

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### *The Ungathered Harvest*



There's a coolness in the morning,  
There's a crispness in the air,  
Since the days are growing shorter  
And the birds have gone elsewhere.

Yes, the harvest days are over  
And the bins are stored with grain;  
All is ready now for winter—  
Days of storm and wind and rain.

But it sets my mind to thinking  
That the time is shorter, too,  
Till the coming of my Saviour—  
And the labourers are few.

For God's harvest is not gathered,  
Many souls are lost in sin.  
Can we idly wait for Jesus  
When the harvest is not in?

—Selected by Sister N. E. Adams

### **The Greatest Event That Will Ever Take Place**

Webster defines "event" as "occurrence, incident." There are many great events that have taken place. Some of the greatest events are: The first announcement of the birth of Christ the Lord. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11.

The announcement of Christ entering into His earthly ministry was a great event. Luke 4:14, 15: "And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of Him through all the region round about. And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all."

Then another great event after Jesus was dead, and three days in the grave, He arose, as we read in Matthew 28:6, that an angel declared at the tomb, "He is not here, for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."

But the greatest of the events will be the second coming of Jesus Christ and what will follow. It is a fact that Christ is coming down from heaven. Dan. 7:13, "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, One like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven." Jesus in His ministry on earth said He was coming again. Matt. 25:31: "When the Son of man shall come in His glory." Also in the glory of the Father. Matt. 16:27: "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father."

Angels declared that Jesus was coming. Acts 1:11: "This same Jesus . . . shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Jude spoke of Christ's coming. Jude 14, "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints." Also, all the angels shall accompany Him. Matt. 25:31, "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, . . ."

The manner of His coming: He will come when He is not expected. Matt. 24:36, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." His coming will be as lightning. Matt. 24:27, "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." He will come with a shout. 1 Thess. 4:16, "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God." Every eye shall see Him. Rev. 1:7, "Behold, He cometh with clouds: and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him."

Then the resurrection of the dead shall take place. Acts 24:15, "That there shall be a [one general] resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust." John 5:28, 29, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

The dead will come forth with an immortal body. 1 Cor. 15:52-54, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound,

and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

At the coming of the Lord the heaven and the earth will pass away. Read 2 Peter 3:7-11. Then the Judgment will take place. Christ will be the Judge. "For we shall all stand before the Judgment seat of Christ." Romans 14:10. Read Revelation 20:11-15. The people who lived from Adam until Moses' time will be judged accordingly. Romans 2:12, "For as many as have sinned without the law shall perish without the law." They will be judged according to the truth or the law they had. And those also who have lived from Moses' time to Christ's ministry will be judged accordingly. "And as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law." Then those who have lived after Jesus Christ's ministry will be judged by the gospel. Romans 2:16, "In that day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to the gospel." You and I will be judged by the gospel. The heathen will be judged by the law of their conscience. Romans 2:14, "For the Gentiles which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, not having the law, are a law unto themselves. Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another."

The living and resurrected saints will be caught up in the clouds to meet Christ. 1 Thess. 4:17, "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord." The unsaved will not be taken up in the air. Matt. 24:40, "Then shall two be in the field, and the one shall be taken [the saint] and the other left [the sinner]."

The dead now are either in paradise and heaven (Luke 23:43) or in hell (Luke 23:23). Revelation 14:13, "Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth. Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them." Their works and their influence, whether good or bad continues until Christ's coming, and at the Judgment they will be rewarded accordingly. At the Judgment the separation takes place. Matt. 25:32, 33, "And He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats." Sheep are saints. Goats are sinners. The sinner shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous unto life eternal.

At Christ's second coming the saints will be exceedingly happy. Jude 24, "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

As for the sinners—Rev. 6:16, "And said unto the rocks and mountains, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne."

Jesus Christ is reigning now in His spiritual kingdom, and after the Judgment He will deliver the kingdom to God, the Father. 1 Cor. 15:24.

Are you a saint or a sinner?

—Selected

## TIME

### Its Physical and Spiritual Developments

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted." Eccl. 3:1, 2.

From the above Scripture, we are made to realize there is a time element for all purposes of life. Webster defines time as "the period during which an action, process, etc. continues; measured or measurable duration; the allotted, appointed, fixed, or customary moment or hour for something to happen, begin, or end; proper season, favorable opportunity."

Nature's environment makes a lot of difference in the development of corn, wheat, or other grains of value. Dry weather, coupled with insects, weeds, and contrary elements, disturb its natural tendency to develop and bring forth fruit. In duration of time it will bring forth its physical defect or accomplishments, depending on the care it has been given. Cultivation and special applications to destroy insects and weeds will help correct the hindering forces. The results do not develop overnight. Daily neglect or constant care will change the harvest into a complete failure or high yield. But notice that **TIME** will reveal the difference. As it is in the physical, so it is in the spiritual realm.

We who are planted in the house of the Lord (Psa. 92:13-15) are surrounded with hindering forces. We, too, are exhorted to grow in grace. 2 Peter 3:18. Grace must be unhindered and the abounding fruits of righteousness allowed to develop in us. Pride and old grudge worms and weeds of self must be constantly guarded against. Prayer and submitting ourselves to God in trying circumstances will humble the soul, making it pliable for more of God's grace to abound. Read James 4:6-8.

Trials and temptations and various afflictions are naturally undesirable environments that we are confronted with in life. Victory doesn't develop overnight, but constant guarding against wrong attitudes brings victory. Mortifying every selfish desire and evil attitude will construct and develop a right spirit within us. These hindering forces leave a hardening influence if we let them. Pride, jealousy, hard feelings, malice, hatred, strife, and any other evil not mentioned may hide itself for a short period. But in duration of time it will show itself and many will be defiled.

Let us work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. When temptation comes in manifold ways, keep the heart with all diligence. Keep in an attitude of prayer, resisting all inclination to yield. Draw nigh unto God, submitting the case into His hands, endeavoring to develop a stronger resistance for the next one to come. This is an allotted time given to us for development in our spirituality. When trials come from misunderstanding of loved ones, let us labor in prayer until we have developed a deeper love and tenderness of spirit, keeping out of the heart anything that would harden and hinder

our spiritual growth. "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled." Hebrews 12:15.

Time is too short to spend in bitterness of soul. Keep the words of God richly in your heart, endeavoring to measure to every precept. Let the gospel plow dig up every selfish desire. "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry." Col. 3:5. Let us put to death every unholy desire and feeling. If we spend more of our time in killing the beginning of a wrong thought, a wrong feeling in the trying circumstances, the grace of God will develop in us a richer harvest of righteous fruits. "And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." James 3:18. "Seeing that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Eph. 5:14, 15.

Take time to consider these thoughts and may God give the increase. —Donald Sharp

## Judgment Follows God's Mercy

"I wish God would stop this war!" Did you ever hear anyone make that remark? Did you ever stop to think what causes war? The Bible gives us the answer. "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." James 4:1-3. You notice the Word tells us that wars start in the desires to have and cannot obtain, and lusts that war in your members. Wars do not start on the battlefield, but they start in the hearts of unregenerated men. For God to stop a war He would have to change the hearts of men. If men's hearts were not changed, war would break out again. This we know to be a fact since the beginning of time. Jesus said, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies." Matt. 15:19.

