

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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When Jesus Was Arrested

When Jesus was arrested,
In dark Gethsemane,
His disciples were disheartened
By what they there did see.

Peter acted quickly,
Though moved by sudden fear;
He drew his sword and forthwith
Cut off poor Malchus' ear.

"Put up thy sword," said Jesus,
Then healed the servant's ear.
His disciples all forsook him;
Some followed in the rear.

From place to place they sent Him,
And did spit in his face;
At last to death condemned Him
With shame and sore disgrace.

Between two thieves they hung Him;
They nailed Him to the cross.
O! behold Him dying
For a world of sinners lost.

The guiltless for the guilty—
O love divine, what grace
To give His life a ransom,
And suffer in our place!

"I thirst!" He cried, "'Tis finished!"
He yielded up the ghost.
They pierced His side, out came the blood,
A fountain for sinners lost.

They put Him in a new-made tomb,
And sealed it to make sure,
But on the third day He arose,
And is alive forevermore.

The Resurrection and the Life—
He ascended to the throne.
From whence He shall return some day
To receive His loved and own.

—Ulysses Phillips

How to Find God

The prodigal has wandered far; he is in a strange land. Things there are not as they are in Father's house. As long as he is satisfied in this strange country, the charms of home appeal to him but little. Before the sinner can find God he must, as the prodigal of old, come to himself. He must realize what his situation means. He must become conscious of his true state as a sinner. He must see his sins in their naked reality; and he has only to see them so to abhor them. The pleasures of sin may satisfy for a season. His heart may have no longing after God; but when he comes to himself, he begins to think of better things. Sin loses its attraction. He begins to eat the bitter bread of remorse. He thinks of the outraged Father, and there arises in his heart a desire for reconciliation. He is conscious that he has transgressed, that he has deeply wounded the paternal love. He is deeply conscious of the fact that he deserves nothing better of the Father than permanent rejection. The language of his heart is, "I am no more worthy to be called thy son."

No man can ever find God who does not first become thoroughly dissatisfied with his own condition; for so long as he is satisfied in sin, he has no desire to be reconciled to God, he does not wish to be in God's presence. But when once he begins to abhor his sin, and to desire to be something better than he is, he instinctively turns Godward, and says, "I will arise and go to my Father." Reconciliation with God is not hard to obtain if there be first this turning away from sin and self. But without it there can never be peace. There can be no salvation while there remains self-satisfaction or rebellion.

It is not hard to become a Christian. It is not difficult to find God. The difficult part is to leave self and to gain the consent of mind and heart to begin the seeking. God is not far away. We do not need to take a long journey to find Him. He "is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart." (Psa. 34:18). Yea, he is "not far from every one of us" (Acts 17:27), and he has said, "Seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For

every one . . . that seeketh findeth" (Luke 11:9, 10). There is, however, a way in which we must seek in order to be successful. We must not seek carelessly nor indifferently. "But if . . . thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul" (Deut. 4:29).

God never hides himself from those who seek Him with right desires and pure purposes. The seeker should come humbly and simply and trustingly. He should come as one who expects to find, and, having found the desire of his heart, to turn back no more to his former life.

But if we desire to find God, we must seek for Him where He is. The prodigal would have sought long and vainly for his father in the land wherein he was a prodigal. Knowing this, he said, "I will arise and go to my father." So we must arise and go from the land of our sinful service, from the country of our evil master. God is not to be found there. In vain do we look for Him there. He is not found in the way of earthly pleasure. So long as our hearts and affections are set upon the things of this world, so long as we care for them, we cannot find God. It is only when we turn to Him with our whole hearts and with a full purpose to serve Him that we can find Him.

Sometimes people desire to be Christians, and they make up their minds that they are going to do better. That is their thought of being a Christian—just doing better. But doing better is not enough; there must be something more than that. How can a man who is evil do good? Nor is it enough to join with people called a church. Turning over a new leaf, taking up new habits, becoming interested in church work and various benevolences, will never bring us to God. Our souls must become hungry for Him. We must desire Him more than anything else and search for Him until we find Him. That is the one thing—we must find God. We must become His. We must have a new life, new purposes, and a new relationship with God. This demands a severance of old relations, a forsaking of the old habits and life, of the old ways and desires. Do not suppose that you can find God as your Savior unless you turn to Him with your whole heart, giving up once and for all time everything that displeases Him. He will not be a partner with you in anything that is unholy; therefore all that is unholy must be given up.

God has said, "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. 55:7). These are God's terms, and he will not change them. David said, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psa. 66:18). God tells us the result if we seek Him while we still hold to sin. "When ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear" (Isa. 1:15). What, then, must we do? His answer is, "Put away the evil" (ver. 16). If we will do this, the gracious promise is given, "Though your sins be as scarlet, they

shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (ver. 18). As long as the soul clings to one sin, it cannot find God. All must be forsaken. The old life must have "Finis" written under it. When we fully turn from sin, then, and then only, can we turn to God. We are told to reckon ourselves dead indeed unto sin. If we do this, our relation to it will be the same as that of a literally dead man to the activities of this life. Sin must end before righteousness can begin.

—From "Winning a Crown"

The Divinity of the Church

By D. S. Warner

She is of divine origin. Her inception coexisted in the mind of God with that of the plan of salvation. Her origin being the immediate result of redemption, was inseparable from it. And since, therefore in the counsel and good purpose of God, Christ was a "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13:8), the church redeemed through his blood also stood before the divine mind parallel with the gift of his Son. Of that holy institution, we have seen, he cast a beautiful shadow upon the earth, in the form of the temple and all its contents. And, after "Moses verily was faithful in all his house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after," in due time, "Christ, as a son over his own house," appeared, and he built this beautiful church of the living God. He adorned her foundations and walls with the pure gold of his heavenly love, and set them with the precious stones of his graces and gifts; he adorned her pillars with the robes of his righteousness; and in her he sheds the light of his own glory. She is from heaven and all her members are born of God. Along with Christ her life and head, she is the gift of infinite love. She is "God's building," chosen of him for his own dwelling place; and where he spreads a continual feast of love for all his heaven-born children. The divine Son purchased her with his own blood. Acts 20:28. Yea, he "gave himself" for her to be his own bride (Eph. 5:25); built her upon the rock. Matt. 16:18. As the "true tabernacle" of present divine testimony, the Lord pitched her and not man. Heb. 8:2. As the house of God, he that buildeth all things in her is God. Heb. 3:4. As the beloved city, she "hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Heb. 11:10. Her foundation is Jesus Christ, the divine Savior. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." Her life and light is the "eternal Spirit."

Her creed is the pure Word of God. Thus spake God by the mouth of his servant Moses: "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him." Deut. 18:18, 19.

This is fulfilled in his Son as the apostle testifies. Acts 3:22, 23. God here announces that he would

put his words in the mouth of this prophet; and when he came, he testified, saying, "The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works." John 14:10. Therefore, "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by his prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son." Heb. 1:1, 2. This adorable Christ came into the world, and delivered the perfect laws of his kingdom, and when about to finish his mission on earth he said, "I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them." John 17:8. And when he sent forth his ministers to preach his gospel to every creature, he commissioned them to make disciples in 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 whatsoever I have commanded you." Matt. 28:19, 20.

Thus we see that Christ Jesus spoke all the words that the Father "put into his mouth," and all that he had commanded him to speak; and the Son likewise commissioned his apostles to publish all that, and only that, which he gave them. Therefore "All Scripture divinely inspired, is indeed profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for that discipline which is in righteousness; so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly fitted for every good work." 2 Tim. 3:16, 17, Emphatic Diaglott. God, the Father, is then the source of this new covenant, Jesus Christ the mediator of the same. Its object is the "conviction" of men in sin, and the teaching, correction in discipline in righteousness, of all the saints of God, and the result is, by means of it they are perfect. As divinely inspired discipline, it corrects every error, and teaches every obligation of righteousness in all our relations to God and to man.

—From "The Cleansing of the Sanctuary."

