

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Living Water

From the little town of Sychar
Out to Father Jacob's well,
Came a woman to draw water;
But her name I cannot tell.

There she saw a man named Jesus,
Though at first she knew him not;
In her mind, no doubt, were queries
As she held her water pot.

"Give me to drink," said the Master—
She discerned he was a Jew;
"Why asketh thou me for water?
I have naught to do with you."

"If thou knewest who is speaking,
(For I have no racial strife,)
Thou wouldst ask for living water,
And receive eternal life.

"Then you would never thirst again,
Neither would you need to draw;
But the water would be in you
With a supernatural flow."

Said she, "Sir, give me this water,"—
Oh, how quick she changed her thought,
When she had talked a while with Jesus
Then she left her water pot.

She must go and tell to others
She had found the true Messiah,
If you drink the living water,
That will be your heart's desire.

It will change your entire nature,
And will make you all anew—
O, just drink from this pure fountain,
It will cleanse you through and through.

Then your thirst for worldly pleasure
Will be gone, and you can say,
"Praise the Lord for living water,
All my sins are washed away!"

—Ulysses Phillips

The Sons of God

The Bible presents the Christian life under a beautiful and glorious aspect when it terms men and women born from above as the sons and daughters of God. "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:1, 2. That such a state can be a reality in one's life in this present world should be tidings of joy to all men. But to actually be a son of God is to be at variance with the spirit and nature of this present evil world, being content to bear reproach and tribulation knowing that such a life is a hidden life, undiscerned by the world of sinners about us. "All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." Therefore to be a son of God means deliverance and a state of life above these things. 1 John 2:16, "Of His own will begat [gave birth] He us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures." James 1:18. "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. For all flesh is grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: but the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." 1 Pet. 1:23-25. The word of God is incorruptible seed by which we are begotten of God. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matt. 4:4.

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with

Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." Rom. 8:14-19. Oh, what a glorious blessing, and what a glorious hope we have as the sons of God! We are the sons of God by reason of obedience to His Word and possessing His Spirit. Through the power that Christ wrought as the only begotten of the Father, His Word and Spirit transforms us into the sons of God. "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12, 13. Oh, how precious it is that Christ wrought deliverance from Satan and sin through His death and risen life to give us power to become the sons of God!

But there is something about being sons of God that we must not forget. "Ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him. For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons." Heb. 12:5-8. Chastisement and discipline from God are a vital part of sonship. It is one of the real proofs that we are the sons of God when we experience the reproof of God upon our lives. Chastisements and discipline are measures of the Father to teach and impress upon His children the statutes of His holiness, which is for their profit. A person that can go day after day, year after year, and yet retain things in the heart and life that are condemned in God's sight is not a son. The Father is going to take measures to bring us in line with Him, and if we are truly His sons and daughters we will receive it.

"Do all things without murmurings and disputing: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world." Phil. 2:15. Great care and regard should be given to our profession as children of God before this dark world. We should bear forth the fruits of such a profession, and take not the name of God in vain.

"For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through suffering. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren." God made Christ, His Son, perfect through the sufferings that He endured in the flesh. This He did as a measure to bring many sons unto glory. How wonderful that sonship with God was not just confined to Jesus Christ, but made available for us! We can

be His Sons, even as Christ was His Son, bearing the same imprint of His holiness and truth even as Christ Jesus did. The Bible speaks in one place of a time when "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Job 38:7. Oh, it truly is the greatest joy that one can know, to be a son of God! All mankind is the offspring of God, (Acts 17:28) but because of sin and disobedience men can only know the fullness of such a state through the plan of salvation. There must be grace in the soul to overcome all sin and disobedience. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be His God, and he shall be my Son." Rev. 21:7.

—Leslie Busbee

Take Advantage of Your Disadvantage

As a young Christian, God used a godly minister to be a very real inspiration and encouragement to my spiritual development.

One day he related the following incident that I have had occasion to remember many times through the years that followed in my life and work for the Lord.

There was a man and family who had purchased an English home and garden. In the center of the garden was a huge boulder. It was an ugly rock that spoiled the beauty of his otherwise lovely garden. He tried to think of the best means of having it removed. It was too heavy to have it dug out, so he secured some dynamite and tried to blast off at least a corner of it. But all he succeeded in doing was to break all the windows on that side of the house and the great boulder was still there. He finally sought the advice of experts regarding the removal of the huge rock but no one seemed to have any practical solution to his problem.

He did some serious thinking about it and finally decided if he could not remove it he would beautify it. He worked with it diligently adding smaller rocks here and there until it was somewhat symmetrical. He added some soil and planted vines and flowers. He was so successful with his venture that it became a beauty spot. Thus he was able to transform the ugly boulder into a thing of beauty that it caused his home to be the most distinguished in the community.

God can help us take advantage of the disadvantage in our lives.

Many of us are familiar with the seeming handicap that came into the life of Fanny Crosby. She became blind at six weeks of age. As a young child she had seasons of great despondency about her handicap. But, then, it seemed as though a voice from heaven spoke to her and said, "I can use you." This brought great encouragement to her.

When she was eight years old she wrote a little rhyme something like this:

"Oh, what a happy child I am, although I cannot see.
I am resolved that in this world contented I will be.
How many blessings I enjoy that other people don't,
So weep or sigh because I'm blind, I cannot and I won't."

Near the end of her life's journey she was asked how many hymns she had written. She replied she had not counted them all but it was over 5000!

If she had not been blind she likely would not have written some of the hymns that have been so meaningful and precious to all of us, such as—"Rescue the Perishing," "I am Thine, O Lord," or "Safe in the Arms of Jesus."

What had been, as it were, a great boulder in her life became a talent of beauty and spiritual strength that has blessed and continues to bless millions around the world.

Most of us have some sort of boulder in our lives. If God, our heavenly Father, does not see fit to remove it, let us ask Him for grace, love, patience, and wisdom to beautify it and thus bring great honor and glory to His name. —Selected

Who Is a Bible Christian and Who Is Not?

"Ye shall know them by their fruits."

A Bible Christian is a person who has heard and obeyed the call of God to repentance. With a holy determination he has turned from dead works and the power of Satan to serve the true and living God. He has set his face like a flint to follow Jesus of Nazareth and do His will by denying himself, by righting his wrongs, and by forgiving his fellowmen. He does not copy worldly ways, neither does he go after the pleasures of this world, nor after this world's honors or riches. He is willing to suffer persecution and is ready to die for the name of Christ and the Gospel's sake, if need be. He belongs to the little flock that travels the narrow road to the land of eternal day.

Therefore with arms wide open the Saviour has received him; the sin-spotted, soiled robe he wore (spiritually speaking) was discarded and a new robe of God's righteousness was given him. Deep in his heart he felt the joy of salvation spring up and God's Spirit speak reconciliation and peace to his soul. Love and gladness now fill his heart, for he has come the Bible way and has received a Bible experience. He knows his name is written in the Book of Life in heaven.

A person who is not a Bible Christian disobeys the call of God to repentance, because he loves darkness rather than light. Now the works of a worldly minded person are manifest, which are these: Pride, boasting, despising those that are good, false accusing, envying, strife, race hatred, gluttony, drunkenness, revelling, immorality, adultery, profanity, evil thoughts, dishonesty, lying, cursing, gambling, dancing, and smoking.

