966

## BORN THIS DAY A SAVIOR

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

Luke 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Memory Verse:** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11.

**Practical Truth:** Always be sure to keep Christ in your Christmas.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Some say that Jesus was not born on December 25, but be that as it may, we know that one day He was born, and He came as a Saviour to the world. What birthday in the whole world is more worthy to be remembered than the day of our blessed Saviour? If he had not had a birth, there would not have been a cross nor a resurrection. Today we rejoice and give thanks unto our blessed Lord for His great love. He came as a babe of humble parents and they laid him in a manger. He has shown us the way to live and act and that is in a humble way. Even as there was no room in the inn for Jesus, just so there was no room in the hearts of the people for Jesus. Many today reject Him and do not have room for Him. How sad!

God had it planned that the lowly and the high could hear about Jesus' coming. The shepherds on the hills and the wise men from the east came looking for the newborn babe. The king also learned of his arrival and had all the children under two years of age killed, thinking he had got rid of Him. The king had no room for Jesus.

Today we are glad that Jesus is alive and is sitting on the right hand of God, interceding for you and me. He is holding out His arms of love to all who will come and repent and be saved. We are glad for the day of His birth.

Sister Marie Miles