"Bring up Your Lives"

I once heard a story of a military standard bearer who, in the time of battle when his company was charging up a hill against a fortified enemy position, was going ahead of his company carrying the flag. Enemy fire was very effective as the enemy was strongly entrenched and the company was being shot up badly. The officer in charge deemed the battle lost and that he should pull back his men, so he called to the standard bearer ordering him to bring back the flag. The standard bearer called back over his shoulder as he continued to charge on into the enemy position, "I won't bring back the flag; you bring up your men!" According to the story, the beaten and battered army rallied to the standard and the result was victory.

Brethren, let this be the spirit of every one of us. There is a cry from some in our day that the standard is being held too high and we are too strict about this and that, etc., and some are seeking for a modification of some of the old teachings which our fathers stood by—lived and taught, and to which God attested His

sanction by miracles, signs and wonders and abundance of divine grace, producing great joy and victorious living among His people. But when the cry goes out to bring down or lower the standard, let the spontaneous response of every one of us be that "We won't do it; you bring up your lives." And if all will bring up their lives to the definitely established standard and principles of truth (rally to the standard) the result will be victory.

In Numbers 2:34 we read, "And the children of Israel did according to all that the Lord commanded Moses: so they pitched by their standards, and so they set forward." Ah, folks, there you have it! "They pitched by their standards and SO they set forward." If we want to set forward and make real solid progress in our individual lives and in the work of God, we must pitch by the standards which God will honor and work through. Otherwise, we are doomed to certain defeat.

Variance is classified in Gal. 5:20 as a work of the flesh. For us to vary in any degree from the established lines of truth laid down by Christ and the apostles and perpetuated unto us by our fathers is to give place to the flesh. Two straight lines running parallel can be projected around the world and still be the same exact distance apart as at the beginning. But if there is a little variation in one of them, be it ever so slight, by the time it is projected around the world it will be off a long, long way. So with the lines of truth: if there is just a slight variation some way, by the time it is projected through this age, or through a few generations even, there is no way of calculating how far it might be off.

One has said, "Individuals are but atoms. They are born, they live, they act, they die. But truth is an eternal principle and can never be changed." This is very true. Change truth to any degree at all and it becomes false. There may be different conditions and different things to meet in our day than in the days of Christ and the apostles or in the early days of this reformation and, no doubt, there are. But the clear principles of eternal truth, if solidly held, will meet the problems of our day the same as theirs.

But we cannot move established landmarks to suit our land lines. We must move our land lines to suit the established land marks. At this point I think of Bro. George Winn of Guthrie, Oklahoma whom some of you may still remember. He said at one time that if God would hand him the Bible and say, "Here, George, just take this book and fix it to fit you," he would just hand the Bible back to God and say, "God, the book is all right just like it is. Just fix George to fit the book." Brethren, that is the attitude we all need and must have. Let us not be trying to change any part of God's word to suit our way of life at any point, but let us earnestly be seeking God to change our lives in any way they need changing to conform to the truths of God's Word.

—O. B. Wilson

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

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

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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

~~EDITORIAL~~

To all of the thousands of our new readers who have been receiving this paper for the past two months, we extend a very special invitation to SUBSCRIBE AT ONCE and become a regular reader. Your friend who had these trial issues sent to you would like for you to continue to receive a copy each month. He believes that these Bible truths will be a spiritual benefit and blessing to you. For the convenience of those whose subscriptions are EXPIRING WITH THIS ISSUE, we are enclosing a handy blue SUBSCRIPTION REMITTANCE ENVELOPE. Just fill in the printed blank form with your name and address, enclose \$1.00, stamp and mail, and you will receive this paper each month (except August) for the next three years. Please do this NOW lest you forget it and miss the forthcoming issues which will contain messages of truth essential to your soul's welfare. May God bless every reader with heaven's richest benefits.

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Beginning its 45th year of publication with this March issue, the "Faith and Victory" paper still stands committed to the precious truths which brought forth this "evening light" restoration movement of the Church of God in fulfillment of Bible prophecy—those same vital truths which were taught and practiced prior to the "landslide compromise" of 1910-14. As the servant of the Church of God, contending "for the faith once delivered to the saints," the publishers and this literature ministry have weathered many storms by the help and grace of God. Over the years along the way many "Ebenezer" stones have been set up with this inscription, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." 1 Sam. 7:12. More difficulties and obstacles are expected in the future, but our faith is anchored in God who is not limited by circumstances. The Apostle John affirms: "... this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4. God whom we serve will and does take care of His own.

In the initial stages (1923-26) of this printing work, the paper was printed two pages at a time on a hand-fed platen press, powered by a gasoline engine. Since those days the Lord has graciously added to His printshop much better and faster printing equipment with which to produce many thousands of "white-winged" silent gospel messengers.

The first seven years the paper was published without a subscription price, sent out freely to all who wanted a copy, but the postage rate then was extremely high on free printed matter. In order to secure the much more reasonable second class postage rates, we were required to set a subscription price and maintain a bonafide paid subscription list. The present price of 35c per year does not pay the cost of producing the paper, but it does place it in reach of all and encourages a wider circulation. Over the years the unmet difference in the cost has been supplied by the Lord through His people who hear His voice and give freely to spread the gospel message of salvation.

through faith in Christ's atonement. (For a further history of this gospel publishing work, write for the book, "God's Gracious Dealings," a 240-page autobiography of the life and labors of the late Fred Pruitt, which is available at this office for 50c, post-paid.)

This literature ministry is primarily and essentially a work of faith in God. It is God's work and without His blessings it could not continue. As "workers together" with the Lord we are delighted in His service, and we appreciate all those who have and are faithfully supporting the literature ministry by your prayers and finance. Your treasures are being laid up in heaven. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21. What you have sown you will reap in everlasting happiness.

The devoted child of God will not only give to the Lord of his increase while in this life, but also he will, if possible, direct by a will or trust that his assets or estate be used to the glory of God after his departure to the Glory world. Unfortunately, in some cases the estates of saints never benefit God's cause. If one dies intestate (not having made a will), then the court settles the estate according to the State statutes and God's cause receives no benefit. A Christian will is one in which provisions are made for the advancement of the cause of Christ. Indeed you want to know that the pure standard of Bible truth will be held up to the world after you are gone, so do not neglect, as many have, the important matter of making a Christian will. Any reputable attorney will assist you in writing out your wishes in a legal manner for a nominal fee.

In stock at this office are over 300 different titles of gospel tracts to be sent out free in limited quantities for careful and prayerful distribution. Where prices are quoted, it is at cost or below. Send for a FREE sample to read and pass on. One tract may result in the salvation of many souls.

Bro. Andrew Senti of Minneapolis, Minn., a faithful tract distributor for many years, writes: "This finds me well in soul and body. I have just passed the 80 year mark, and thank the Lord for keeping me in health and strength all these years. His hand of love is over me at all times and keeps me from harm. Praise the Lord! I have not been able to distribute tracts very much of late. We had 34 inches of snow in January alone, and some since. May God bless you for your faithfulness."

A delayed report was received that Bro. Arthur Klatt, Fairchild, Wisconsin, departed this life on November 15, 1966.

The first part of February Bro. Willie Murphey, his daughters, Kathleen and Patsy, and my sister, Marie Miles, went to the Indian mission on the Sioux Indian reservation in South Dakota where Bro. and Sister Charles Lyons are doing missionary work, and

held a few services. They felt that their going was very profitable. Especially was it an encouragement to the Lyons family who are laboring in that difficult mission field. You will note Sister Lyon's testimony in this issue.

On our return trip (Jan. 30) from attending Bro. Oscar Williamson's funeral, we visited briefly in the home of Bro. and Sister Arnett Carver in Shreveport, La. Bro. Arnett witnessed with much appreciation how that in answer to prayer the Lord had to a great extent recovered him from a severe skin irritation and infection which had been over his body for about a year. The trial of faith was long and hard, but the victory was precious. Continue to pray for permanent deliverance. Our God still hears and answers prayer. Jesus said, "And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:7, 8.

Prayer is the language of dependence. He who does not pray feels self-sufficient.