He sees nothing wrong in divorce and remarriage, night-clubs, bar-rooms, programs on the radio, television, and the motion-pictures on illicit-sex, robbery, suicide, and murder. He also sees nothing wrong in a semi-nude garb, extravagant hair-do and clothing, ear-rings, necklaces, rouged and painted faces like Jezebel of old. Religiously he is a good mixer—a compromiser; he tries to serve two masters—God and the prince of this world, Satan. All these are dead

works—ungodliness—and belong to the kingdom of darkness. (Acts 26:15-20; 2 or. 6:14-18.)

"The gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." It cleans you up inside and outside and makes a new creature out of you. "Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (Rom. 1:16; 2 or. 5:17.)

The Lord Jesus died for your sins and rose from the dead for your justification, but not one can repent for you. To escape judgment you must obey God and REPENT.

"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) "YE CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON" (worldliness). —Selected

The Sure Route

A few precious thoughts came to me on the way to the Monark (Neosho, Mo.) campmeeting this year. As we traveled along the highway and as the road unfolded to us, I imagined the road of life to heaven as being such. As I pondered the up-and-down grades, some steep and some gradual, it reminded me that there will be trials and problems in life. Some will be severe and some mild. God's grace is sufficient for each one.

Although God doesn't want an up and down life experience with Him, we can be on the level plane of holiness with Him and still have mountains to climb and tests to face. As we top each hill on the way, we get closer to our destination in reality.

Also, I thought if we could see the whole of our journey, we might get discouraged from the many hills to climb. But God is wise and faithful to let us see just enough that we can keep encouraged. For every hill, there is a valley, and when we find ourselves on a mountain top, it means we have just climbed a hill.

In relation to this, I think of the older saints who are possibly on the top of their last hill, ready to end their journey. Then I think of the younger ones who are on their way up-grade. They may look to the landmarks or road signs to encourage and beckon them on. I also see how easily we can be detoured off the right road by listening to false teaching and misconceptions of the doctrinal truths. We could be discouraged by seeing things which are creeping in and detour from the right way onto a "seem right" way or route. Therefore we should accept no other map but the Word of God in all its fullness.

—Willard Underdown

The atomic bomb is bad, the hydrogen bomb is frightful, but television is worse than either and far more destructive. It will completely wreck the rising generation, and before long it will turn the United States and Canada into a Sodom and Gomorrah, infinitely worse than the Sodom and Gomorrah of Bible times. —Oswald J. Smith

"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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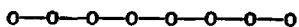
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EDITORIALS



With arrival of autumn we again make a special effort by the blessings of the Lord and the co-operation of our readers to reach many more thousands of people with the pure gospel message. The summer is ended, the campmeeting season is past, and millions of souls are not saved! Shall we fold our hands and wait for another convenient season to reach the perishing? No! "Every second, sad to tell, counts another soul in hell," the poet wrote. "Dreadful sight to see them bound in sin's dark pall. What in life we all may do, can but save a very few, yet the blessed Savior shed his blood for all." Jesus exhorted, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35. In other words, Jesus meant that the harvest for souls was always ready, summer and winter.

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Jesus said to His disciples: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Matt. 9:37, 38. Ever since this exhortation was first made, our Lord's prayer request has been repeated over and over again, and He has answered time and again to advance all phases of His great cause in gathering sheaves ere they perish. For quite awhile we have been praying especially for additional co-workers to aid in this phase of the Lord's work in getting out more gospel literature which is so urgently needed. In answer to this petition we are pleased to announce that the "Lord of the harvest" has sent Bro. Gene (Ralph E.) and Sister Dora Lela (Sorrell) Belsly from Coffeyville, Kansas. Arriving last Saturday, Sept. 9, with their children, Marcia, aged 12, and Sharon, aged 10, they brought their furniture by a van truck and trailer and are now at home at 1010 W. Mansur Ave., in the next block from the office.

The children are enrolled in school, and these consecrated volunteer workers are busily engaged in the gospel publishing activities. Sister Dora Lela is no stranger to this work, as she came to this office to labor for the Lord when she was just a young lady in 1946—some 21 years ago—and gave her time and talents for about five years until her marriage here at the Guthrie chapel on Dec. 3, 1950. The move has been a sacrifice for this couple in many ways, but the Lord is "not unrighteous to forget their work of faith and labor of love" and He has promised to supply their needs. In fact, all who are engaged in this literature evangelism are freely giving their service to the Master, laying up their treasures in Heaven's bank. Personally, I must say that it is a real pleasure to work with this fine group of saints where love, kindness, and harmony prevail. We now heartily welcome Bro. and Sister Gene Belsly to the "Faith and Victory" family and to the fellowship of the Guthrie congregation.

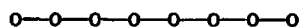


The New Testament teaches that the unity of the Spirit is an inherent characteristic in the experience of every true believer. The initial process of regeneration, or being "born again," inducts the believer into the one spiritual Body of Christ, the Church, in which he is in oneness and unity with every other "born again" believer. The Apostle describes it thus: "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor. 12:13. Again he writes: "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." Rom. 12:5. The same experience that makes one "in Christ" also produces the unity of the Spirit with every other member "in Christ." Believers are not only members of Christ, but also "members one of another." One cannot be true without the other. Independence in this respect is not in God's plan for His spiritual body. Just as in a physical body, an independent attitude among its members would work havoc and a waste of effort.

Since the unity of the Spirit is obtained in the "new birth," the Apostle Paul writes to the Ephesian Church in these words: "I, therefore the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, . . . endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Eph. 4:1, 3. They already had this unity. They did not need to produce it or add it on. The exhortation was for them to maintain or "keep" this unity of the Spirit which was so essential in the process of their coming into the "unity of the faith."

The "unity of the Spirit" is instantaneous at conversion, but in coming to the "unity of the faith" or doctrine, there is a time element involved. The point which determines fellowship in Christ is not how much truth one knows or doesn't know, but the direction one is going—"walking in the light" or away from it. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, . . ."

Since the Lord has provided additional co-workers, we anticipate the reprinting of more of the older Church of God reformation books which have been out of print for many years. Requests have come in for various titles which are hard to find from the original editions. When the books are reprinted, the announcements of publication will appear in these columns.



Your continued prayers are solicited for all of us that we may have divine wisdom, grace, and understanding to print and mail out the "white-winged" silent gospel messengers around the world. Certain major problems in regard to the advancement of this gospel publishing work remain unsolved, but our hand is in God's hand, believing that He is sufficiently able to clear away the obstacles.

We want to express our thanks and appreciation to all those who have prayed for and co-operated with us, financially and otherwise, in getting out more free gospel literature. In the day of final rewards you will share a large measure because of the precious souls who have been blessed and brought out of darkness through the printed gospel messages. It is a pleasure to be "workers together" with you and the Lord.

—L. D. Pruitt

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OBITUARIES



Lena May O'Malley was born January 16, 1884 at Shenandoah, Iowa and departed this life to be with Jesus July 29, 1967 at San Diego, California at the age of 83 years. She had been a resident of San Diego for 50 years.

Sister O'Malley was a Christian from the early years of her life and was associated with the Church of God Evening Light Saints for many years. She loved God and trusted Him for soul and body for many years. She fought a good fight, kept the faith, finished her course and was faithful unto death, so we feel sure she has been awarded a crown of life according to the promise of our Saviour found in Rev. 2:10. She worshipped God with

the saints of the San Diego congregation for many years and often attended the campmeetings and assembly meetings at Pacoima and Los Angeles and will be missed in the circle of the saints in southern California.