God made man a free moral agent. He can choose to serve God or choose to serve the devil. There are only two spirits working in the world today. You and I are choosing to let one or the other of these spirits lead us. There is no middle ground. We are either serving the devil or serving God, but God will not force anyone to serve Him. When you serve the devil, there is a place at the Judgment Day prepared for the devil. If you do not want to serve God, then there is no other place for you to go but with the one that you are following. The Bible tells us that to those who have not chosen to go to heaven, God will say in that last great day, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt. 25:41. He also has said you

will be "cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9:45, 46. Just as true as there is a heaven there is a hell. The Bible is plain on this, and we might as well accept this fact. False teachers might try to get around it and say it is not so, but dear ones, it is true. Do not let anyone change you, as it will mean your eternal damnation.

Now dear ones, you will have to turn down God's mercy and longsuffering before judgment will come to you. The Bible says, "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face." Psalms 89:14. Before judgment is given, you will have to reject all the mercy and truth God has shown to you. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. From the beginning of time people have rejected the mercy of God and we find that judgment fell upon them. God deals justly with all people. They can't blame Him, because He is all-wise, and has made a way for us to choose eternal life if we want it.

Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and therefore were punished. They rejected His love and mercy. The people in Noah's day rejected the message from God and His mercy. Only eight souls believed and were saved. The others suffered God's judgment upon them. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah rejected the message of mercy from God. Only Lot and his two daughters escaped the judgment of God. Their city and all therein were burned up. Judas rejected the mercy of God to him. He sold out for a mere 30 pieces of silver. In his despair, knowing what he had done, he went out and hanged himself. He rejected Jesus and all the knowledge that he had about Him.

Dear ones, you will have to look right at mercy, heaven, and all of God's love, reject it and turn it down before you will be cast into hell. No one can blame God when he finds himself in hell. Jesus is standing today holding out His arms of love and forgiveness to all who will come to Him, repent of their sins with godly sorrow and turn away from them. When you do this from your heart, a change will take place in your life. Jesus came to change you. He will fill that longing within your heart. You will not be lonely any more. You will not feel that life has stopped for you. There will be something to live for here and a hope of being with our blessed Lord and Saviour in eternity.

You will not be lusting, desiring to have and kill because you cannot obtain. Your heart will be changed. You will desire to please the Lord and keep His commandments because He made a way so you could have eternal life in your soul. You will not be asking amiss when you pray. You will not be wanting to consume the things you ask for upon yourself, nor for selfish desires.

Dear ones, there is no better way to live in this life than for the Lord. Won't you turn to Him today and receive a change of heart? —Sister Marie Miles

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

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

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## EDITORIALS

Christian greetings to our readers, near and far, in all directions of the compass:

Time, with solemn tread, is bearing us slowly but surely onward in the new year of 1969. We know not when nor how soon time will end in eternity. And think of the crashing of ages when time and eternity meet!

This brief God-given time in this world places a solemn responsibility upon all of us. The ancient prophet exclaimed: "Prepare to meet thy God!" The implication is that man in his natural state is unprepared morally and spiritually to stand uncondemned in the presence of His Creator when time ends and the final judgment is set. Man could not save himself by any means, nor restore the moral image of God which was lost in the transgression of Adam and Eve. But "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. The fountain of blood that was shed on Calvary's cross is sufficient to wash away every guilty stain and restore the believer to fellowship and communion with God. You who do not know your sins are gone, won't you with godly sorrow confess, repent and forsake your sins, plunge by faith into that fountain and be made a new creature in Christ? Jesus came teaching, "Ye must be born again." There is no other way to meet the Lord in peace. Jesus is standing at your heart's door knocking for admittance. Won't you let Him in?

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This writer is recovering from a severe case of the influenza. Whether Hong Kong or some other strain, I do not know, but I would say that any kind is bad. In answer to prayer the disease was broken and did not run its course, for which I give all the praise to our Great Physician in Zion. This flu seems to be widespread, but the Lord has been merciful to touch others in the Guthrie congregation as well as to heal His trusting people in various places abroad. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." 2 Chron. 16:9. In the economy of God's grace provision has been made to supply every need of His people, whether spiritual, physical, or temporal. Therefore, we are exhorted to come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16. It is a blessed privilege that the multitudes, even many religious professors, know nothing about. "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him." Psalm 34:8.

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From the truth that God rules in the kingdoms of men and gives them to whomsoever He will, we must acknowledge His hand in the inauguration of Richard M. Nixon as the 37th president of the United States. The problems facing the new leader are formidable, and on his behalf we would repeat the instructions of

the Apostle Paul: "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." 1 Tim. 2:1, 2. It is our fervent prayer and hope that law and order will be re-established, and that the tragic events looming on the horizon will be averted. Only the hand of God can intervene in these affairs.

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The prime target of the Communist conspiracy is the children and young people of our nation. The flood of obscene, filthy and pornographic material at the corner bookstore is designed to break down even more the moral standard of our youth in regard to sexual behavior. We might be amazed to learn how few parents are aware that these "filth books" have been promoted to be made respectable by being called "education" for our children. Compulsory education in sex for our children from kindergarten through high school is in the scheme. Concerned parents should find out what is being taught in their school, and take all right steps to stop or counteract this demoralizing influence on their children. Also, check the school library books which your children bring home to read.

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May the Lord comfort in a special way the children, sisters, and other relatives of Alma Rose Embrey who departed this life on Jan. 17 here at Guthrie.

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The cloth-bound, 541-page volume entitled, "The Cleansing of the Sanctuary," by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle, is again in stock. Your order will be filled promptly at the reasonable price of \$4.50 per copy, postpaid.

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A reader would like to purchase the following out-of-print books: "The Holy Spirit and Other Spirits" by D. O. Teasley; "Baptism, the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing," by Riggle; "Christian Theology" by Byrum, and "Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation" by F. G. Smith. If you have any of these for sale, please write this office stating price and condition of book.

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Bro. and Sister Kenneth Probst and family have moved from Gadsden, Ala. Now they are at home at Route 1, Bartlett, Kansas. May the Lord bless them in their new field of labor.

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Sunday, Jan. 12, marked the first day of regular services for the new congregation of the church of God at Nowata, Okla. Bro. Clarence Fry, the pastor, cordially invites the saints and ministers to meet with them whenever possible at the corner of Cedar and Fairview Streets, Nowata. Read his testimony and further report of the first services elsewhere in this issue.

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Our sincere sympathy is extended to our dear Bro. J. W. Trimble of Pomona, Calif., in the loss of

his wife, Christine F., who departed this life on Jan. 14 at their home after an illness of two years. May God speak words of comfort to him and all the family.

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Temporarily out of stock, the 496-page book, entitled, "Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner," by A. L. Byers, is in the process of being reprinted. It is expected to be available about April 1.

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As time permits and the Lord directs, more good books which have been out of print for many years will be reprinted and added to our present titles which are in stock. Write for complete lists of tracts and books, and watch for announcements of new titles.

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With the continued blessings of the Lord upon this gospel publishing work, we anticipate a greater volume of printed gospel messages going forth to the world in obedience to our Lord's commission to His Church. All the laborers at this office are working together in love and harmony with the one purpose of getting the "whole gospel to the whole world" to the full extent of our consecrated service. Since this is a non-profit faith work, we are confident that God will open the way for the gospel literature to continue going out to the world according to His plan.