The litho plates are now ready for the press in preparation to reprint the 541-page book entitled, "The Cleansing of the Sanctuary," by Warner and Riggle. However, it will be some weeks before the edition will be completed and available in a durable cloth cover. Though working constantly and faithfully, we and our co-workers can do only so much. Many good books are waiting and need to be printed, but just as in every other phase of God's cause the same condition prevails here — consecrated workers are too few! So remember the Lord's request in Matt. 9:38 and pray for each of us that we will be faithful at our post.

—L. D. P.

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OBITUARIES



Roland Atwood Tombleson was born November 13, 1886 to Mr. and Mrs. John Wesley Tombleson at Osborn, Kansas, and passed away at the age of eighty years, two months, and ten days at his home in Lamar, Colorado on January 20, 1967.

He was married to Mary Amy Mallory February 28, 1909 at Mansfield, Missouri in the home of her parents. To this union were born six children: three sons, Cecil, Herbert, and Floren; and three daughters, Bethine, Marie, and Elna.

He was called into the ministry of the gospel shortly after he was saved and was true to his calling, having preached for about 45 years, pastoring churches and doing evangelistic work, working anywhere he could for the salvation of souls and the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

He was very patient in all of his long illness, never murmuring or complaining in any way regardless of his severe suffering. God gave him grace and courage from day to day to bear it all with patience. He was fully consecrated to the will of God, and died triumphantly in the Lord just as he had lived.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Herbert and Floren; two grandsons and two great grandsons.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Amy, of Lamar; one son, Cecil, also of Lamar; three daughters, Bethine Simpkins of Pritchett, Colo., Marie Huston of Las Animas, Colo., Elna Burnes of Liberal, Kansas; fifteen grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren; two brothers, Ed and Harold of Missouri; a sister, Alice Sutton of Michigan and a host of friends.

After the years of toil and strife
Daddy has gone to a better life.
Now no burdens, sorrows, or tears
Can touch the one we held so dear.

He has gone to the One he served so long,
And believed on so strong.
As he taught, he lived and died,
Believing on the Christ who was crucified.

"I know my Redeemer liveth," so believed Daddy.
And now he, too, lives somewhere beyond the blue.
He has gone higher than any astronaut among the stars
Not even stopping on the moon or Mars.
No return trip is he to make,
But let us live so sometime his hand we may shake.

"You fought a good fight,
You finished the course,
You have won the race—
Now, Daddy, wear the crown with royal grace."
—Written by Elna

Oscar Eugene Williamson, born to Francis Marion and Sarah Luella Williamson on May 12, 1885 in Neshoba County, Miss., departed this life on January 27, 1967 at the age of 81 years, 8 months and 15 days.

He came to Louisiana in 1895 at the age of ten and has been a life-long resident of the Loranger community. He was united in marriage to Miss Etta Joiner on Oct. 11, 1906. Ten children were born to this union. One daughter preceded him in death.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Mrs. Etta Williamson; two sons, Leroy of Hammond, La., and Merrill A., of Jena, La.; seven daughters, Mrs. Myrtis Flynn, Mrs. Alta Flynn, Mrs. Cwilla James, Mrs. Katherine Harmon, and Mrs. Shirley James, all of Loranger; Mrs.

Laverne Manuel of Pomona, Calif., and Mrs. Hazel Savage of Yosemite, Calif.; five sisters, Mrs. Leila Joiner, Mrs. Elma Forbes, Miss Queenie Williamson, all of Hammond, La., Mrs. Ethel Langlois of Baton Rouge, Mrs. Viva Carver of Houston, Tex., five brothers, Grover of Denham Springs, La., Fred and Austin of Baton Rouge, La., Earl of Belen, New Mexico, and Max of Hammond, La., twenty-four grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral message was preached by Bro. Charles Smith, using the text in Numbers 21:11, "And they journeyed ... in the wilderness ... toward the sunrising." Also Rev. 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord ... that they may rest from their labours and their works do follow them."

Bro. Williamson was surely patient and faithful to journey on in this world toward the sunrising of a new home in heaven with Jesus and all the saints there.

The congregation and community feel that our loss is heaven's gain, and while he is at rest, his works do follow him. He loved the truth and was always interested in doing what he could to encourage the saints to stand by the truth of God's Word.

Ministers assisting in the service were A. E. Harmon, T. H. Coffey, and H. V. Probst, with interment in the saints' cemetery by the Oak Grove chapel, Loranger, La.
—Herbert V. Probst

(Editor's note: Departing this life in the triumphs of a living faith, Bro. Oscar Williamson left a rich spiritual heritage to his family and the Church—a living example of holy conduct with a firm hold on the eternal truth of God's Word. When he was a small boy in Mississippi a meeting was held in their neighborhood by Bro. Warner, under whose preaching his father, Bro. F. M. Williamson, was converted and became one of the pioneer Church of God ministers in Louisiana, helping to establish in 1908 at Hammond the General Southern campground on which the saints still hold annual meetings as well as regular services of the local congregation, now pastored by Bro. T. H. Coffey. Acquainted with the family for more than thirty five years, this writer, and other workers from this office, were at the funeral service to pay our respect and extend our sympathy. The unusually large attendance witnessed to the high esteem in which Bro. Oscar was held by the church and the community. The world has suffered a great loss, but he is at rest in the paradise of God with all the faithful. May God comfort the bereaved family with the truth that divine provisions have been made that they can go to him. May the circle be unbroken. —L. D. P.)

Campmeeting Dates for 1967

Following are some of the campmeetings dates for the coming summer. Dates for others have not been received. More complete notices of each will appear in later issues.

Holly Hill, S. C.—June 9 to 18.

Tulsa, Okla.—June 9 to 18.

Zion Hill, Benton, Ark.—June 18 to 25.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 23 to July 3.

General Southern—Hammond, La.—June 30 to July 9.

Akron, Ohio—July 7 to 16.

Green Pastures, Okla.—July 7 to 16.

California State—Pacoima, Calif.—July 7 to 16.

National Campmeeting—Neosho, Mo. (Monark)—July 21 to 30.

Oklahoma State—Guthrie, Okla.—Aug. 4 to 13.

Bakersfield, Calif.—Aug. 4 to 13.

BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. REVIVAL REPORT

The annual winter revival at Bakersfield, Calif. was held Jan. 27 through Feb. 5. This was a victorious meeting with a definite outpouring of the Holy Spirit being evident throughout.

In answer to prayer for favorable weather, the temperature was mild and the fog very light in comparison to the dense condition experienced in previous years.

Quite a large number of the congregations in California were represented, also saints were present from Oregon and Phoenix, Ariz. It was indeed a blessing to have Sister Katherine Williams from Okla. City with us, also Bro. and Sister Ulysses Phillips of San Bernardino, Calif. (formerly of Dover, Okla.).

Conviction rested heavily upon the meeting and at least 13 souls were saved. Faults were confessed, bodies healed, saints edified, and wanderers returned to the fold. Praise our God! Some of the ministers expressed their burden for the church, and in the last Saturday morning service there was a special anointing of the Holy Spirit when many saints, weeping and praying, sought a closer walk with God and further consecrated their lives to Him and shouted His praises. Praise His holy name! Please pray for our continued spiritual growth.

Monday night, Feb. 6, following the close of the revival a gospel singing was held. We were happy to have some of the young saints from Pacoima with us. The Lord richly inspired the singing and we were greatly edified through the Spirit. Sister Williams and Bro. and Sister Phillips were still with us. Afterwards refreshments were served honoring Bro. Phillips, who was 80 years old on that date, and Alice Chandler, a precious young saint, who was 16, and Bro. Batts who was 83 during the week. The occasion was very sacred and much spiritual depth was given to it as a sister read the poem printed in the February "Faith and Victory," written by Bro. Phillips ten years ago on his 70th birthday, entitled "Threescore Years and Ten." She read it, "Threescore Years and Ten, and Ten," supplying the additional "and ten" wherever appropriate to correspond with his 80th birthday. Thank God for our father in Zion.