She is survived by one daughter, Lillian Williamson, of San Diego, Calif.; two sons, Charles O'Malley of Brawley, Calif. and Donald Fagett of San Diego, Calif.; two brothers, Charles and Clyde Schutz, of Yuma, Ariz., and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Ostis B. Wilson at the Cypress View Mortuary in San Diego, Calif. with entombment in the Cypress View Mausoleum. Scripture reading: 91st Psalm. Sermon text: Psalm 116:15, together with Rev. 7:9-17.

John David Winter was born in Tampa, Florida on July 3, 1893, and departed this life August 13, 1967 at his home in Summerville, South Carolina at the age of 74 years.

He had been in failing health for some time, but trusted God completely. Brother Winter loved the service of God, and for many years lived and preached the old-time gospel truth. He was loved by many and spoken of as a real man of God.

He leaves behind his widow, Sister Minnie, one son, four daughters, two step-daughters, one brother, six sisters, 25 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. We sorrow not as those who have no hope.

Funeral was conducted by Bro. S. E. Abbott and Bro. Oneal Pratt in Summerville, S. C.

Lucy Mae Downard Glass was born August 16, 1875, in Cabool, Mo. She passed away July 12, 1967 at the age of 91 years, 10 months and 27 days at Neosho, Mo.

She was united in marriage to John W. Glass on November 10, 1892. He preceded her in death on Sept. 23, 1944. They were the parents of eight children, three of whom preceded her in death. Following her husband's death, she and her daughters moved to Neosho, Mo. where they made their home.

Sister Glass was saved about three years ago and lived for the Lord to the best of her understanding. She had been in ill health the past few years but trusted the Lord. Many times when she was suffering severely the Lord touched her body in answer to prayer. At the last, when it was the Lord's time to call her home, His presence was near. Those who were present and praying for her, saw a definite answer to prayer as the Lord made her passing easy.

Sister Glass is greatly missed by her loved ones. But they realize that God's way is best and now her suffering is over and she is at rest.

She leaves to mourn her passing five daughters; Mrs. Lottie Hilton of Joplin, Mo., Mrs. Ellen Wilson of Neosho, Mo., Lily, Elizabeth, and Myrtle Glass of the home; two grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and other relatives and friends.

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. T. V. McMillian, and assisted by Bro. H. A. McMillian. Interment was made in the Gibson Cemetery.

A recent letter from a daughter brought us the delayed report of the passing of her mother, Sister Effie C. Unruh of Livingston, Calif. on May 4, 1967. Bro. C. J. Unruh passed away on July 30, 1954. Their daughter wrote on Aug. 29, "I see the Faith and Victory paper, which they enjoyed, has been coming; in fact, one came today, so please be advised that they . . . have passed on to their eternal reward. We miss them both . . ."

OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Assembly meeting of the Church of God at Jefferson, Oregon will be held, the Lord willing, November 3 to 12, 1967, inclusive. This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan as usual.

All are invited and welcome to come. Cabins and bedding are furnished. God blessed here in our camp-meeting this summer and we are looking to Him for another feast at Father's table. We urge everyone to attend this meeting. We are praying to the dear Lord to send His Spirit-filled ministers to preach the precious Word under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, and the saints here are agreed in prayer that souls will be saved and the sick healed. May God bless all and stir hearts in these last days is our prayer.

For further information, write Sister Hilda Nielsen, P. O. Box 34, Jefferson, Ore. 97352, or Sister Bea Spaur, Pastor, P. O. Box 368, Jefferson, Ore. 97352. Phone 327-2855. —Sister Beatrice Spaur

WICHITA, KANSAS MEETING

Our autumn meeting will be held, Lord willing, at Wichita, Kansas on Oct. 20 to 29, inclusive. We are looking forward to a good meeting, praying and expecting the Lord to send the ministers whom He can use. Come, expecting the Lord to do great things in this meeting. If you can't come, pray for us. For further information contact the undersigned at 1536 Piatt St., Wichita, Kansas. Phone AM 4-8481. —Bro. Lewis Williams

CORRECTION

Those who want to help buy a car for Sister Annie Bell Allen to be used in her home missionary work please note this correction in the address of Sister Hines who is taking care of this fund. Those who have already sent an offering to the incorrect address may be assured that the post office has been notified of the error and they are taking care of it up to this time. Send all offerings to: Hattie Hines, 1830 N. Trenton Ave., Tulsa, Okla. 74106.

GOSPEL SINGING AT WEBB CITY, MO.

The congregation of the Church of God at Webb City, Mo. has announced a gospel singing to be held on September 29 at 7:30 p. m. at their chapel at 421 S. Devon St. Everyone is cordially invited to come.

—Murphy Allen

BOLEY AND DOVER, OKLA. CAMPMEETINGS

Once again the Lord blessed the dear saints, loved ones, and friends to meet on the old campgrounds of the saints. The out-pouring of the Holy Spirit was wonderful as we felt the presence of God anointing the services. The spirit of these meetings was precious and we surely appreciated the faithful ministers the dear Lord sent to help in the meetings. Some camped on the grounds and others came daily.

In the Boley meeting Bro. Ed Kroker and Bro. Dan Kroker and their companions from Oregon were with us for their first time. We were thankful to have them.

Our dear Bro. and Sister W. W. Crawley were blessed to attend the Boley meeting. During the meeting, on August 26, they celebrated their sixty-eighth wedding anniversary. Their children served dinner in their home. A number of the saints gathered at their

home to sing their favorite songs. Prayers and thanksgiving were made to the dear Lord for His many blessings to them through the years.

The precious word of God went forth in its fullness under the anointing of the Holy Spirit and conviction was heavy in the camp. A few souls were saved, some sanctified, and bodies healed. Others received spiritual help. All the saints were edified.

During the Dover meeting Sister Sandra Mae House of Wichita became seriously ill. Bro. Lewis Williams, pastor at Wichita, who was helping in the Dover meeting, was called home. Some thought Sister House was passing, but the saints traveled in prayer and the Lord miraculously healed her. She came to the Dover meeting with a burning testimony. She sang the song, "Heaven Will Be Worth It All," which set the camp on fire. Praise the Lord!

Sister Miles of Wichita took seriously ill and again Bro. Williams was called home. The Lord miraculously healed her and Bro. Williams returned to the meeting. Thank God, the days of miracles are not past. The Lord has blessed us to witness to a number of miracles this year. Praise the Lord.

Bro. Joshua Peavey from La. was with us again.

We thank the Lord for how He has blessed and supplied means for modern rest rooms and showers on the campground at Dover, making it convenient for all. We appreciate all who labored and supported this effort. May God's richest blessings rest upon all is our prayer. Christian love, —Katherine Williams

KENTUCKY TENT MEETING REPORT

Ohio (Sept. 12)—Dear Bro. Lawrence and co-workers: We greet you in Jesus' dear name. We are thankful that we can still report victory over all the works of the enemy. We are much encouraged in the Lord, with a desire to endure to the end, and to stand for all the truth as long as the Lord permits us to live in this earthly tabernacle.

We wanted to give a little report of the tent meeting in Kentucky near Junction City. We feel much good was accomplished. We were there 17 days. People came out and the tent was nearly full most of the time. They had to admit that they were hearing the truth. Some received it, but, sorry to say, most of them rejected it. We thank the Lord for those who did accept the Word. Some renounced the thing they were in and are taking their stand for the truth. They are having regular services in Bro. and Sister Jarvis' home now, but we are looking and praying for a building in which to worship. There is an old chapel there that we are interested in. We are supposed to know more about getting it around the 25th of this month. We feel the Lord wants to establish a work there. They will need someone to come there and live to help them get established. We are praying about these things and want all to pray with us about them.