—Lawrence Pruitt

## OBITUARIES



Alma Rose Embrey was born Dec. 8, 1910 in Guthrie, Okla. She departed this life January 17, 1969, at the age of 58 years at Guthrie, Okla. Prior to the last several weeks of her sickness, her home was in Lawton, Oklahoma.

During her lingering illness the saints visited her frequently and she often called for prayer. We had hoped that God would heal her. She mentioned how she would like to recover and work for the Lord, but God saw best to call her Home. It is a comfort to us who remain to know that she laid herself at Jesus' feet and trusted in the power of His blood for her salvation.

She leaves to mourn her passing: four sons; Everette Embrey, Gainesville, Texas; Bill Embrey, Muskogee, Okla.; Wilburn Embrey, St. Louis, Mo.; and Gary Embrey, Lawton, Okla.; two daughters, Mrs. Anna Mae Polyak, Farmington, Minn.; and Mrs. Neva Fritz, St. Louis, Mo.; three sisters, Mrs. Minnie White, Guthrie, Okla.; Mrs. Mabel Writesman and Mrs. B. J. Williams, both of Edmond, Okla.; fourteen grandchildren, and other relatives, as well as the saints and other friends.

The funeral services were conducted at the Smith Funeral Home, Guthrie, Okla., by Bro. Willie Murphey. Text: Phil. 2:12. Interment was in the Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie.

Bro. Mack McClendon of Bakersfield, Calif., born April 15, 1919 in Peason, Louisiana, passed away Nov. 23, 1968, in Port Arthur, Texas, at the age of 49 years, 7 months, and 8 days.

Bro. McClendon met the saints of the Church of God and accepted the true gospel. In 1958 he received Christ as his Saviour and served Him faithfully, trusting God

for his healing. The last year of his life he spent in Bakersfield, Calif., worshipping with the saints there.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Era J. Moore of Port Arthur, Texas, three sons: Mack, Jr., Dallas, Texas, Eddie Lee, Compton, Calif., and Robert Lee, Fresno, Calif., 11 grandchildren, four sisters, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

After suffering a stroke, he was taken by his family to Port Arthur, Texas, where he passed away. Funeral services were conducted by Bro. I. C. Chandler on Nov. 30, 1968, at Port Arthur, Texas.

**IN MEMORY of our precious sleeping loved ones,  
Sister Bessie L. Gordon and others**

We're thinking of departed loved ones,  
Who've gone to their sweet home above.  
Once they toiled and labored here—  
To prove to earth a Saviour's love.

They heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Walk in the strait and narrow way."  
No sin, no strife—be in accord;  
And there will be a sure reward.

Our leaders— they have gone before;  
Their earthly toil and work are o'er.  
So in that city fair and bright,  
Let's meet them where there is no night.

—By Ethel K. Miles

**MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA**

Kerala State, S. India (Jan. 10)—Dear Bro. Lawrence Pruitt and other co-workers: New Years greetings to all the brethren in America in the precious name of Jesus Christ who is the ark of salvation.

Thank you for your good letter dated Dec. 13, 1968, and I have noted the contents. Thank you for the kind help and regards.

Thank God, for He is so kind to supply us a new year. Last week we conducted special meetings to give praises to God and to "declare what He hath done for our souls" last year (Psalm 66:16) and also to make decision to go forward with a new spirit, new vigour and increased faith in this new year of 1969.

Last week I visited places like Mepral, Niranam, etc. and we had good fellowship there. Last two weeks the employees of the Kerala State Transport were on strike and so there were no transport bus services throughout Kerala, so I could not visit the northern parts of Kerala yet. Now, the strike has come to an end and so I will start to visit those places tomorrow. May God use me in these places is my prayer.

Brother, though we are few in number, we have faith and hope that the Lord is with us throughout the journey and "His light shall shine upon our ways" (Job 22:28). We believe that one man with God is a majority. If we pray earnestly, the Lord who blessed Jacob will bless us also.

Due to some inconveniences we postponed our convention to January 23 to 26. Please pray for its success.

Enclosed are two copies of the tract, "Art Thou Prepared for Eternity?" in Malayalam which I had printed and I will distribute it in different places. Another tract is at the press which will also be ready in the next week or so. . . .

Our prayers are with you and your labors in America.  
Yours in His service,  
—John Varghese

**MIDWEST NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT**

Midwest Nigeria (Jan. 6)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in the holy name of the Babe of Bethlehem:

When David lost the joy of salvation because of his sin, he prayed earnestly for its restoration. "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." Psalm 51:12. And now none but Christ can restore and satisfy and there is no other name for us. . . .

We received your letter dated December 13, 1968. Its enclosures were noted with thanks. The Abbi congregation will, in a separate dispatch, acknowledge directly to you the gift to help the congregation in their chapel project. It was highly appreciated with thanks unto the Lord.

God reserved the journey to Benin City for me to undertake. Sister Enu actually visited Benin, but was unable to find the present place of worship of the brethren. Then God wonderfully opened the way for me to travel to Benin City on December 21 and I stayed through to the 23rd with the brethren and worshipped with them on Sunday, the 22nd. . . . Many gave thanks unto the Lord for keeping me still alive to be able to pray and preach once again in their midst. . . . The plans of the enemy to scatter the congregation, which God Himself had established, failed woefully. . . . My advice that the two congregations, Benin City and Abbi, should work together was unanimously accepted. I pray that our heavenly Father should bless and guide them. Amen. The peace of the Prince of peace was with me to and fro on the journey.

Faithfully yours in the Master's Service,  
—Titus U. E. Enu, Pastor

**IT ISN'T FAIR**

It isn't fair! It can't be right!  
I now protest with all my might—  
I raise my voice both loud and strong.  
It's wrong, my friend! It's wrong! It's wrong!  
It's wrong, I say, dead wrong, indeed!  
That's why I weep and beg and plead.  
It is a black and wicked sin  
To keep the light from dying men!  
I plead the cause of men afar.  
Unsaved, unloved, untold they are.  
Why have we been so late and slow?  
Why have there been so few to go?  
Unsaved, unsought, and still untold,  
Because we love and hoard our gold!  
How dare we show such selfish greed  
And keep the truth from men in need?  
My Christian friend, can you not see  
That it is wrong and ought to be?  
They don't deserve their heathen night.  
It's wrong if we don't share the light!  
It's wrong at home each passing day  
Two million dollars more to pay  
To build another house of prayer.  
It isn't right! It isn't fair!  
Let's follow Jesus' last command!  
Let's take the light to every land!  
The time is short, the hour is late!  
This truth is plain: the need is great;  
Let's not linger, rest or sleep,  
But rise and go and give and weep!  
And quickly tell a dying race  
Of Jesus' love and power and grace!

—Fred Jarvis

## Prayer Requests



Okla.—Dear office workers, greetings to you: We are still in the battle and pressing on. The odds seem to go against us, but we know our God is still on His throne. We think of the song that says, "Be still, thou soul of mine," and a Bible verse that says, "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." Sometimes the devil would have us to get fidgety while waiting, but God has waiting grace, and we desire more of it.