—Sister Robena Montgomery
Bro. I. C. Chandler, Pastor

Meeting Notices**EASTER MEETING AT JEFFERSON, ORE.**

The Easter meeting of the Church of God at Jefferson, Ore. will begin March 17 and end on Easter Sunday, March 26. Services will be held each evening at 7:30, all-day services on the first Sunday, and on the last Friday, Saturday and Sunday three regular services will be in session each day.

The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan as usual. The cabins will be open and meals served to all who stay on the grounds. We are inviting you and everyone to come and enjoy this meeting as the Lord has always blessed in the past Easter meetings. We are praying and expecting God to send Spirit-filled ministers to preach the Word. We urge all to come. Especially the saints here in the Northwest should be stirred to come. There is much to be done in the Lord's vineyard here in the Northwest. May God bless one and all, and let us ever keep the onward vision, as the Apostle Paul said, "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high

calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded. . . ." Phil. 3:13-15.

For further information, write or call Sister Hilda Nielsen, Box 34, Jefferson, Ore., phone 327-2564, or Sister Nedra Watkins, Rt. 1, Box 320, Turner, Ore. These sisters have cars and can meet those coming by train or bus in Salem or Albany.

—Sister Beatrice Spaur
Box 386, Jefferson, Ore. Phone 327-2855

SPRING MEETING AT WICHITA, KANSAS

The Wichita, Kansas spring meeting will begin on the 17th of March and it will continue 10 days. We are looking for the Lord to send us ministerial help for this meeting. There will be all-day services on each Sunday with dinner on the grounds. On other days there will be one evening service.

We desire the prayers of everyone who knows the worth of prayer that souls will be saved and the saints will be sanctified and settled in the truth and that sin-sick souls and the ones who are sick in body can come believing and go home well. All are welcome. The supper is now ready. The chapel is at 1701 Ash St. — Lewis Williams, Pastor
1536 Piatt St., Phone AM 4-8481

BOLEY, OKLA. SPRING MEETING

The annual Church of God spring meeting at Boley, Okla. will be held April 14 through 23, 1967, Lord willing. All are welcome to come. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers and workers of His own choosing. Saints, pray earnestly for the meeting. Katherine Williams, Pastor
1453 N. E. 9th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

LOS ANGELES SPRING REVIVAL

Lord willing, the annual spring revival of the Church of God will convene March 17 through March 26, 1967 at the chapel at 1381 Walnut St., Los Angeles, Calif.

All are welcome and urged to attend and expect the Lord to manifest His presence. We solicit your prayers.

For further information, contact Bro. I. C. Chandler, 415-11th St., Bakersfield, Calif. Phone FA 5-6752, or Bro. T. R. Summers, 207 E. 76th Pl., Los Angeles, Calif. 90003. Phone 758-8319. —Bro. I. C. Chandler, Pastor

GUTHRIE, OKLA. EASTER SERVICES

The congregation of the Church of God at Guthrie, Okla. cordially invites you to attend the all-day services to be held here on Easter Sunday, March 26.

A basket dinner will be served in the dining hall. During the afternoon services the ordinances of the Lord's House will be observed. You are welcome to attend all these services. The Church does not practice "close communion." The Apostle Paul said, "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup." Jesus said to Simon Peter, "If I wash thee not thou hast no part with me." Again He said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought [duty bound] to wash one another's feet." Come praying with an open heart to God's Word.

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Prayer Requests

Wash.—Dear Saints everywhere: I am glad I know we have a God to save our souls. I take the "Faith and Victory" paper and love to hear from brothers and sisters who trust Jesus and have been healed.

I am asking earnest prayer for my body. My knees are sore and it is hard to get up and down. I prayed for God to heal me, but so far I haven't had much relief. Keep praying for me.

My husband is unsaved. We are in our seventies and I truly want to make heaven my home. Pray for my healing and my unsaved family.

May God bless each and every one.

Your Sister in the Lord, —Carrie Westrope

Dear Sister Marie: I just wanted to write and ask the saints to pray for my oldest brother. He and his wife are separated because of family problems. They both say they won't sue for a divorce, but they aren't living together. They are both unsaved. Please pray that God will save their souls and that they will be united together in a godly home. They have three children whose ages range from four and a half years to nine months.

In Christian love, A burdened reader

"Dear Saints: I think I am devil possessed. I don't know how I got possessed. I am married and have two children. I get so discouraged. I don't know what to do. The devil keeps telling me I am hopeless. Have no way of going to meeting. Please pray that the Lord will show me what to do. I have tried to be saved for a long time and I can't. Please pray for me."

Tenn.—A man who is an alcoholic and cries over his condition.

Mo.—"Dear Sister Marie: I am writing for my father . . . My mother is getting a divorce from my father. Daddy has given his heart to God. . . She has turned away from him."

Okla.—"Some are trying to put my brother out of his house and I need him close by to help me." —Lizzie Jordan.

Wash.—"Eyesight still poor." —O. V. Koehler.

Va.—"Thank you for praying for me in 1966 when I was so sick . . . (the Lord healed). I still have colon trouble. Pray for my brother who has heart trouble and nervous condition." —Mary Poceus.

Mo.—"Problems in the home." —M. Adams.

Okla.—Needs complete healing for body.—Mrs. Iva Lebon.

Tenn.—Woman alone and under a serious delusion.

La.—Remember Sister Viva LaCroix. She desires earnest prayer.

Mo.—Bad nose condition, back trouble, problems and that her son will be healed. —B. Rumfelt.

Ohio—Wife fell and broke her hip.—Bro. Yantis.

La.—Man wants to get saved, been in jail, wife left him.

Mo.—Prayer is urgently requested for Sister Bessie Sorrell who has not kept anything on her stomach for several days. They are trusting God fully.

Miss.—Severe headaches. —Molly Berkerulyer.

Mich.—Sister Hines' sister has sugar diabetes and desires to trust God.

Pa.—Muscle affliction. "I put my full trust in the Lord." —Eva Cox.

Pray that God will restore two homes that are broken up. It grieves our hearts to see children feel insecure

because of parents' difficulties. We are asked to pray for other homes where there are difficulties. May God help souls to live up to their vows and not just think of themselves is our prayer.

Pa.—Cancer —L. Hecathorn.

La.—Pray for Sister Coffey, Hammond, La. as she is suffering greatly with bursitis after a fall.

La.—Bro. Wayne Miller is still very poorly.

La.—Arthritis —Leila Joiner.

Some of our standing requests are: Bro. and Sister Sam Barton, Sister Jessie Taylor, Sister Inez Beisley.

Again I can report that God is still healing his children. We are thankful for the privilege to trust the Lord. One morning recently I stepped out of my door feeling good and was ready to come to the office. A pain struck me under my shoulder blade. As I started to open the garage door to get the car out, more pains struck me and became very severe. I thought I had better go back into the house. It seemed at times the pain was more than I could bear in my chest and I called mightily upon the Lord. I called my sister, Frances, and she called Maybelle. They prayed and called others for prayer. Before they came over I was sitting there praying, as I could not lie down. All of a sudden the thought came to me that maybe the Lord was going to call me home. I then thought about seeing my Savior face to face, the One who died on the cross for me. Such a joy swept over my whole being and right in the midst of pain I just had to praise the Lord. Saints, heaven is wonderful and to be there will be glorious. Heaven is beyond our greatest imagination. I have thought of the times when the Lord so blessed me that it seemed my body could not contain it and I feel that heaven will be greater than all of that combined. We won't have this body to hold us back and we can rejoice to the fullest. Praise the Lord for that place prepared for us from the foundation of the world. I want to keep ready to go when God calls for me.

The Lord touched my body and took away all the pain after different saints knew about it and prayed. I rested and then came to the office in the afternoon to help send out the good news that Jesus saves, sanctifies, heals, and keeps us each day. —Sister Marie Miles

MEXICO MISSION REPORT

Dear Readers of the "Faith and Victory;" We greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father for victory today over the world, the flesh, and the devil. Amen!