We appreciated how the saints from different places came in to help us in the meeting. The new tent served us well. It is just the right size.

We trust the Lord is blessing the work there. We appreciate your labors of love, and what you are standing for. If we don't have the truth, we don't have anything. If we let down the truth, we are letting down Christ, for He is "the way and the truth."

Christian love, —Bro. Mart Samons and workers

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MEXICO MISSIONARY REPORT

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus to all the saints and readers: We do want to thank you for your letters of encouragement, offerings, and prayers for the work in Mexico. The Lord is blessing and keeping the workers encouraged. Sister Carrie Sheppard is back on the field and greatly encouraged by the Lord helping her with the language.

Bro. David Rosas, a young minister about 30 years old, who was saved three years ago in the El Alamo camp meeting is taking care of the work at El Alamo. We thank God for the native workers whom the Lord is blessing and using. The other workers are all busy and doing all they can to get the gospel to those dear darkened hearts.

Recently, on the way to Mexico, I picked up a young man to ride with me. I began to talk to him about his soul. The Lord sent His convicting power upon him. I stopped beside the highway and dealt with him. He prayed and God gloriously saved him. His face lit up and he said, "Some may say they think they are saved, but I know I'm saved." He shook my hand again and again. He was rejoicing in salvation.

Last night I went with Bro. Charles and Coquette Elwell to his appointment where he has been preaching in a mission down on skid row in Los Angeles. I talked to a man sitting on a car outside. He said he had been saved two years ago, but had backslidden. My heart was touched to see a strong young man, whom the Lord could use, not being saved. He went on into the mission. This morning I prayed earnestly for "Johnny" that God would save him.

On the way home we went by the hospital to see Eldon Wilson. He is in bad shape. We talked to him about his soul. He seemed to respond some, although he can't talk. They have a tube in his throat. He needs prayer for both soul and body.

Continue to pray for the work in Mexico.

—Bro. Harland Smith, 317 E. Cucamonga, Claremont, California 91711

(Editor's note—Bro. Harland Smith has been suffering with a pinched nerve in his hip and leg. His left foot still seems numb. He is trusting the Lord for complete deliverance. Remember him in prayer.)

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Midwestern Nigeria (August 18)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in the precious name of Jesus who took away our sins and washed us in His blood.

I am writing this letter through an American Peace Corpsman, James Johnson of Wisconsin, whom I requested to help me post it in any of the African countries because our state, the Midwest, was completely seized by the Liberation Army from Biafra on Aug. 9, 1967. Our State Army, which was a part of the Central Government Forces, was overpowered by the Biafra Army at the Niger River bridge and they moved in by thousands until they ambushed and encircled all the big and commercial towns of the Midwestern State at an early hour of 3 a. m. At exactly 7:15 a. m. we were all deafened throughout the State, especially at Benin City, the capital, with gunshots from automatic weapons accompanied with vocal expressions of "Surrender, or you will be killed!" It was a lightning successful coup with minimum loss of life. While this city is almost deserted by everybody making his or her way to their towns of origin, we of God have asked Jesus Christ in His mercy to open the door to allow us in for security. We are now equally blockaded by the Central Government. So you are asked to stop communicating with us until you are advised to

do so when the position of victory is determined. Biafra is now on the offensive and have made their way far into the Western State—a state only 88 miles from Lagos, the capital of Nigeria.

Britain is hurrying arms to Nigeria to help the Federal Government which is fast losing ground in the war. Bear in mind that arms importation to Nigeria by Britain will render life more insecure and war bloodier and longer. Pray for us without ceasing. Request our brethren in all the congregations in America to go to the Throne collectively and privately for our protection. Pray! We are suffering terribly by economic hardship. In a week from now, no salt, sugar, milk, etc., will be seen to buy at all. May God deliver us. Amen.

—Titus U. E. Enu

(Editor's note: According to the foregoing letter from Bro. Enu, the native pastor of the mission station in mid-western Nigeria, evidently the hand of the Lord brought this communication through the blockade of the country. Now all contact and communication has been severed with the approximately 20 mission stations in Nigeria because of this terrible civil war. Let us ever remember his urgent request, and pray earnestly and continually for the protection of all the native gospel workers and believers in that country, and that peace will be restored speedily. As noted in his letter, we are advised not to attempt to communicate with him until we first hear from him. Accordingly, the missionary offerings designated for Nigeria will be held in the Missionary Fund until such time that the lines of communication are opened. Our readers will be kept informed of changes in the situation. In the meantime, let us not forget to pray for our brethren in Nigeria.)

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Aug. 22)—My dear Bro. L. Pruitt: Once again we send our greetings of love in the sweet name of Jesus, our Lord. I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated Aug. 6. Thank you for the contents.

We were shocked to hear of the passing away of our good Sister May Carver. She longed to visit us but was blocked on account of the failure to get visas. We have sent our condolence to the bereaved ones. Bro. Carver will be cared for and protected, preserved and kept by the good Lord. We pray for his comfort and consolation.

I returned only last night after my trip to Calicut and Cannanore. Many believers need encouragement. We receive Macedonian calls from different places, and hence I made it a point to visit them and give pamphlets and encourage them. Please pray for us. We badly need earnest and sincere workers. At the same time they need to be fully supported in these days of famine and dire needs.

Now is the rainy season here. We also will have conventions in different places soon after the rainy season is over and summer starts. On Aug. 15 we had a very good meeting. In this place Sunday School children went in a procession to the meeting place and shouted verses. There was a good gathering and different ones gave their testimonies.

These are days when picketings, strikes, blockades, food struggles, etc. are rampant. Because of the postal workers' go-slow move, we had great difficulty in sending our mails. But this has been withdrawn now and I believe everything goes on smoothly. I sent you two copies of the "Church of God," a pamphlet in Malayalam. I have cited the twelve texts in the New Testament where the name "Church of God" is quoted and have explained the teachings and practices of the Church of God. Many

people have expressed their appreciation and good opinion about this pamphlet. I shall send other booklets also in Malayalam shortly.

Please pray for us. The work is developing. The harvest is plenteous and laborers are few. Kindly pray for more laborers. We pray for workers and also funds for supporting them.

With prayers and best wishes, —C. M. Verghese

Prayer Requests

Mich.—“My son’s wife has been in and out of the hospitals for eleven years. His nerves broke and they took him to a hospital today. I am a crippled widow and he cares for me.” —Mrs. Nettie Farison.

N. Car.—“Something is growing on my eyes. I know the Lord is a Healer. This summer my face was swollen from a toothache. God healed me. He will come to our rescue and is always right on time.” —Mrs. Annie M. Orange.

Okla.—Bro. Sam Barton, one of our highly esteemed elder ministers, is in pain much of the time. The cancer in his mouth causes him much distress when he talks. Sister Barton also needs prayer. We thank God for them.

Okla.—Sister Lebow is still looking for complete healing for her body.

Okla.—“Pray that God will heal my kidneys and save my husband who is afflicted. Also pray for my children, and a grandson who is in Vietnam.” —Sis. B. Harrison

Ala.—“I have a very special request.” —Sister Silas Whitson.

Ind.—“Pray for my hearing and other troubles.” —Nathan Mobley.

Tex.—“They let my son come home from the hospital. He is still in bad shape. Pray that the Lord will save him.” —Mrs. Floyd Doak.