Bro. Barton has been real, real nervous lately. He has less rest at night. He bleeds a great deal, but we keep trusting and obeying, also are keeping all things committed to Him.

The saints have been having flu, measles, and mumps, so we have to keep the prayer line open. . . .

—Sister Sam Barton

Ind.—Dear Ones in Christ, greetings: . . . My back is better, thank the Lord. My husband is about as usual. Our son and his wife are separated again. They have two sweet little boys. It is such a pity. Scotty will be five years old in January. He is the one who had his leg broken in the car wreck last year. He is having trouble with his other leg (not the one that was broken) shaking. It is terrible. I can't explain it, but God knows what it is and He is able to heal him. One time he passed out. I thought he was dying New Year's Eve. He had two bad spells. Remember all my unsaved children. They need God.

—Sister Lowell Wilson

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in the sweet name of Jesus. . . . We are so thankful for all your prayers for Connie and also the nice get-well card and tracts you sent her. We appreciate the prayers of all the saints. God has blessed her, although she has gone through some terrible sufferings. At times it looked like she would not come through these spells, but God would show mercy and bring her through. She would be out sometimes an hour after she had suffered so severely. Do pray that there will be no more of these attacks. She has been feeling better for several days now and we surely praise God. He has been so good to us and blessed and comforted us so much through all the trials and afflictions of the past few months. Continue to pray for us, and we remember all of you there. Love in Jesus,

—Zella Dollins

Mo.—"We trust the Lord will have mercy and give Clayton a complete healing touch soon. . . . Remember Daddy in prayer. . . . We miss Ruth so much and I cry a lot. . . . My nerves haven't bothered me much. We have lots of burdens right now and need prayer. . . ."

—Sister Eva Lou Gaines.

Calif.—Remember Jim Manuel in prayer. He is in a serious condition.

Ohio—Pray for a "dear lady (65) who is bedfast with a stroke. . . . A young man who is paralyzed from his neck down. He needs to be saved. . . ." —Sister Mary Vice.

Calif.—"I have arthritis of the spine and right arm. . . . My daughter's husband left her with three children. They live with me and have been sick most of the winter. . . . My nerves are very bad." —Mrs. Evelyn Smith.

Pa.—"I have some afflictions. . . . Mother Campbell was very ill. . . . I called on God. She is up now, but very weak." —Sister Eva Cox.

Ark.—"My husband and I are not well. . . . Our boy is in Vietnam." —Pearl Steele.

Texas—"I am alone . . . trials and tests are many. Please pray for me." —Ever Batts.

Ind.—"Having trouble with my gall bladder and stomach." —Sister Mae Hill.

Ohio—"I thank the Lord I can get around with a cane. . . . I'm not able to do any of my house work. Do continue to pray for me." —Sister L. J. Roush.

Mo.—"Pray for my hearing . . . a hearing aid doesn't seem to help." —Sister Dora Modglin.

La.—I am still encouraged and mean to win the victory. Please pray for my family who are unsaved.

A Sister in Christ,

—Sally O'Bryant

Our hearts were touched when we received the following letter and we have sought the Lord earnestly for this dear one. "In tears and pain I beg your help. I turned from sin, and tried to serve God. . . . God does not help me. He permits me nothing but grief, sorrow, pain, beatings beyond which I can bear. . . . Please ask God to move the obstacle that is ruining my life. . . . A big threat has been made on my life." Do pray for this dear one.

Remember Sister Sybil Goldsberry's mother in prayer. She is getting very worn caring for her as she requires constant attention and is failing fast. Her mother is real sweet but she doesn't respond as they wish to spiritual conversation.

Some might say that if they saw a miracle performed they would believe. We read of the days of Jesus: "But though he [Jesus] had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him." (John 12:37.) Some might say that they surely would be healed if they could have lived in the days when Jesus was here. I don't think you would have been healed if you had not believed. Jesus was in His own country among His own kin and it was said of Him, "And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marvelled because of their unbelief." (Mark 6:5, 6.) I am sure that Jesus today marvels at our unbelief. Jesus has told us that "all things are possible to him that believeth." (Mark 9:23.) We need to cry out with tears as the father of the child that came to Jesus and said, "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief." (Mark 9:23.) Jesus did hear his cry and healed his son.

—Sister Marie Miles

## From The Mail Box . . .

Florida—(Jan. 16)—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Marie, greetings in our dear Lord's name: Surely He is good to us and we are so thankful and appreciate the privilege we have in coming boldly to the throne of grace to find help in time of need. Praise the Lord!

We are thankful to the Lord for giving us a safe journey here. I stopped in Alabama and was with the saints there on Sunday. The Lord blessed with a good meeting. Two were at the altar for help. . . .

We also visited some of the dear ones at Taylor Grove. They still need prayer. Bro. Effinger goes out to help them. . . .

Last night (Wednesday) the saints from Goulds, Fla. came over to Sister Savage's home for prayer meeting. We had a good service. I met Bro. Hargrave and others that came with him. . . . They seem very sincere. . . . Bro. Hargrave is to come over Saturday, Lord willing, to get Sister Savage and me to take us to Goulds to be with them in Sunday service. . . . He was very glad for



the literature, especially the tracts. He wants to give out tracts. . . .

We are surely depending on your prayers.

Christian love, —Katherine Williams

Ohio—I received the "Beautiful Way" papers. . . . Our children are enjoying these . . . they are able to understand them in the easy-to-understand teaching you have used. . . . —Mrs. W. Cope

Fla.—Dear Sister Marie—. . . We are enjoying this nice Florida weather. Lloyd has been picking oranges in the afternoons and hasn't gone fishing yet. . . . We have our camper parked at the side of Viola and William's (Weir) trailer house. . . . —Lloyd and Cassie Wilson.

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I got home last night from the Pacoima assembly meeting. I got lots of good from the meeting.

Hope you are well. Use this money as you see fit.

Best wishes and love, —Bro. Guy Littrell

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and workers, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I am encouraged to press on. The Lord is so precious to me. I find the more I humble and submit to Him, the more precious He becomes to me.

I pray God to help me teach my children, not only by word, but also by my life how precious God is. I feel if I fail in my life I have failed completely. Nothing will proclaim God's power and might as much as others being able to see how He has changed our natures and how He gives us grace over things we have never had before. Do pray for me, and, of course, for all parents that in this evil day we will take more earnest heed to our lives. We need to seek God for more wisdom and grace to rear our children in the fear of God. I am ordering some books that I feel will be of a great help to me. Please keep what is left over for the Lord's work. God bless each of you and give strength, grace, and health to carry on His work this new year.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister Lavern Moles

Ill.—Dear Sister Pruitt, I want to tell you how God answered prayer. Linda, my daughter, called me Friday afternoon to ask us to pray for little Chris and for Bunnie. They both were sick with fevers. . . . She was a little fearful, so sent her husband to get us (22 miles). When we arrived Bunnie's fever was 103 degrees and Chris' had gone to 106 degrees. I decided it would be good to call you. It was good to hear your voice and your quick assurance that you would pray, also. Chris' fever stayed up for awhile and then began to go down slowly. About 10:45 A. M. I decided we should go home. Bunnie's fever was gone and Chris' was 102. I told Linda I believed he would be all right, but if he got worse to call us and I'd call you again. On the way home I told Linda's husband I believed Chris had a bad case of tonsillitis, but I believed he would be all right. The little fellow would not drink anything much and it was probably because his throat was so sore. He had a little dry raspy cough at times and his mouth and throat were very dry.