Some time has elapsed since reporting from Mexico. However, the work and workers are still moving on to do His will and glean precious souls. Yes, there are definite conversions from time to time. For example, about a year ago a woman who had attended services only two or three times at Patzcuaro, Mexicali, came to the altar and was gloriously saved. Sister Edith Cole has observed her life and since then has confidence in her experience. Last Sunday I was privileged to be there for service again and this same woman came to the altar to consecrate her life completely to God and be sanctified. She prayed and wept freely before God as Edith prayed with her. There are a number of saved souls there and others very tender and ripe for salvation. The Lord is blessing Sister Cole in that place.

Brother Tomas reported recently that God visited them in a special way in Valle de Trinidad, having seekers fill two altar benches. There were some new converts as well as others blessed and refreshed in their spirits. Incidentally, Bro. Tomas and family are moving to Valle de

Trinidad because of the increased population and the need of being closer to minister to them more effectively. He will continue to drive up to El Alamo (30 miles) each week for service there until the Lord sends a resident worker. The other day Bro. Tomas said to me, "Brother Smith, do you think you might ask Bro. Wilson and Bro. Stover to exhort all the people (especially the young people, I think he said) to listen for a call from God to the gospel work?" Then he added, "At the meeting in Monark a young man told me he was coming to Mexico to help us and he hasn't come yet."

I'm thinking now of Paul's vision of the man from Macedonia who said, "COME and HELP us." I believe that is the heart cry of every sanctified missionary on the field. If you can't go, maybe you can HELP someone else go. Bro. Tomas and I are burdened for an evangelistic expedition in the near future to unevangelized areas. In Romans 10: verses 13, 14, 15, we read, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent?"

A month ago I was privileged to be with Bro. and Sister Hite in service in Ensenada. God's presence was felt and good attention was given to the preaching. For some time now it seems some of the congregation were being pulled away by a group that teaches against women preachers. This has been a concern to Sister Hite who has solicited prayer from different ones about the situation. However, this week she learned that the people have come to realize that the same group also begs for money. She was saddened to learn the church group was that way, but also glad the congregation is getting its eyes open.

Perhaps the Huskeys will report from La Mission and Sister Opal Kelly and Sister Carrie Sheppard from Rosarito. I see them nearly every week as I go and come from the desert and mountains. We have prayer and share bits of news; they always want to know if I'm hungry. Sometimes I am and eat a meal at one place or the other.

Be of good courage, fight the good fight of faith, hold fast to that which is good, and the very God of peace comfort, bless, and keep you is my prayer.

Yours and His for souls, —Bro. Harland H. Smith

(Any correspondence to Bro. Tomas Mendoza may be sent in care of Bro. Harland Smith, 317 E. Cucamonga Ave., Claremont, Calif.)

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

India (Jan. 31)—Dear Bro. Lawrence Pruitt, I just returned after my tour in the central parts of Kerala and am again making preparations to leave for the northern districts and the hill areas. I have to take part in some conventions, also. It will take nearly a month to complete this trip. I request the prayers of all the saints for a speedy advance of the gospel. I feel the time is short.

I am sorry that I did not yet send you a letter acknowledging receipt of your registered letter dated Jan. 6, 1967. I am thankful to the Lord and to you for the timely help. I think you are already in receipt of my other letter dated Jan. 11. The needs are increasing as we develop the work. The owner of the house (I referred to that in that letter) wanted one year's amount in advance as he vacated the house and left for his place of work in N. India. He handed over the key to me and left with his family. Hence, I had no other way but to take some money for loan and send him \$45 which is one year's advance payment. The house is a very con-

venient one and the brethren living close by are satisfied and happy to have the house for worship.

Thank you for your advice ... Thank you for the special tract you sent me. Yes, I am very glad to read it. I know that emotions and entertainment by musical instruments will not help souls to live a holy life. On the contrary, such stimulations only lead to disorderly and impure lives. Hence, we do not use musical instruments. We just have a drum to sound that the meeting is started. Also it helps the crowd to gather in the open air meetings. That is all.

Yes, we see the picture of our new chapel in the "Faith and Victory" paper.

I received a letter from Bro. Carver. He is sending papers to the embassy to get the necessary visas for the proposed trip of Bro. and Sister Carver. God bless them.

May God strengthen your hands and enable you to help us cheerfully and charitably.

You have our prayers. I am writing you this just before I start. May God be with me on this trip and give apt words in my mouth for winning precious souls for His Kingdom.

Yours in the fellowship of the Master's service,
—C. M. Verghese

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

The mission work in Nigeria is progressing in spite of obstacles. The civil war and unsettled political conditions in the Northern and Western regions had an ill effect on the Eastern region where the mission stations are located. The banks have delayed 30 days or more in cashing the drafts which were sent in recent months. The English Ford, purchased new in 1965, has been out of service some months because the repair parts are not available.

Enclosed with the cover letters written by Bro. B. U. Etuk, native minister, and dated Jan. 10 and Feb. 7, were the typewritten reports of the mission activities for the months of December and January written by Bro. Nse Umanah, the mission secretary. For lack of space these reports are not summarized. Following is the latest letter from Bro. Etuk dated Feb. 7:

"Dear Bro. Pruitt and Saints: 'I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.' Psalm 34. We are all grateful to send our best love and Christian greetings to all of you in His Name.

"Enclosed are the Secretary's reports for last month, which has been REAL, and we are praying it should be an encouragement to anyone who reads or sees or hears of the work here; and that God should burden many hearts about His work here. Certainly the fields "are white already to harvest" but the labourers are utterly few. Let us continue to ask the Lord of the harvest to send His own.

"Also the detailed reports will tell you that financial obligations are rising as the work advances.

"The car has not been giving service for several months now. I mean it has been out of use. So pray with us that the parts spoiled should be available for replacement and ready for use before the Carvers arrive.

"Thank you for your kindness and cash for God's work in Nigeria, which has been of much help. The last money for January allowance arrived but the bankers are refusing to pay on sight. We hope God will find us another way.

"Sewing classes are in progress. The Bible teaching (weekly) classes are advancing.

"May God bless you.

"Yours in Jesus Christ,

—B. U. Etuk"

Bro. Cecil Carver phoned on Feb. 16 that they had just received their visas from the Nigerian Embassy, and now they are just waiting on their visas from the Indian Embassy. These are expected very soon. Pray that God will bless and protect Bro. and Sister Carver in their missionary efforts in these foreign lands, and make their going real profitable in the salvation of souls and the extension of the cause of Christ. —Lawrence Pruitt

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Patzcuaro, Mexico (Jan. 16)—Dear Co-laborers, once again on this side of eternity the privilege comes to send Christian greetings your way. How grateful we should be for Christ who chose to leave the splendor and glory of heaven to come to our world of sin and evil to die that you and I might have peace with His Father and live! That was a great choice. And by reason of His choice we are all made to choose: Christ or the devil, peace or sorrow, life or death, and heaven or hell. My heart rejoices as I think of this truth and feel a burning love for my Lord and Savior.

I trust that you are well and happy today and enjoying your journey as you travel onward in this life toward eternity by reason of God's blessings upon your life. I am so grateful for the peace of God in my soul.

The Lord permitted me to be at home in Missouri at Christmas time, the first time in seven years. I was so happy to be there. We had a white Christmas which made it even better. I had the opportunity to see some of the saints and neighbors while there, all of which made a nice time at home. The Lord blessed and protected us in every way and all the way.

Sister Alberta Cook and her mother, Sister Sam Abbott brought me back to this little place of labor. The Lord blessed Sister Abbott with a message about "God's Touch." The people seemed to really understand the message and one sister, Juanita Roman, came to the altar for help. She said she wanted a closer walk with God. She is a dear little sister. Nearly everyone testified that morning of God's blessings in their lives.

I want to thank you for your prayers for me, the people here, the work in this place, and the other places where the saints are working for souls. There are times when a difficult problem or decision comes that it seems I can feel that someone somewhere is praying for me. I truly appreciate it and thank God for you.