Minn.—Bro. Kirchner phoned and wrote for prayer for his healing. Pray earnestly for him.

Ill.—Recently we had two phone calls for prayer for dear Sister Sprague. She has been seriously afflicted. She is fully trusting the Lord. Pray earnestly for her.

Calif.—Remember Sister Vera Forbes for a heart condition. She has trusted the Lord for many years and He has healed her again and again. She also desires for the Lord to work out a problem which is a heavy burden for her. She is a precious saint of God and worthy of our prayers.

Mo.—Sister B. Rumpfelt has called for prayer for her body. She has no one close to agree with her in prayer.

La.—Sister Lillie Miller still needs earnest prayer.

Kentucky—Bro. King, his wife and son were in a serious auto accident. Bro. King is in serious condition and needs healing of broken bones and internal injuries.

Ark.—“The growth on my neck is bad. I have gall bladder trouble and my nerves bother me. Pray for the Lord to help me sell my farm.” —Sis. Daisy Tyree

Ind.—“Pray for my brother who is an invalid and is very sick with emphysema. Please pray that he will be saved.” —Mrs. Mae Hill.

Mo.—Pray earnestly for dear Sister Bessie Sorrell who has been afflicted for a long time and is very weak in body. Her daughter, Sister Dora Lela Beisly, is here now helping in the office work.

Okla.—“My granddaughter has a knot on her head just above her ear. They are afraid it is cancer.” —Mrs. Guy Keeler.

Mo.—“Pray for my brother who has been real sick, also that the Lord will work out several requests for me.” —Verba Holdt

Ill.—“I have many requests, besides asking the Lord to work it out so I won’t have to move from my home.” —Nellie Woods.

We have many requests that come in to the office. We do thank the Lord for the answers to prayer. Recently a young woman wrote for prayer to be saved and in a week or so she wrote that the Lord had saved her and worked out some of her problems. We do thank the Lord for the many times He does come to the rescue of His children. We are encouraged to continue to trust Him. I like that scripture in Matt. 14:14, “He was moved with compassion toward them and he healed their sick.” The Lord is “touched with the feeling of our infirmities.” Heb. 4:15, 16. So we can “come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” The faith for healing requires the special inspiration of the Holy Spirit. One time in prayer meeting I felt a real inspiration to go up and be anointed and prayed for for a goiter that I had. It had been giving me much trouble. The Lord healed me. That was several years ago and I haven’t had any more trouble with it. Another time I was suffering with severe pains in my shoulder and arm. It was in the night, but I felt a real inspiration that if I had someone to agree with me in prayer the Lord would heal me. I called for prayer and prayed myself and God took it away. Many times this has been true. Other times I have had to stand upon a scripture and wait, but God did come. God will heal His children. It is their privilege to receive healing for their bodies.

Some need prayer for their loved ones to be saved. Some young people are very burdened for their unsaved parents. There are some homes that need to be restored. Some are needing prayer as they face measuring up on the unscriptural marriage they are in. Many requests are among God’s people, but dear ones, we are serving a great big God who is able to do all things. —Sister Marie Miles

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Kansas—My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, I would like to share a blessed experience that happened to me. I know the days of miracles are not past. My heart is rejoicing with praise and thanksgiving to my Lord and healer. He is my all and I want to serve him with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Sunday, August 27, as I was visiting my parents, I was thrown from a runaway horse. My head hit the pavement, then I fell flat on my back and then rolled to my side. I remember my first cry was, “God help!” and then my mind was blurred because of the pain I was suffering in my lower back. My husband and family were soon there, and with each one praying, the pain eased some and I was taken back to the house on a mattress in a truck. The saints in Neosho and Kansas City were called for prayer. The Lord eased the pain greatly, but I could not turn myself or sit up without help.

That night, before going to bed, my family prayed that all the pain and soreness would be gone by morning so Bob and I could go back to Kansas City the following morning. Our faith took it in and I expected to be healed when morning came. Arrangements had been made for my mother-in-law and aunt in Kansas City to bring a van truck with a bed in it early the next morning so the ride wouldn’t bother me.

During the night I woke up quite a few times and each time I would remember the Sunday School verse I had memorized the previous Sunday. “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask any thing

according to his will, he heareth us. And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desire of him." 1 John 5:14, 15. God was very precious to me in those night hours and I talked with the Lord and he assured me he had his hand in my accident, and had permitted it for a purpose. I promised God I would testify to all who would listen—neighbors, saints, or whoever.

At 6:30 the next morning my mother-in-law called to see if it was still necessary to bring the van for me. Praise God, I was able to get up and talk to her myself without any pain, and tell her God had healed me. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! I witnessed a miracle in my own life. I could hardly contain myself for the joy I felt. I went right out into the coolness of the new morning and just as day was breaking forth in its sublime beauty, I knelt and poured out my heart in praise and thanksgiving to my God and Healer. To HIM goes ALL the praise!

I could have been seriously injured but God spared me. If I had not had my hair in a roll on top of my head, no doubt, I would have had a head injury but God blessed there, too. Now, two days after the accident I feel like my normal self, with very little stiffness. I'm thankful God permitted this accident for I received a great blessing.

Your Sister in Christ, —Norene Harmon

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

Mexico—Dear Ones, greetings of much love to you in our wonderful Saviour's name, Jesus:

His name is above every name. How graciously He cares for all his children. Praise his holy name forever!

I am very thankful to be back with the dear ones here in Mexico. When I returned to the mission station here in Rosarito, Bro. Tomas and his family were living in the home. He had a three-day meeting here which was well attended. Some seekers were at the altar and many received help. A number held up their hands for prayer. We were glad to see new ones come out for meeting.

In one service Bro. Tomas brought a message on LOVE. Although the service was long, the people were attentive and interested. It seemed every eye was on the speaker. Although the trials for some are hard to bear, it is encouraging to see them deepening down in the Lord.

I am thankful for the calls to pray for the sick and to visit in their homes. I am more encouraged than ever before to work for the Lord here in Mexico, knowing He will lead and direct and all things can be done through him. Thank you for your earnest prayers for us.

Your servant in the Lord, —Carrie Sheppard

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La.—Dear Saints, I am glad to report victory in my soul over the enemy. The Lord has been so good to me lately that I can never praise Him enough.

Some time ago I strained my back. I had been having trouble with it ever since. One day while in prayer I promised the Lord that if he would heal my back I would give him all the praise. Praise the Lord, He touched me. I haven't had the bad suffering with it since. I still have a little trouble with it at times, but by faith, that is going, too.

I am very thankful that we can call on the Lord in time of trouble and he is always there.

Pray for me as I endeavor to serve the Lord. School is coming up and I know there will be many trials but with the grace of God I am determined to go all the way with God.

Yours in Christ, —Gayle Doolittle

Mo.—Dear Saints abroad, greetings of love in Jesus' name: I thank the Lord for being so good to me, and He is very good to all His people. It seems that I can't thank Him enough for His many blessings that He bestows upon us.

Pray for me that I would be all he would have me to be. —Rebecca Sorrell

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Ark.—Dear Ones at the print shop who are laboring for the Lord and souls: greetings in Jesus' great and wonderful name. How good and blessed it is to know, to love and to trust in God who made heaven and earth and all that is in them. He made man to love and serve Him and we ought to love Him.

He is very good to me and gives me many blessings each day. He has touched me again with his healing and given me strength to do all my house work and some work outside. I am able to go to meeting now. I went to the Myrtle, Mo. campmeeting for two days. I asked to be anointed and prayed for there and, thank God, ever since I have felt much stronger and better. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! There is lots of sin and wickedness, but thank God, "where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." (Rom. 5:20.)