Linda called Sunday evening about 7:00 P. M. She said Chris' fever had gone down to normal but at that time it was back up to 100 degrees. Bunnie was doing fine. We thanked the Lord for what He had done. . . .

We do thank you for your faithfulness in praying. It is good to have someone to stand with us, and I do appreciate you so very much. God bless you everyone!

My only desire is to please God and serve Him always. How good it is to serve one who is able to do exceeding, abundantly over all we can think or ask!

With Christian love,

—Thelma Sprague

Ohio—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of love: Surely we do thank the dear Lord this morning for His many benefits to us. Oh, how we do love Him today! This leaves us with a desire in our hearts to live for the Lord.

Words could never express how much we thank the dear Lord for what He has done for our baby. He hasn't had a sick spell since Oct. 8, which is wonderful. This is the longest it has been since they started a year ago on Nov. 30. We feel like the dear Lord has healed him, although we know the enemy hears this testimony, too. We know we still have the power to rebuke Satan according to the Word of God. We do feel so unworthy of this, but do thank Him so much.

Also we thank the dear saints for what they have meant to us at this time, and surely thank each and everyone, and may God bless you for your interest in us. We surely love God's dear people. Praise the Lord! We feel real good in our souls today. Surely we want to prove true and faithful to our blessed Saviour.

Christian love,

—Della and Johnny Gutwein

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie, I feel like I have so much to be thankful for the past year. Surely the Lord has been good to me.

I have had quite a bit of stomach trouble. It seemed to be ulcers or something. I could eat very few things without it hurting me terribly. I was anointed one Sunday at Myrtle, Mo. and I didn't have any more trouble for a long time, then it seemed like the real trials started coming. I had a hard battle but I am thankful the Lord brought me through with more of a determination to press on for the Lord.

After we moved here to Senath, Mo. I found that some of the things I thought easy were pretty hard. I had a hard time getting adjusted to everything here and it brought a lot of discouragements. I would just get over one trial or battle and another one would come. But I feel like it all was for my good as well as others.

I'm glad I can say I am thankful for my trials as well as my victories. I desire prayer that I will keep encouraged and be able to be an example to the world and a help to others.

Love and prayers,

—Jeanie Allen

Texas—Dear Sister Miles, I greet you in Jesus' sweet name. I love Him. He is so good to me.

Our car was in very bad shape before I started to Guthrie for the assembly meeting. I had been praying for God to make a way for us to go. When Ed told me I could drive the car to the meeting I felt like God had made the way, so with faith in God that He would keep the car running we left. I felt the Lord's blessings upon me all the way there and back. We didn't have any trouble, thanks be to God our Father.

God healed me last summer at the meeting at Monark Springs (Neosho), Mo. I had suffered for thirteen years. I could hardly sit on a hard surface very long. I had some kind of growth that caused me much pain. Well, thank God, it is all gone. I can sit as long as I want to on hard or soft places and do not have any pain at all. It is all gone. Oh, I do praise my God for healing me!



The devil tried to tell me at that time that I wasn't healed, but even though I still hurt I knew He had healed me. I told others He had. I believed it and it was so. I give God all the praise. I am so glad I am saved and know the truth. I love the saints of God. I am so happy when I can be with them.

God has answered prayer. He promised me the money to fix up my car. It has been down for seven months. I have a 1955 Buick my oldest son gave me.

May God bless you and all the dear saints there. Please pray for all of us.

—Helen Lambright

Wash.—Dear Sister Miles, greetings in Jesus' precious name: I wish to tell you how the Lord is blessing me. He has touched my body and I am feeling much better. Glory to God!

I have been passing out the little booklet, "Jesus Is Coming Again" to everyone who wants to read it. Five people are reading it now and they all tell me how much good they are receiving from it. I could give away or lend many more of the booklets. I do hope you will continue to print them.

I am not young any more. I am 78 years old and can't go to meetings, but I still love the Lord.

I am sending you a donation to help in the work. May God bless and help you in your faithful task of getting out the true gospel of the church of God. I have never joined a church. I was saved in a little homestead shack in Montana when I was 22 years old. . . .

May God bless and be with you.

—Mrs. Lula Mae Gustafson

Okl.—Dear Saints, greetings in Jesus name: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." Psa. 133.

This question is asked even today—Where can one find this kind of unity and this kind of people? I had thought upon this for many years before I found the saints of God. But since I have found them I have found that sweet fellowship of unity and love for one another. Oh, how I pray and ask my heavenly Father to keep it this way!

Dear ones, misunderstanding will surely arise from time to time, but prayer and a love for each other will solve these little problems along life's way. God said He would have a tried people, and I believe it to be so.

We want to thank God for the leadings of the Holy Spirit, and for taking care of us. We are truly thankful that we are learning more how to trust the Lord as we travel this life's journey.

We were thankful we knew how to trust in the Lord a few weeks ago when I was bitten by a spider on my right foot. I became very ill. My wife called my two sisters and our daughter and her husband, Mike. Before Mike read James 5:13, he said, "If there be any in this room who don't believe this way, please leave the room." As they prayed I was in such pain, but I went to sleep. Praise God! The Lord healed me.

We want to let all the saints know about our little chapel here in Nowata. This is a new work here and we desire the prayers of the saints that it will be a place where God is pleased. We were happy to have Brother and Sister Eck from Arkansas with us. Sister Eck brought a wonderful message Sunday night, Jan. 12. Some of the

saints from Coffeyville were with us. We were glad to have them as well as seven of the saints from West Cabin. We want every saint of God to feel free to worship with us, regardless of race or color. Our chapel is located on the corner of Cedar and Fairview, Nowata, Okla.

Your Brother in Christ,

—Clarence Fry

Colo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere, greetings in the wonderful name of our blessed Lord and Savior: He has been so good to me. He saved me from sin, sanctified me, gave me a desire to help others, and I learned to trust Him for the healing of my body. On Nov. 12 I was afflicted with sciatic pains in my left hip that became severe. After Nov. 15 I stayed in bed for 18 days, but all the time I was praying God to heal me. I called Bro. Pruitt's home and asked for prayer. I would not trust any doctor, although several persons wanted me to let them call one. I had prayed the Lord that when He was ready I was ready to get up and go to work for His glory, and on the morning of the 19th day He said, "This is the day for you to get up and stay up." I got up with only minor pains and sat in my chair until 9:00 p. m., 14 hours the first day, and I haven't laid down during the day since. Oh, I praise the Lord for His great compassion and power to heal all who call upon Him in sincerity. Sometimes He lets us suffer for His glory.

I suffered more severe pains during this affliction than I have had in my 82 years of life. I thank God for the health He gave me, and this affliction was only a test to see if I would be true to what I believe, but I'll never cease to praise Him. He has done so much for me, and no matter what others do, I'm going through with Him. Praise His name!

Is the medicine habit any more honorable to the indulging person than the cigarette habit? May God fill us with His Spirit till we will trust Him completely.