Bro. and Sister George Montgomery of California and Bro. and Sister Stephen Henry and congregation from Louisiana made more than 200 children very, very happy with toys. Last week Sister Celia and I loaded the toys in the car and went from house to house giving the toys out. I wish you could have seen them, and I am sure it would have done you good to have seen them as they received their toys, especially one little boy about five years old. We gave him a dump truck. He grabbed it up, hugged it and held it out to look at it, set it down and then grabbed it up again, laughing all the while. He was unaware of anything else save his own little joy with the dump truck.

The girls and women are asking if there won't be sewing classes again, so I guess I will soon be busy in these classes.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Edith Cole

Box 1425, Calexico, Calif. 92231

S. Dakota—Dear Saints, greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the King of kings and Lord of lords. He is more than all this world to me!

I was happy to have had Bro. Willie Murphey, Kathleen and Patsy, and Sister Marie Miles with us for over four days. The fellowship was precious to us, and each evening we had a service in our Indian chapel. Attendance was small, because of that weekend being monthly payday. Also the Catholic priest had a birthday party and bingo game on Sunday. But several came out and received some enlightenment.

I want the saints to know that we embrace the truth and want to learn more about God's Word each day. We are planning to have a campmeeting here this summer, and I am praying that as many as can will come and be with us. We believe in the three Bible-taught ordinances: baptism by immersion, communion, and feet-washing. We are new to these truths and there are several of us here who wish to observe the ordinances during our campmeeting. Plan to come and be with us. I'll let you know the definite date as soon as arrangements can be made.

I love to tell how the Lord is blessing and how He has definitely healed in at least three afflictions since January 1. Praise His name!

Pray for us.

—Sister Marilyn Lyons

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

Dear Ones, greetings in Jesus' precious name, the One that sticketh closer than a brother.

We are now out in the field again, the only place our hearts are satisfied. We have started out when neither of us felt able, but the Lord assured us to go in the strength of the Lord God (Psalms 71:16), and that He would be with us and that our expectation would not be cut off. Prov. 23:18. The ten lepers were healed as they went. Luke 17:12-15.

Each day there is something to do. The question was asked, "Where hast thou gleaned today?" Ruth 2:19. "Let thine eyes be on the field." Ruth 2:9. Then when Jesus "saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." Matt. 9:36-38.

We surely need everyone's prayers that we be steadfast, and unmovable. Therefore have we set our faces like a flint and I know that we shall not be ashamed. (Isaiah 50:7.) It is our desire to obey all the word of God; just a part won't do. (Matt. 4:4)

At present we are at Edinburg, Texas with Sister Minnie Duncan. We arrived here yesterday, February 8. Darius is very worn in body and in need of rest.

With Christian love, earnestly contending for the faith once delivered unto the saints,

—Darius and Evelyn Gibson
Rt. 3, Box 23, Seymour, Mo.

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

Mich.—To the dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory," greetings of love: I want to testify to the saving and keeping power of our Lord Jesus Christ. All through the illness and death of my dear wife, Katherine Key, and the months that followed, I have proved this text true: "Trust ye in the Lord forever. For in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." Isa. 26:4. I have found His grace and strength sufficient to take me through and give me victory in times of trial and temptation.

When the Lord said go to Michigan, I was glad to go, for if I know His will I am not afraid because I am not going in my own strength but in His. We have been

hindered quite a bit by bad weather, but God makes the weather. The saints here seemed to be satisfied for me to be here. And I am satisfied because I am doing what God told me to do to the best of the ability He gives me.

I was greatly encouraged by Bro. Wayne Turner's testimony in the February paper telling how he was finding work to do for the Lord even in the prison. May God help us all who are free to be busy for our Master while we can. Jesus said, "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work." St. John 9:4. If Jesus found it necessary to be busy for "Him that sent me," then surely we must be busy, also, for He is our example. Let us get to work for Him so we will not be ashamed when He comes.

Yours for Christ,

—Ray Key

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

Ohio—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of love in Jesus' dear name: Although I am not completely well, I feel God will be pleased with my testimony. I promised Him when I was in such a terrible condition if He would heal me I would send my testimony to the paper.

I had been itching very much on different parts of my body. Even my eyes itched so badly, and would water a lot. I was in this condition for a week or more before I started swelling. I had already been breaking out until I was almost solid red on my face, neck, and arms.

I cooked Thanksgiving dinner for my family, but at times I would feel sick and faint. The following Saturday morning my face was swollen so badly that I could not open my eyes until I called for a wet wash cloth. On Friday morning I had called Bro. and Sister Williams in Kentucky for prayer and Bro. and Sister McCoy in Dayton. All this time I was praying. My faith and trust were in the great God of heaven. I felt like Job, though God would slay me, yet would I trust Him. On Sunday morning I called the saints for prayer and asked Bro. and Sister Williams and Bro. and Sister McCoy to come and anoint and pray for me. After that, I began to get better. I do want to thank them for their prayers and words of encouragement. Surely they meant much to me. Praise God for the saints.

When I would bend over my face felt as if it would burst and when I would get on my feet my legs felt the same way. It was the most unusual hurting I have ever had. The words of these songs kept ringing in my heart all through my sickness: "He Brought Me Out," and "Victory Ahead." I am so glad, praise His name, that He can bring us out of our sickness and affliction if we will only trust Him.

I was urged to see a doctor many times, but my complete trust was in God. Blessed is he whose trust is in the Lord. I had been doing my best to live closely to the Lord while the sun was shining, and now that the shadows had fallen I felt sure God would not forsake me.

My daughter was home from school. She said it must be poison in my system. After a check I found it was poison from my kidneys. I still have some itching on my body at times. Please pray with me for complete healing. The swelling has all left my body and the natural color has returned.

Surely all things do work together for good to them that love the Lord. This sickness has brought me closer to the Christ of Calvary. Praise His Name!

Christian love,

—Sadie Stamm

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

Oklahoma—Dear Saints, greetings of love in Jesus' dear name: I'm so thankful for the great love of God to us, and for the salvation of souls. We are yet encouraged in the Lord to "press on, my soul, to glory," ever drinking at that living fountain that never runs dry. Praise the

Lord! Oh, bless His holy name! Speaking of that living fountain that we are drinking from, everything that we need in Zion flows from that fountain. Praise the Lord!

I believe it was in the month of September, 1966, I was attacked with an affliction on my body. I suffered with a severe nervous condition, with my heart and low blood pressure. But praise God, the Lord healed me of it all. Praise the Lord! I wrote my request for prayer through the "Faith and Victory," paper and the Lord answered your prayers and healed my body.

In October there was a meeting in Wichita, Kansas. I told the saints at home in Oklahoma City, "I'm going to the meeting in Wichita with an afflicted body but I'm coming home with a well body." When I arrived at Wichita I told the saints there that I had come to be healed, and thank God, He healed my body while there in the meeting. Bless His holy name!

I want to thank you dear saints for your prayers. I desire you to continue to pray for me that I'll ever be faithful to God.

I'm now in Stockton, Calif. in a meeting. The Lord is blessing here. I was also in the Bakersfield meeting. The Lord so gloriously blessed the meeting there. Many souls sought the Lord for spiritual help and a number were saved. We praise the Lord for all He is doing.

Yours in His great name,

—Katherine Williams

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus, thanking Him for all His goodness and mercy to us: We give Him all the thanks and praise, through no merits of our own, that we are still permitted to be here on His footstool.

Through the mention of our 80th birthday in the "Faith and Victory" paper, we received a number of cards, tokens, and expressions which caused us to realize that we are still in the hearts and minds of some we have contacted in bygone years. We were happily surprised and glad to know that we had not been forgotten, and that we were still being remembered in the prayers of the faithful. We desire to be a source of encouragement and an uplift to a few more of earth's pilgrims if we are permitted to remain here for a few more days. We are made to know that we are nearing the end of our earthly pilgrimage; life's evening sun will soon be sinking in the west. The evening shadows are lengthening. We want to hear the King pronounce two words, "well done!" We need and covet your prayers.

We take this means of expressing our thanks and appreciation to all who wrote us, and all who pray for us on the way.

Yours in Him,

—Ulysses Phillips

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

Missouri—Dear Sister Marie and Saints, greetings of love in Jesus' precious name: I want to write and testify of the Lord's healing touch on my ears. I wrote through the paper a few months ago and requested prayer for my ears and now they are completely healed. I thank Him for His goodness to me in so many ways. I'm thankful to be saved and that He has put a desire in my heart to live for Him.