God is able to keep that which we intrust in his care if we will leave it there, and be true to him always in our hearts. I thank the Lord for the Blood to cleanse our hearts from sin, from doubts and fears, for the peace that Jesus gives.

I am enclosing a little offering to help in the Lord's work. I pray God to always bless his laborers and to increase their strength. Remember me in prayer.

A Sister in the Lord, Mrs. N. E. Adams

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

Louisiana—Dear Saints everywhere: May God bless and encourage each one. I'm very much encouraged in the Lord. My whole heart's desire is to please my Lord, and when I do this, I'm sure He will work out my life in the way that is best. Oh, how wonderful it is to serve One who can do all things for us!

We were permitted to attend part of the Monark Springs, Mo. campmeeting and most of the Guthrie, Okla. campmeeting. It was wonderful how the Lord worked in these meetings, saving souls and healing bodies. Many of the saints received encouragement.

Before we went to campmeeting only one of my children was saved. Now my children have all become saved and how thankful to the Lord I am! Many have been the requests given in, the prayers prayed and the tears shed. My heart was so burdened for my lost family. I appreciate all the prayers for my unsaved loved ones. Please pray that God will save my companion.

Dear saints, don't be discouraged if you have prayed hard and long for loved ones to be saved. We read in God's Word in James 5:16: "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." God is still on His throne and He will help us if we live for Him and continue to call on Him.

Let us pray earnestly for those who were recently saved. Surely in these evil times the devil is working hard, and as each one goes back to school, job, etc., surely he will need the Lord to help him to live that different life in the face of all opposition. We know there is a change when one gives his heart to God, but He can give grace for every requirement.

Yours in Christ, —Cassie Price

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

Ark.—Dear Saints, How good the Lord is to us in all our needs. We feel we need to write a testimony and try to glorify the name of our heavenly Father.

About the last two weeks of May, Husband took a bad spell with his hip and leg. He had severe pains almost all the time. One night while preparing for bed, he discovered a long sore on this bad leg that has given him so much trouble for years. It looked very red and angry and raw. We couldn't understand why it came but we knew on whom we believed. The next day I was very burdened for him and I wept before the Lord most of the day and begged the Lord to heal him. When he came from work that evening it looked much better, and in less than a week it was completely healed. How we did praise the Lord!

We had to go back to our farm in Kansas to make different arrangements. The devil tried to make me feel terrible, saying Husband would be sick all the time we were there, and even tried to make me feel he would not live through the summer. But God saw the necessity of our going and how wonderfully the Lord held him up for the hard work on the farm! God even made his leg better than before we went. We praised the Lord every day for His mercy. We met with lots of discouraging things on the farm but God gave us grace. It seemed the last test was my hardest to overcome. I was talking to Sister Murphy Allen about it and she said, "Sister Margaret, we will pray the Lord to help you in this one, too." God did answer prayer and made it easy to bear. How precious are the dear children of God! They are all concerned with each other's burdens. We knew the saints here in Arkansas were praying for us as were the saints in Coffeyville, and others who knew our problems. We do appreciate every one.

The Lord blessed the dear saints here while we were gone and kept them encouraged. Sister Ruth Murphey was with them a few Sundays, then Bro. Leslie Busbee came one Sunday. We are happy to be back with them. We desire to do what we can to win other souls to God.

We had a wonderful experience recently. We desired the saints here to enjoy the message Bro. Curtis Williams preached after the Lord so wonderfully healed him at the Monark Springs campmeeting. So we played the tape recording for them and called their attention to how good and strong his voice was. We all felt so thankful for the mighty power of God. Suddenly a little seven-year-old girl who had been asleep on her mother's lap, went into a hard convulsion. She had not been ill and her mother said she had never had a spell like that before. She became unconscious and foamed at the mouth. Her mouth was drawn to one side and her eyes rolled back. Her right arm and leg were drawn and her lips became purple. She was in a pitiful condition, but as prayer was offered, the Lord took this all away. She tried to stand on her feet but could not. We laid her down and asked God, in the name of Jesus, to raise her up, and immediately she got up. Oh, glory be to God! She was still weak so lay down and went to sleep. After she rested a while she got up. Her mother said she and her twin sisters played all afternoon. They were at meeting that night and sang some good little songs. We feel the Lord permitted this to happen so that we could all see the Lord will answer prayer in a small group of His people the same as in a large campmeeting. "Fear not little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Praise the Lord!

We were truly blessed to be in the Monark Springs campmeeting. My soul was greatly encouraged to see the love and unity of God's children and hear the ministers preach the Word in all its purity, lifting up a standard for the people. Truly we must all hold up the standard of truth. Then God will stretch forth his hand with signs

following. It is wonderful to see souls saved and sanctified and sick bodies healed.

We did greatly desire to see our dear Sister Carver healed, but we know God's will is not to leave us here always, but to take us home to be with him. I get homesick to go, too. We will all miss her so much but by God's grace we can live so we can meet her again. We do pray for her loved ones that the Lord will comfort their hearts.

We were encouraged to see some more of God's children who had been in different cages of deception hear the voice of God calling them out. We are happy to have them come home to Father's house where his big family all dwell together in peace and love. I love God's church, the beautiful Church of God that Jesus built and placed us in the body as it pleased him. We can all work together, not against one another, but together, for the advancement of the cause of God.

My soul is full and running over with the blessings of God. I mean to go right on until the crown is won. Praise the Lord.

Yours in His service, —Albert and Margaret Eck

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

Calif.—Dear Sister Miles and all the dear saints, greetings of love in Jesus, our dear Saviour. I feel that I owe him a testimony, as he has done so much for me.

In James 5:13 we read, "Is any afflicted, let him pray." And that is what I have done for many years. The promise is: "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities and healeth all thy diseases," and that is what the dear Saviour, our great Physician, has done for me. I have trusted Him for soul and body for sixty years or more. I am now 88 years and 5 months old. Whenever I was sick, I would be anointed. When the preacher prayed and said, "Amen," I would say "Amen," and believe that it was done, and it always was. I had wondered and had made a remark about others going so often to be anointed. The dear Lord had been so good and merciful to me to heal me, so I never was sick very long. In June I got my lesson. I got sick and asked the saints for prayer. They prayed; I got relief, but not healed. I asked again for prayer and again got relief, but not complete victory. I was away from the Home here at Pacoima. I asked to be taken back and coming in the car I suffered terribly in my whole body. When I got in my room I asked my room mate to please help me get to bed. I was very weak from suffering. Bro. O. B. Wilson and others were called in to pray for me. The Lord was merciful to me and healed me. My loved ones who had brought me home saw how quickly the Lord healed me. I hope it will be a blessing to them. When I was so sick, some thought and expressed it that I was about gone, but I said I was ready to go and willing to stay; God's will be done. He healed me and strengthened me. I feel better than I have for a long time. I am fully trusting the dear Lord.

May God bless all the dear saints who have been praying for me. Please pray that I keep my trust in the Lord unto the end.

—Emma Luehring

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

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie: Just a few lines in Jesus' dear name.

I surely enjoyed the [National] campmeeting—so glad for the good Word and the healings. Everything was so precious. I was glad to see so many I knew and meet some I had not met.

I am thankful you folks at the office could enjoy the campmeeting, too. I know it is a relief after working hard all year. I pray God will keep you all well and encourage your hearts and supply all your needs.