Yours in Christ's service,

—Fred B. Allen

Ark.—Dear Ones at the Print Shop, greetings in Jesus' great name this beautiful morning: Another day is here that the Lord has made for us in which to live for Him. Praise be to our true and living God forever. Oh, how good He is—merciful and long suffering toward all mankind! How we ought to love and serve Him! It is a blessed life to live for Him. His peace and comfort are with us at all times, also healing for our bodies when sickness comes. I am thankful we can love and trust Him and not be afraid. His promises are sure if we trust and obey.

I am enclosing an offering to help in the gospel work. I pray God to bless both it and you, so we all can do more in this new year. We desire to help some dear souls to find God and live for His glory. Remember me as I do you and God will be with us.

With love,

—Sister N. E. Adams

Calif.—Dear Saints of God, greetings in the name of Jesus: I am very much encouraged to live for Him, for He has shown Himself strong in my behalf many times since I have been saved. He has been my Healer and He keeps me saved. I know He can change the leper's spots because He took hatred out of my heart and put love in. I found out for myself that God can make changes in one's heart, because He has done it for me. I praise His great name.

My first time to work in the dining hall—a place the Lord seemed to open for me—was during the last assembly meeting at Pacoima, Calif. What a joy it was feeding God's people! It didn't matter how hard I worked,

it gave me much happiness to be serving the Lord. I am grateful for all those who worked with me to make it successful. It seemed the Lord surely did bless in every way. I became ill the first Saturday but the Lord came to my rescue and healed me. I have been well ever since. Praise His dear name!

Please pray for me that the Lord will keep me humble in my heart and listening for His voice.

Desiring to please God, —Sister Elizabeth Freeman

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

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie: The "Faith and Victory" paper came yesterday. I guess before bedtime I read every word. I do appreciate it. It is like some saints coming in for a visit and talking on spiritual subjects. . . . God's dealings with me are precious of late, although painful. [She had pneumonia and had been very ill after the first of the year. The saints there were so precious to care for her little girls and help them.] Yes, I believe it is just the devil giving us a time, but of course the Lord is permitting it. Yesterday morning I was suffering with this pain in my right chest with every breath and Leslie was in the living room praying. All of a sudden I had no more pain. I turned over and took a deep breath and no pain. So I began praising God and got right out of the bed. I called several of the saints here in the congregation to be sure they rejoiced, too. But by noon [after she had done some things] I began suffering again. . . . I had Leslie open the window for more fresh air. About 3:30 A. M. I was up and I told the Lord that by faith I was going back to bed and I was relieved a lot of the pain and slept until morning. . . . Please keep me before the Lord. . . . —Sylvia Busbee

(Since she wrote this, she has her children with her and is doing much better but is very weak in body. Still remember her in prayer.)

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

Kansas—Dear "Faith and Victory" readers: I would like to testify how the Lord brought me through a very severe illness. The pain and suffering was so great and it seemed I might be called from this life any moment. But all glory and honor to God, He spared my life to be with my family. Oh, that I might be able to serve the blessed Lord more!

I feel a call to teach children God's Word. Pray that the Lord will make a way, and will lead me to know His will more fully. I am not completely well yet and still need your prayers. However, the Lord has brought me through the crisis and I am getting stronger. Blessed be the name of the Lord forever! —Your Sister

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

Oregon—Dear Sister Marie: I greet you in Jesus' dear name. I can report victory in my soul and a determination, by God's help, to be all He would have me to be. I surely do love the Lord. He is all in all to me. He is my comfort and my strength from day to day. I do praise His dear name.

The saints are all pretty well. Last Tuesday night at prayer meeting at Jefferson everyone there testified. We really had a good meeting.

May the Lord bless you there. —Sister Emma Busch

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

Mo.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings of Christian love in the precious name of Jesus: I hope and trust all is going well with you and all the workers at the printshop. I can say this leaves me saved and encouraged to press on.

I just felt like it might be to the glory of God to give my testimony to the saints through the paper. I am rejoicing for the good that I received through attending the different meetings this winter. I was privileged to at-

tend the Hammond, La. assembly meeting. I enjoyed it very much. I felt the real presence of God in the meeting and enjoyed the truths that went forth, both in songs and in preaching. I enjoyed meeting the saints there again, some of whom I hadn't seen for over twenty years. It seemed good to see them still standing true. I brought much good back home with me from the meeting.

Next, I was privileged to attend the Guthrie, Okla., assembly meeting. This I also enjoyed and received much good from the meeting. Surely the Lord is able to feed our souls if we keep our hearts in tune with Him.

Then for my first time I was privileged to attend the assembly meeting at Pacoima, Calif. This I enjoyed very much. I enjoyed meeting with the different saints there, some I had met before and some I hadn't. I enjoyed the good preaching that I heard there, and also the early morning prayer meeting. I love all the saints and want to do what I can to encourage them.

Jesus told Peter if he loved Him "more than these," to feed His sheep. I believe I can say that I love God with all my heart and I believe He has said to me, "Feed my sheep." I feel the Lord has laid a burden on me to feed His sheep. I want to be faithful to God. I feel the Lord has shown me by His Spirit one thing that He wants us all to do, and it is needful if we want to have a part with Jesus in the harvesting of precious souls. I have a burden on my heart that I am sure the Lord has laid there concerning souls being fed.

In Ezekiel 34:23, the prophet said, "And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd." This is a direct prophecy of Jesus, God's Son, feeding the Church of God. But remember He (Jesus) told Peter to feed His sheep. Peter told others to feed the "flock of God." 1 Peter 5:2. God called Paul to feed His sheep. (Acts 26:13-23.) Paul charged the elders at Ephesus to feed the church of God which He had purchased with His own blood. Then Paul said in Eph. 4:8, 11-16, "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. . . . And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." So we see that God feeds His church through Holy Ghost-filled ministers, pastors, teachers, and saints. (Acts 20:28.)

In Hebrews 2:3, 4, we read, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?"

Before a man or woman is fit to be a vessel of any kind for God, he or she must be washed from his or her sins in the precious blood of Christ. (Rev. 1:5) Then he must consecrate his whole life to God, including self and then just be a vessel for the Holy Ghost to use as

He sees best. Acts 2:4; 2 Cor. 4:5-7; 2 Tim. 2:21; Isa. 52:11; 66:20.

We have a beautiful picture of Christ feeding the people or His sheep in St. John 6:5 to 14. "When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" There was a lad there who had five barley loaves and two small fishes. But what were they among so many? "And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would." Here Christ was feeding the people, but it was through His disciples. I want us to notice the lesson. The lad gave all he had, but before it could bless the multitude it had to get into the hands of Jesus. If more people would get what they have into Jesus' hands today, He could feed and bless the hungry multitudes. We must do this if we would have Jesus to bless our lives, and bless others through our lives. It was very little that these helpless disciples could do toward feeding the multitude, only as they got what they had into Jesus' hands. So it is with us today. Jesus cannot use us unless we become as clay in the potter's hands. Jesus put so much value upon souls that He shed His precious blood for them and gave His life for them. So now He wants to do the feeding of them by putting this same love and truth into our hearts that He had in His. 2 Cor. 4:6.

Have you turned from all your ways? And have you put yourself into Jesus' hands and are you letting Him work in and through you to the will of His good pleasure? Phil. 2:13, Heb. 13:20, 21. Do you love souls? Do you love God? If so, I believe you will do this.