Tomorrow, January 24, will be exactly two years since I have been saved and it has been the happiest and most blessed two years of my life. I have no desire to go back to the world and forsake my Lord. There is no desire at all for the things He saved me from and my heart is fixed on living for Him. There have been some trials and battles, many of which I have not fully understood, but the Lord is faithful and He has always come to my rescue in time.

The enemy is always after us and he wants to get us any way he can, but we must be strong in the Lord and resist the devil. As long as this desire and determination is in our hearts the devil doesn't have a chance. I have heard one minister say quite often that the decision is half the battle. That's been real encouraging to me because the devil seems to work on me through my feelings and the Lord knows my heart is set on living for Him and being what He wants me to be. I desire more of Him in my heart. Pray for me that I will be what He wants me to be.

Please pray for my family that they will get saved. The blessings all come from living for the Lord and there is no better way. I need more grace to live before them as I should and to be able to help them in any way I can. I desire your prayers that I may see what I can do to help souls in every way. It seems there is so much I need to learn and grasp. I want the Lord to be everything in my life. Pray for me.

Much Christian love,

—Lana Lasiter

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

Okla.—Dear Sir: Will you please send me a sample of your gospel tracts so I can give them out to try to help win souls. I was saved by reading some of your tracts 12 years ago. Thank you. —Mrs. Vera Crawford

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

La.—Dear Ones, I send greetings to all the readers of "Faith and Victory" paper: This leaves me encouraged to press the battle on for our dear Lord, the One who has done so much for us. I feel so unworthy of His many blessings. He is so good to us. He is a friend to the friendless and a refuge in time of storm. I have ever found Him to be a very present help in time of trouble. He is just the same yesterday and today and forever. Praise His sweet name!

I would like to testify how He came to my rescue just recently and healed me of several different afflictions. I took sick with some cold and a cough, then took a bad sore throat or my left tonsil seemed real sore. Then my limbs began to ache until one night I could hardly get any rest. I would get up and pray and the Lord would undertake and I could sleep awhile, but I did so desire complete victory. The next day I kept praying Bro. and Sister Herbert Probst would come by so I could be anointed (as at that time they didn't have a telephone). The dear Lord sent them by about dark and I was anointed and prayed for. I also had written to some of the saints for prayer. The dear Lord touched my body and I slept real well that night. The fever and aching all left at once but the sore tonsil bothered me for several days before it got well. I am so grateful for what the Lord has and is doing for me. We know the dear Lord is still in the healing business, as He heals His children and we do thank Him and praise Him for this.

I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers, also. I love the dear Lord and the desire of my heart is to make heaven my home and to help others to make it to heaven, also.

Remember my unsaved children and grandchildren in prayer. Pray that I will keep faithful.

With Christian love,

—Effie Miller

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

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie and Bro. Lawrence, greetings to you in Jesus' dear name: I truly thank and praise the dear Lord for His goodness unto me. He healed me of asthma for which I truly thank and praise Him. He also wonderfully blessed my daughter. I sent in a request for prayer in her behalf and the Lord wonderfully touched her. She is so much better. Thank the Lord.

With Christian love,

—Sister Lillie B. Hood

Va.—Dear Sister Marie and saints: Tonight I feel led of the Spirit to write what the Lord did for me at work. I had a spell of kidney infection. I was real sick and in much pain. They tried to tell me I needed a doctor. But I praise the Lord for how He touched my body. Today I have very little pain.

When the Word said He would heal all our diseases, that didn't leave anything for the doctors to do.

Please pray for my unsaved children and all the saints here. Pray that I get deeper in the things of God.

Your Sister in the Lord,

—Nannie Connell

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

La.—Dear Bro. L. D. Pruitt and co-workers, greetings in the precious name of Jesus, our dear Lord. I am writing my testimony for publication. I love the Lord with all my heart—to the full extent. I love and obey Him in all He has said.

I have been made to realize that possibly many of the saints do not realize that all of your printshop work, such as tracts and papers, is written under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. I am glad to testify that I have been made to believe that all the publishing work of the Faith Publishing House is truly done under the anointing of the Holy Spirit of our God and will be a great help to everyone who is exercised thereby.

Please pray for me that I keep true to God on all lines of truth.

Sincerely, for God and His glory, —John S. Green

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

Illinois—Dear Saints at the Publishing House, greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior: May God bless you for the great work you are doing toward bringing souls into the kingdom of God. We have been greatly blessed by the "Faith and Victory" paper. It has been a real source of encouragement to us as we endeavor to trust the Lord for everything.

Please tell all the saints everywhere to pray for us as we pray for you and them. We have met the Savior and love Him and are determined to serve Him until He calls us from labor to reward.

Christian love, —Sisters E. Walls and E. Langford

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

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie, co-workers and all the saints, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I want to testify to the glory of God. I don't feel well in my body, but I feel rich in my soul. Glory to God! I can't praise and thank Jesus enough for the blessings He bestows upon my soul. He also has healed my body time after time.

I am yet saved and living to all I know and understand. I have many trials and tests, but by the grace of God I am determined to press on until the crown is won. Truly I need your prayers that I will stay true to God and His Word. My heart says amen to His will.

May God ever bless you is my prayer, and may He guide you in the path of right.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Sarah F. Brown

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

Mo.—Dear Saints: I feel the Lord would be pleased for me to give my testimony of how He came to my rescue in time of trouble. The Lord has heard and answered prayer many times in the past. He healed me of a very serious affliction some years ago. I suffered with gall bladder attacks for a little over five and a half years. As time went on the attacks would be more frequent. On December 26, 1952 I had a very serious attack. From then on, for about two and a half months I would hardly recover from one attack, and many times didn't, until I would have another one. It seemed I couldn't live. But when God saw it was enough and I had proved I would

trust Him, live or die, in His mercy He healed me completely. That was fourteen years ago and, thank the dear Lord, I have never had another attack. A few times after that the devil would try to tempt me and make me think I would have another attack. But I knew God in His mercy had healed me so I just took a stand against it. I felt this could be an encouragement to someone who may be suffering from the same affliction.

Psalm 9:10 says, "And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee." The next verse also tells us to declare among the people his doings. So I feel when God does something for us He is pleased for us to tell it among the people.

Just this past month God again did a wonderful work in my behalf. I hadn't been feeling well, but was preparing dinner and became so ill and the pain was so severe that I told my daughter she would have to finish the meal and I went to bed. I kept getting worse and began having bad vomiting spells, and as I have a real bad hernia, this made it very serious. I continued to get worse. I had our daughter call some of the saints here, and my husband was praying, also. I told them to call our pastor, Bro. Leslie Busbee, who was at Guthrie, Okla. attending the assembly meeting. They brought the phone to my bed and I managed to talk to him. He told me to read Psalm 20 and they would be praying. I had our daughter read it to me then we agreed in prayer. I seemed to get no better. Then all at once God gave me relief. It seemed like a hand touched my heart and passed over my body erasing every pain and ill feeling I had. Oh, what a wonderful relief! I looked at the clock. It was 4:55 P. M., just 30 minutes since I had talked to Bro. Busbee. What a mighty God we serve! I called my husband (he had gone to the kitchen). I told him about what had happened and told him I felt we should pray again, this time to thank God for what He had done. Why wouldn't I want to trust Him? He has done so much for me. I have no other desire only to trust Him as long as I live. I have other afflictions I am looking to God to heal. I surely desire your earnest prayers.

Christian love,

—Pauline Lowe

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

W. Va.—Dear Sister Marie: I thank the Lord for all His blessings. He has been so good to me. I never want to be without Him. Praise His holy name, for He is so precious to my soul, and where He leads me I want to follow all the way.

I need your prayers that the Lord will strengthen me and heal my cold, throat, head and chest trouble which I have.