It seems like the more one sets his heart and mind to be all God wants him to be, the harder the devil works. But he doesn't scare me. I know in whom I trust and that He is able and will do for us what He says He will. I won't give up. I desire complete healing. Nothing is too great for our God.

I am sending an offering of . . . for you folks and . . . for the missionary work.

With Christian love, —Sister Goldie Knapp

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

Ark.—Dear saints of God, greetings in the precious name of Jesus who has heard and answered prayer by healing my body. I want to send my testimony. I promised the Lord if he would heal me I would tell everyone. I was at a wonderful campmeeting in June. I saw people healed of many diseases. I told the Lord if He could heal others, He could heal me. I had been taking medicine for a weak heart and nerves, also pains in my legs. I haven't taken any medicine since the Lord has healed me.

I want all of you to pray for me that I will hold out faithful to God the rest of my life. Pray for my family that they be saved. I love the "Faith and Victory" paper. It means so much to me.

Your Sister, —Daisy Vanbrant

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

Maryland—Dear Sister Miles: I wanted to tell you that I still receive the "Faith and Victory," and love to read it because I know it is all true and the Word of God. I gave some papers away to some people from Florida who were visiting here.

I am not a bit well. My arthritis has been worse this summer and my blood pressure has gone up again. My head feels bad. Sometimes I almost black out. I don't know what is wrong, but God knows all about it and I know He can heal my body if it is His will. Let us agree together for healing. I do believe in divine healing. Pray for me that I will stay true to Him. Continue to pray for my family.

May God bless you and the dear saints everywhere. In Christian love, —Sister Myrtle Warner

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

Ohio—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: I would like to testify of the mercy and power of the Lord Jesus, the great Physician. Recently I was threatened with a very disagreeable and painful affliction. I was led to resist it, and to refuse to accept it in the powerful name of Jesus and trust Him to remove it. This I did, and sent a request for prayer to Faith Publishing House. The Lord heard and answered prayer, and it has completely disappeared. This all occurred in about a week's time.

I am still in need of prayer for a few minor afflictions, and for deafness. I also have some unspoken requests. God still answers prayer if we believe His Word and trust Him.

Several old friends (younger than I) have passed away recently who did not know God or trust Him, but trusted the earthly physicians and the arm of flesh and hospitals but they could not save them. As for me, I choose to trust the Divine Physician, the Lord Jesus, with whom nothing is impossible. All things are possible to them that believe. —Bro. L. Hassinger

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

Mich.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings to you in Jesus' name. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! I am thankful to be one of His children this morning. As I write this letter I am encouraged to press the battle on. I can't give up now after all that He has done for me.

I thank the Lord for giving me the chance to be at the campmeeting at Guthrie, and also for being able to spend a couple of weeks there at the print shop. I was

glad to see how the Lord blessed His work in printing the gospel. I never thought there was that much work in printing the "Faith and Victory," besides all the work of printing the tracts and other material and books. I will be able to enjoy the paper more than I ever have before since I had a very small part in the work, and I know a little more about what you have done to get the excellent reports and testimonies to me.

Give all the saints there my love. I need your prayers. May God bless you. —Kathy Sneed

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

Canada—Dear Brothers: A friend of mine sent me a copy of your paper, "Faith and Victory." It is a fine publication of true and vital Christianity. I would like to order the following books, . . . and subscribe to your paper. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours, M. Fruehm

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

Ohio—Dear Sirs: I am enclosing \$1.00 in currency to help in your work. I would like to have the following books and tracts: . . .

I am seventy-two years of age and am so glad to receive the magazine, "Faith and Victory." I read other magazines and papers, but I am always thrilled with the truth of your magazine. It sounds so much like the truth I heard proclaimed at the old-time campmeetings of many years ago.

Yours in Christ, —Grant Hammond

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

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in the Lord. It has been awhile since I wrote but I have thought of all of you often and remember all the workers in my prayers. I still love the Lord and all God's great and dear family and I am striving to live to please Him in all I do. We are in such troublesome times and so many heavy burdens for God's children press us, but He knows how to deliver and has grace to keep us from falling. I'm thankful for all His daily loving care to me and am encouraged to keep pressing on.

May the Lord bless you each one there in every way you may have need and supply all needs for his work.

Remember us when you pray. I have a special request I desire the saints' prayers about—that God will work out a special burden to His glory and the good of all concerned. Pray also for my unsaved children.

In Christian love, —Zella Dollins

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

Miss.—Dear Sister Miles, I feel led of the Lord to write about how God healed my body. I mean to trust Him until He calls me home. My desire is to please Him at all times. A mosquito bit me on the arm about three or four weeks ago. I could hardly sleep at night because it hurt and ached so much. I wrote to Bro. and Sister Richard Madden and to Bro. and Sister Forbes for prayer. I could tell it was better right away. I thank the Lord because it is well now.

When I eat anything, it hurts me and I feel faint. I know the Lord can heal me. Pray for my sister who has been afflicted a number of years.

We are expecting the Lord to send a minister here to hold a meeting. Pray with us about this need. We desire that souls be saved.

Your Sister, —Flora Ruth Pugh

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

Kansas—Dear Workers at Faith and Victory Office and all the dear saints scattered abroad: Greetings in our Lord's great and matchless name.

Having missed meeting you at any of the campmeetings this summer, I choose again to greet you by letter

through the paper. I am still on my upward way to my Home above the stars.

Since my last letter I have passed through some very severe trials, but the victory is mine through Jesus Christ who loves us. The evening of July 31 I became the victim of a severe scald from a pint cup of boiling water. The burn was deep and severe. However relief came right away, and many times after, through the availing prayers of the saints. While the campmeeting was in progress at Bakersfield, Calif. I was receiving special home care and nursing by our pastor's wife, and was recovering when my daughter, Jessie A. Douglas, came from California to take the burden of my care off others.

Oh, how I do praise the Lord that at times like this we can see the truth of His Word as written in Psalms, "His mercy endureth forever." So it seemed good that I get my deeper consecration lessons, not at campmeeting, but otherwise, and I am learning however they come, they are precious for soul growth. Many are the precious lessons to be learned as we walk in the footsteps of our Lord. "Victory through Christ" is the goal we must covet. Anything shorter, our soul should abhor it. Let naught of the world or Satan entice us, and victories from heaven will ever suffice us.

—Sister Ethel K. Miles

FUNDS FOR NATIONAL CAMPGROUND

At the business meeting of the recent National campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Spring), Mo. plans were laid to raise funds to purchase additional ground adjoining the present campground provided it can be bought at a fair price.

In order to raise funds to purchase the land, the Campground Board offers to sell lots to the Church members on a 99-year lease basis on the proposed additional ground at \$100 each. The choice of the locations of the lots, etc. on the proposed land will be granted in the order that the money is received, so please get your order and money to the secretary at once. This offer is limited until Nov. 1st. All money received will be deposited in a savings account drawing interest until such time that enough is available to purchase the land. In the event the trustees are unable to buy the proposed additional land, the money will be returned to the sender with the interest it has earned.

So far (Sept. 17) the response has been good on this offer, but many more orders are needed to have sufficient to purchase the land. Time is running out, so everyone who is interested should get his order in at once. The target date is Nov. 1st. Please don't let this very worthy project fail!

Make all checks payable to The Church of God and send directly to the secretary, Bro. Bob Stover, 6304 S. 97th West Avenue, Tulsa, Okla. 74131. —Editor.