Jesus blessed the loaves and gave thanks. Will you let Him bless your life, so He can bless others?

With Christian love, —T. V. McMillian

## A Voice From Hell

Scripture basis, Luke 16:27, 28

Eternity bound soul, on your hurried march to the grave, hear me! As you are, so I was. As I am, you will be. Yesterday, under the sun, I planned, I worked, I hoped. All was vanity. (Eccl. 1:2) I ate, drank, and was merry. (Luke 12:19.) I sought pleasures. I gratified passion. I set my heart on riches, ambition spurred me on. This also was vanity. My place under the sun another occupies. What I gathered, another scatters. My love, my hate, my mirth, my desires, my interests have all perished. My portion in anything under the sun has gone forever. (Eccl. 9:6.) How foolish I was and ignorant. (Psa. 73:22.) I was a mad man. The sinner is spiritually dead and morally insane. I lived as if eternity would never arrive and time would never end. I traveled the road to hell. Too soon I arrived. I lived as a fool, and I died as a fool. (2 Sam. 3:33.) I labored and planned only for time. I built bird's nests. I spurned eternal life for worldly folly. How the memory of it mocks me now! Death cured me, but too late. You have guessed it, I am a lost soul! I wasted salvation's day. (2 Cor. 6:2.) I have missed it. (Heb. 2:3.) Probation is past. (Rev. 22:11.) My destiny

is unalterably fixed. I must reap the sad fate of my choice. (Gal. 6:7.) Eternal remorse and eternal fire are my portion. (Mark 9:44.) My sun of hope has set forever.

I was too busy to prepare for death, but I was not too busy to die. Death, the inevitable, certainly came. (Heb. 9:27.) He came too soon. Had I only been prepared! (Amos 4:12.) The scales dropped from my eyes. Indifference vanished forever. (Mark 8:36.) Oh! for more time! Too late, I thought of my poor, lost soul. (Luke 12:20.) Oh! could the living know and feel what the dead know and feel, none would come to this dread place. Unprepared, unwilling to die, I could not hold the dread monster off. I could not resist his icy breath. Pitilessly and irresistibly he struck with his dart. Now I know the world is the devil's vanity-fair where he barter worthless baubles for the souls of men; where Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage; and Judas sold his Lord for thirty pieces of silver. Oh! for what trifles men damn their priceless souls. With siren voices, the world, the flesh and the devil bid for your soul. It will give you pleasure, riches, whatever you desire; all in exchange for your soul.

Now I know the devil blinded my spiritual vision with worldly lust. (2 Cor. 4:3, 4.) Too late, I opened my eyes in hell. (Luke 16:23.) What a revelator death is! Hell is truth seen too late. Heaven is in the open sight of hell. (Luke 16:23.) Hell is a vision of having lost Christ and heaven and one's own soul. Now I know hell is more than a jest and a by-word; it is a real world. Oh, if the grave were only the end! Alas, it is but the beginning. (Matt. 10:28.) My mortal body died. (2 Cor. 5:1.) My immortal soul lives on. My identity survives. I think, I feel, I remember. (Luke 16:25.) I am in hell and in torment. (Luke 16:23.) My eternal wail has begun. Had I only heeded God's Word. (Luke 16:31.) Now I know there is a heaven to gain, a hell to shun, and a never-dying soul to save. My former life on earth is a dream. Alas! I will never wake from this. Hell is an eternal nightmare. I must be in eternity a lost soul. Alas! it will never be spent. Eternity has no end; else it would not be eternity. Hell prays, but never an answer. The mercy we spurned has fled forever. The conviction for sin we stifled has turned into the never-dying worm of endless remorse. Nevermore an offer of redeeming grace. Our damnation is irremediable. Saddest of all, what might have been, now never can be.

I was a worldling. I loved the world. (1 John 2:15.) Foolishly I yielded to its lure. I preferred earthly things to heavenly. My heart was in the world and God was not in my thoughts. The movies, the card tables, the wine cup, the tobacco-god, and the dance floor are open doors to hell. Worldly dissipation crowded out love for God. I wanted a good time. Away with scruples! Away with restraint! Warning and rebuke fell on deaf ears. I did not want to be awakened from my fool's paradise. Where's the harm? Let me go on and enjoy myself, was the foolish cry of my poor deceived soul. (Luke 12:19.) I sealed

my own doom. (Gal. 6:7.) I made my bed in hell. (Psa. 139:8.) I now reap what I sowed. (Rom. 6:23.) My good times are gone forever. (Luke 16:25.) The light has gone out. The broad way (worldliness) has an end. Its end is death. (Matt. 7:13.) Worldliness damned my soul. You can't walk with God and run with the world. (2 Tim. 4:10.) You can't go to heaven from the haunts of sin. Friendship of the world is enmity with God. (James 4:4.) I loved pleasure more than God. (2 Tim. 3:4.)

I was no infidel. I joined a worldly church on profession of faith, but I never experienced salvation. No change was wrought in my heart or life. My worldliness continued unchecked. The church I joined was a popular church, liberal in its views and walked hand in hand with the world. (John 17:14.) There was no fanaticism, no cranks, only safe and sane preaching according to hell's verdict. Our preacher was a fine mixer and very tactful. Nothing spiritual or sanctimonious ever disturbed or embarrassed us, worldly as we were. He never offended or meddled. He left us contented in our sins and undisturbed in our worldliness. Worldly churches and worldly church members delight the devil. They give respectability to institutions that are damning souls, and thereby lose their own souls. Hell laughs at the sight. If church members would cease patronizing and supporting movies, dancing, tobacco and drink, these things would soon be outlawed and cease to exist.

What church I joined, matters not. I now know that no church saves, only personal faith in Jesus. Acts 4:12. One can go religiously to hell. (Prov. 16:25.) Denominational distinctions never go beyond the grave. When you die, you cease being Protestant, Catholic, or Jew. You are only a saved or a lost soul. Human church membership is not a passport to heaven. The true church, of which Christ is the head. (Col. 1:8) is spiritual, composed of the first-born, whose names are written in heaven. (Heb. 12:23.) Only born-again persons possess eternal life. Professing religion without experiencing salvation is a snare and a delusion. I never expected to be lost. I was moral according to my standards. I was no saint; yet I thought I was too good to be damned. Now I know my morality was only a form of self-righteousness, in which I took secret pride. (Luke 18:11.) How blind I was! Our worldly preachers could not help us. Their gospel was merely a social gospel, that hell scorned and heaven lamented over. (Jer. 6:14.) Real sin was never denounced. (Isa. 58:1.) Holiness was despised and ignored. (1 Thess. 4:7, 8.) They never taught us the Bible teaching on holiness. (1 Pet. 1:16; Heb. 12:14.) They were not sent of God. (Jer. 23:21.) Instead of the bread of life, they gave us stones of formality. We never got blessed in our souls. It was human religion only and nothing divine. We paid them well to damn our souls. (2 Pet. 2:3.) They baptized us, gave us communion, married, and buried us. They gave us beautiful services, aesthetic sermons, but they did not give us the joy of sins forgiven, the Spirit's witness, and the peace of God. How could they? The husbandman must be first

partaker of the fruits. (2 Tim. 2:6.) A worldly preacher is a tool of the devil. A worldly church is a sleeper to hell. How blind I was! Jesus was right. If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. (Matt. 15:14.)