A place came on my face just in front of my right ear, large and black, and my relatives begged me to go to a cancer doctor but I said, no. It hurt and ached a lot in my face and ear. I prayed and asked the Lord to take it off, and believed He would. Thank the Lord, it peeled all up and came off. We know the Lord has all power. Why do we doubt Him in the least? He is so precious to my soul.

May the Lord bless all of you there is my prayer.

Your Sister,

—Bertha Roberts

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

Florida—Dear Brothers and Sisters at "Faith Publishing House," greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I have been reading your paper, "Faith and Victory," for two or three years, I suppose, and enjoy it very much. I think you are doing a wonderful work to help try to get the truth concerning the true church of God out to the people. I thank God so much for people like you who still believe and practice the teachings of the New Testament Church as they did back there in those days.

I wrote you a letter last year and ordered some tracts and papers, also sent my testimony of how the Lord had healed me many times. Well, I am trusting the Lord just as strong as ever and enjoying his many blessings. Now I have a condition in my body that I do not know what it is for I do not go to any doctor. I feel led of the Lord to write, asking for prayer. There is not a true Church of God here. I will thank you so much if you will take my case to the Lord for I know he is able to heal anything, even cancer, and I know there is no medical doctor who knows all about our bodies like God does. I mean with His help to trust Him all the way, even to the end.

I am enclosing a check for ... Please send me the books and papers I have ordered and use the balance wherever is needed. I pray the Lord to continue to bless you in the good work.

Yours in Christian love,

—Mrs. Rusha Millis

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

"The word of God is the true key. The kingdom of heaven is open to him who believes the Word, and shut against him who believes it not. Whoever therefore, truly possesses the Word of God has the power of the key. All other keys, all the decrees of the councils and popes, and all the rules of the monks are valueless."

—Lambert

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

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BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll for 3 months, \$1.95; Lesson Cards, 15c per pupil for three months.

March 5, 1967

THE RIGHT WAY TO PRAY

Printed Portion Luke 18:1-14

Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

2 Saying, There was in a city a judge which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess."

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Memory Verse: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Matthew 7:7.

Practical Truth: Prayer brings the soul in touch with God, but without faith it is but a husk.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

How often things are made right by prayer! Hurts, disappointments, persecutions, and the intrusions of self all vanish through prayer like the dew as the sun arises in the morning. Prayer brings part of God down upon our souls and lifts us up into the spiritual realm of victory. Prayer with faith can reach around the world, across the miles, work wonders, conquer the opposition of the devil and break evil forces. Prayer changes things. Prayer can be loud and strong, soft and low, a tear or a sigh, soul groaning without uttering a word, silent or short, but the loving ear of our God catches every intense desire of the heart of those who call upon Him with faith. Prayer can be made as we do our work, walk down the road, on bended knees, lying upon our bed, or in the midst of a busy crowd. One can pray when facing sudden disaster, in the storm, and during special blessings. Prayer is truly a gift to us from God. Prayer is the ladder Jacob saw with the angels ascending and descending, taking up the petitions and bringing down the answers.

The disciples' cry was "Lord, teach us to pray" and the Apostle Paul said, "we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (Rom. 8:26, 27) We should value prayer as needful and essential to our life in this world since we are living in perilous times. We should pray and not faint.

March 12, 1967

MAN UNDER JUDGMENT

Printed Portion Luke 20:9-18

Luke 20:9 Then began he to speak to the people this parable: A certain man planted a vineyard, and let it forth to husbandmen, and went into a far country for a long time.

10 And at the season he sent a servant to the husbandmen, that they should give him of the fruit of the vineyard: but the husbandmen beat him, and sent him away empty.

11 And again he sent another servant: and they beat him also, and entreated him shamefully, and sent him away empty.

12 And again he sent a third: and they wounded him also, and cast him out.

13 Then said the lord of the vineyard, What shall I do? I will send my beloved son: it may be they will reverence him when they see him.

14 But when the husbandmen saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, This is the heir: come, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.

15 So they cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What therefore shall the lord of the vineyard do unto them?

16 He shall come and destroy these husbandmen, and shall give the vineyard to others. And when they heard it, they said, God forbid.

17 And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?

18 Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

Memory Verse: Heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:33.

Practical Truth: There is coming a day when we shall have to give an account of what we have done with Jesus, our Savior.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The parable that we have before us today shows the love and mercy of God. The Jews, to whom this parable was spoken, had been shown God's mercy. Again and again God sent his prophets to warn them to turn from their sins and obey his word but they rejected them. Jesus tried to impress upon them, and upon us today, the mercy of God represented by the mercy of the man who planted the vineyard and sent his servants three times to receive the fruit of his vineyard that was due him. Three times they were mistreated. Then in all tenderness and hopefulness, the man (God) sent his beloved son (Jesus) thinking surely they would show reverence to him, but they killed him. What more could the man do but come and destroy the husbandmen, because it had been proved by this time that they were determined to do as they pleased?

God had sent his prophets, ministers, and workers who sacrificed greatly to take the message of salvation to a lost world. Again and again they rejected the message. God has done all he can to help souls know that they must repent before they can get into God's heaven. People today are rejecting God's Son who died on the cross and arose again for our sins. He is on your hands. You are either going to have to accept him as your Saviour or reject him and suffer the consequence of being lost.

The stone is Jesus who is the chief corner stone of the building of God. We need to fall upon him with a contrite heart or he will fall upon us in that Judgment Day.

March 19, 1967

THE COMPASSIONATE SAVIOR

Printed Portion Luke 22:39-42; 23:33, 34a, 39-46

Luke 22:39 And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.

40 And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed.

42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done.

Luke 23:33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the

malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

34a Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this man hath done nothing amiss.

42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

44 And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

45 And the sun was darkened, and the vail of the temple was rent in the midst.

46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit; and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

Memory Verse: 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. This commandment have I received of my Father. St. John 10:17, 18.

Practical Truth: We should love Jesus for taking our punishment for sin.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus came from the upper room in Jerusalem where he had instituted the ordinance of feet washing and the Lord's supper. As he walked along in the lonely night, no doubt his heart was heavy as he went to his usual place of prayer in Gethsemane. He knew that his time had come when he would be put on the cross. Jesus was God in the flesh and he suffered as we do. Even though his mission here in this earth was to die for our sins, yet he had to have help from God to go through the severe trial that faced him. Dear ones, there is a cross for each of us here in this world. We feel the gulf between us and those who are on the broad way. The devil, at times, uses others to bring severe persecutions to us because of the humble way we walk with our Savior. We need to kneel down with our Savior in Gethsemane and pray to our heavenly Father. There we must say with Jesus, "Not my will, but thine be done." This must come from the heart and with a complete dying out to self and humbly taking the place of a follower of Jesus.

Jesus suffered great agony there in the garden. His "sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." (Luke 22:44). His crucifiers felt that they would sweep away any memory of him forever by using the cruelest and most shameful means to put him to death but the foolishness of God is greater than the wisdom of man.

March 26, 1967

PROCLAIMING THE RESURRECTION

Printed Portion Luke 24:1-9, 44-49

Luke 24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bring-

ing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee.

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures.

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Memory Verse: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:47.

Practical Truth: We rejoice because we are serving a living Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

What a sad world this would be if it had been left as we closed our lesson last Sunday; but, thank God, Jesus did not stay in the grave! He arose and became the first-fruits of the resurrection. Because he arose we, too, shall arise from the grave in the last day. What joy fills our souls as we think of serving a living Christ! He is reigning over the devil and gives us the victory again and again as we look to him with faith and we, too, can reign in this life.

If Jesus had not risen, those who have died would not arise when Jesus comes bursting through the clouds to take those home to be with him who have had part in the first resurrection, which is salvation. We are born again and become new creatures when we are saved. We were once dead in trespasses and sins but through the power of Jesus we were quickened and brought to life. Thank God! (Ephesians 2:1).

We notice that our lesson tells us that Jesus arose on the first day of the week. Sunday is the day that the disciples began to meet together to worship the Lord after Jesus' resurrection. What a wonderful memorial that is to our Lord! Surely all praise, honor and adoration is due our Lord and Savior for His great love for us.

Sister Marie Miles