BIBLE STUDY

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

October 1, 1967

THE TIMES OF THE PROPHETS

Printed Portion 2 Kings 14:23-25; Amos 8:4-7, 11

2 Kings 14:23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash

king of Israel began to reign in Samaria and reigned forty and one years.

24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

25 He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain, according to the word of the Lord God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which was of Gathhepher.

Amos 8:4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,

5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, falsifying the balances by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:

Memory Verse: Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. Amos 3:7.

Central Thought: God gives all people a chance to hear what He wants them to do.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Some of the writings in the Minor Prophets are difficult to understand but they are part of the Bible and we want to read it all. God preserved it for us to be used for an example. Israel was in the height of her glory, materially, when the prophet Amos sounded his warnings. No one seemed to give heed. Doom did not seem to be even a remote possibility, yet within a few years destruction came. They were outwardly religious but their lives were crooked. Do we see that today? Human nature doesn't change much. The inherent nature of man now is similar to that in the days when the prophet spoke. Let us look at our lesson from that angle.

Verse 24 tells us that the king Jeroboam did evil in the sight of the Lord. Irresponsible leadership will cause others to follow wrong. "Like people, like priest." Hosea 4:9. Each of us has an influence and a responsibility to God. How can we cause others to sin?

Verse 25 lets us know that Israel reached worldly glory and business was good but wickedness abounded, also much injustice with poverty. The next verse tells us of the greed, fraud, and force. Today the laborer can cheat the employer of a just day's work and the employer can cheat the laborer of his hire. Remember the "wages of sin is death."

No famine could be worse than a famine of "hearing the words of the Lord."

October 8, 1967

AMOS SPEAKS FOR GOD

Printed Portion Amos 1:1; 7:7-15

Amos 1:1 The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

Amos 7:7 Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

8 And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more:

9 And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

10 Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

11 For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

12 Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

13 But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court.

14 Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdsman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit:

15 And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

Memory Verse: The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy? Amos 3:8.

Central Thought: God's word is the plumbline and our lives the wall. How does it measure by God's plumbline?

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The prophet Amos was a herdsman. He prophesied somewhere around 750 B. C., during the time when Uzziah was the king of Judah and Jeroboam was the king of Israel, the Israelites being divided into two kingdoms at this time.

God let Amos have a vision of the Lord standing upon a wall and a plumbline being dropped in the midst of the people. The plummet stops at gravity's dead center and the line is absolutely straight. Isaiah tells us, "I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plummet." (28:17 Am. Ver.)

Is not God letting down a plumbline into our lives? What kind of foundation have we built upon? The Bible is our plumbline. If we have Christ as the foundation, then we have built a straight life, but if the devil has been our foundation, then our lives are crooked. We must start right at the foundation for our lives to end right. One brick out of line on the wall will cause the end to be wrong. One side-step uncorrected in our lives will lead us to destruction. We must line up straight. An unforgiving attitude, greed, selfishness, pride, etc. will make our lives out of line with God's Word. "God, who . . . spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." Heb. 1:1, 2. We will be punished for disobedience even as the Israelites were.

October 15, 1967

THE LORD OF HISTORY

Printed Portion Amos 1:3-5; 2:4-8; 9:7, 8

Amos 1:3 Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the

punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

4 But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Benhadad.

5 I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven, and him that holdeth the sceptre from the house of Eden: and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the Lord.

Amos 2:4 Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the Lord, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:

5 But I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.

6 Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes;

7 That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the meek: and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name:

8 And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their God.

Amos 9:7 Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the Lord. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?

8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saying that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord.

Memory Verse: God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness. Psalm 47:8.

Central Thought: Through Christ we can help others to live right, thereby helping God accomplish his purposes but we must remember that God will write the last pages of history.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The history of God's dealings with people down through the ages makes us know that a person or nation cannot do wrong and get by. Absalom met an early death by seeking his father's throne. (2 Sam. 18:9.) Lot's wife turned to salt through disobedience. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by fire because of great wickedness. "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34.

Gilead was part of Israel. Hazael was the king of the nation of Syria. Because of their wickedness toward Gilead they were to be punished. Also Damascus was to be punished along with Syria who were neighbors of Israel and Judah, God's chosen people. The second part of our lesson tells that God will not spare his people when they sin. Their sin was greater because "they have despised the law of the Lord." Greater light brings greater responsibility. The other nations had not been given the law of God.

Notice the last verses in our lesson mention the goodness of God to Israel. They had been brought up out of Egypt by the hand of God and he had done many miracles in their sight. We notice a promise of the Saviour to come because God said, "I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob." But they were to be punished for their sins.

October 22, 1967

GOD DEMANDS RIGHT LIVING

Printed Portion Amos 5:12-15; 6:1, 4-8

Amos 5:12 For I know your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins: they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right.

13 Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time.

14 Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken.

15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

Amos 6:1 Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

4 That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;

5 That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David.

6 That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

7 Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.

8 The Lord God hath sworn by himself, saith the Lord, the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

Memory Verse: Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. Amos 5:14.

Central Thought: Only a right relationship with God will help us to be a blessing to others in this world.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

No person lives to himself and no one can shirk the responsibility of what influence his life has upon others. The Apostle Paul said, "We are made a spectacle [margin, theatre] unto the world, and to angels, and to men." 1 Cor. 4:9. Each of us is playing a role upon the stage of life and we have partners who play with us. The world is looking on and so is God. There can be bad relationships between us and others and between us and God. God is demanding and expecting righteousness from us.

The prophet Amos was preaching a sermon to the people of his day. It could fit in our society of this day. The people were living wickedly and forgetting God. The prophet cries out for them to "seek good, and not evil, that ye may live and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you. Hate the evil, and love the good." How important this is for us to do today. The prophet pronounced a "woe" upon those who were at "ease" or who carelessly neglected their souls. Jesus tells about the rich man who thought only of material things. He was surprised when God said, "Tonight thy soul shall be required of thee, then whose shall these things be?" Luke 12:16-20.

Our relationship with God and people should be righteous so we can meet God in peace.

October 29, 1967

POPULAR RELIGION AND TRUE WORSHIP

Printed Portion Amos 4:4, 5; 5:21-24; 8:4-7

Amos 4:4 Come to Bethel, and transgress; at Gilgal multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning and your tithes after three years.

5 And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord God.

5:21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

24 But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

Amos 8:4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail.

5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes, yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

Memory Verse: But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. 1 Sam. 16:7.

Central Thought: When we worship God, He looks at our hearts and sees our daily lives.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

To worship means to express our devotion, awe, honor, and to render service to God who is holy, just, and perfect. Many people come to the chapel and stay for a whole service but never worship God. They have not been in communion with God at home and therefore they are not in a condition to worship God from the heart. Worship means for us to lift up our hearts in praise and gratitude with a longing to know the divine pleasure of our heavenly Father so we can please him in our daily life. Worship is our response to God, and it makes us feel very humble in His presence. How sad that some can't leave the cares of life behind long enough to worship God. We are robbing God of what belongs to Him. Reverence, devotion, self, attention, and all should be given to God.

Our lesson is about the popular religion of that day which the people kept but they did not worship God from the heart. Bethel was the most splendid religious center in Israel. They transgressed even in their offerings according to God's law. They added leaven to their thanksgiving offering. God said he hated their feast days and that he would not accept their worship. Their daily life did not measure up to their Sabbath worship. Jesus spoke of those people and said, "But in vain they do worship me. This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me." Matt. 15:8, 9. —M. Miles