Though we never knew what it meant to be saved, those worldly preachers never addressed us as lost. They never preached us under conviction for sins. We never entered into life. (John 17:3.) We never humbled ourselves in penitence before God (Luke 13:3) crying, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). Forms and ceremonies we knew; but we were strangers to grace. We had no testimony of sins forgiven, no witness of the Spirit to any work of grace wrought in our hearts. (Rom. 8:16.) My religion was Christless. I never found Jesus. I never experienced the joy of salvation, and like many others cried, "How can these things be?"

Now I know that to die in sin is to be lost. (John 8:21.) Dying does not change character. To die right, live right. Dying grace is living grace. The Gospel is not security in sin, but God's cure for sin. My hope was the hope of a hypocrite (Job 8:13), that a sinning religion will take one to heaven, and it perished. How strange so many call Jesus, "Lord, Lord," who do not obey Him. (Luke 6:46.) They built on sand, their house will fall. (Matt. 7:24-27.) As He disowned me, so will He disown all unholy professors. (Matt. 7:22, 23.) What sin is damning your soul? Stop it! "The wages of sin is death."

To whomever may read: Destiny awaits you. There is but a step between you and death. (1 Sam. 20:3.) Prepare to meet thy God. (Amos 4:12) Where will you be in eternity? Tomorrow may be too late. (2 Cor. 6:2.) God's Word sets before you life or death (Deut. 30:15), heaven or hell, Christ or the world, holiness or sin. Which will it be? (Joel 3:14.) As for me, the harvest is past, summer is ended. (Jer. 8:20.) My soul is lost. I have missed my greatest opportunity. I am suffering my greatest loss, nevermore rest or peace for me. Only weeping and gnashing of teeth abide. (Matt. 13:42.) There is a way to keep out of hell. (Matt. 3:7.) There is no way out, once in. Today grace pleads, "Turn ye . . . why will ye die?" God wills it not. (2 Pet. 3:9.) Fly in penitence to the cross and to Him who hung thereon. All other roads lead to hell. (Luke 19:10.)

—A. A. Ronshausen

The sweet verdant graces from the fields of heaven are implanted in the Christian's heart by God where they bud and blossom and send forth a mighty stream of fragrance throughout the world.

How heavenly to launch out upon the stream of time and say in our hearts: "Lord, direct my bark of life whithersoever Thou wilt. All is in Thy hands. I am fully Thine. Cause my bark to turn at the slightest pressure of Thy will. Thy will is my life; my only pleasure is in doing it."

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## God Calls You To Be Wholly Sanctified

That it is the will of God for every believer to be wholly sanctified is plainly taught in the Word of God. In I Thess. 4:3, we read, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication." In the first few verses of the fifth chapter of Romans the apostle writes of us as first being justified by faith and then speaks of us as having access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, causing us to rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. In the first chapter of Ephesians, Paul speaks of our trusting in God after we heard the Word of truth, which is the gospel of salvation, and then he goes on to say, "in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise." You note in this writing that we were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise after we believed. Sanctification is for those who have repented, believed, and have peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

When we are sanctified we receive an earnest of our inheritance, just a small portion which gives us assurance until the redemption of this body which is His purchased possession. We are purchased by His blood (Acts 20:28) and when sanctified wholly His Spirit possesses us, and then we await the redemption of the body, when this decaying body will be changed and fashioned like unto His glorious body. Phil. 3:21.

Jesus, when praying for His disciples, said, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17. In the 19th verse He says, "For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified." He meant that He consecrated Himself to die on the cross and there pay the penalty of sin and deliver us from the curse by being made a curse for us. Gal. 3:13. Faith in the blood of Jesus will cleanse us from the defilement of Satan, take the very root of sin out of our souls, and our consciences will be purged from dead works to serve the living God. When we are purged by His blood and that sin nature is taken out, we will have no more consciousness of sin. Read Hebrews 9:14 and 10:14.

Incorporated in the word "salvation" is justification and also sanctification. God never intended for one to stop short of going on to perfection (Heb. 6:1) or being sanctified wholly. Our salvation is never complete until we are sanctified and have the Holy Spirit living in us, which is the earnest of our inheritance. We are cleansed from sin and Satan's pollutions by faith in the blood of Christ. We are sanctified by the Holy Ghost, so says the Apostle Paul in Rom. 15:16. When the Holy Ghost comes in, He sets us apart for His sacred use, dwells in us as an earnest of the Spirit, leading us and guiding us into all truth (John 16:13), and giving us power to witness for the Lord.

We are justified by faith and then we are sanctified by faith in the work that Jesus has completed for us. In order to get justified, we first become very sorry (2 Cor. 7:10) because we have transgressed

the laws of God, and then we repent, asking God to forgive us of all sin, promising Him to quit sinning by His help; and by faith in the blood of Jesus our actual sins are blotted out, and then we have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. 5:1. As we go on living for God, we will find that there is a sin nature in us, a planting of Satan that troubles us and hinders us. It is an impurity in the heart. When we read the Word of God, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God," (Matt. 5:8) and also what Jesus says, "I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified," then we long to be cleansed from all defilement of Satan, and we look to the Lord with faith believing, and God is faithful to do the work.

God has planned this for us all down through the ages. Zechariah, speaking of this gospel day, says, "In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness." You will notice that he speaks that it is first for sin and then for uncleanness.

In the fifteenth chapter of Luke we have a record of the prodigal son getting saved, and we find that he first comes to himself, or, in other words, begins to realize what a great sinner he really is, and then he begins to repent and says, I will go to my Father and confess. So he puts the decision in action and arises and goes. The father saw him, and he ran to meet him, threw his arms around him and planted a kiss upon his brow. Surely the son feels safe and forgiven while in the father's arms, and thus this is typical of our justification, but he does not stop at that. For the father leads him to the house and tells the servant to kill the fatted calf. (The Spirit will lead us into sanctification.) He puts the ring on his hand, which denotes eternal love, puts shoes on his feet (shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace) and brings forth the best robe and puts on him. Sanctification by the Lord Jesus Christ is the best robe.

Sanctification is a thorough, complete work, and our salvation is never complete until we are cleansed and filled with the Holy Ghost. It is a preserving element that preserves and keeps us free from sin and gives us power to witness for Jesus.

In I Thess. 5:22-24 Paul exhorts us to, "Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." When we are sanctified wholly, it includes our spirit, soul, and body. If our whole spirit, soul, and body are preserved blameless, for God is faithful to do it, I want to ask: How much of it would be left to sin?

Brethren and sisters, let us go on to perfection, for this is the will of God, even your sanctification.

—By the late Fred Pruitt

The Apostle asked certain believers at Ephesus: "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?"

## Social Drinking—Is It Worth the Risk?

This is a question that a large number of people are confronted with today. Teen-agers must answer it if they wish to be "one of the crowd." Those seeking jobs must consider it, because many employers feel that their employees, as well as themselves, must mingle with all types of people. Older couples face it because they must keep up with their group. They seem to feel that by parties and social drinking they can hang on to their youth. Many rich consider it a matter of good taste to serve cocktails, while the poor hope to gain more social prestige if they try to act as the rich do. On second thought, I do not believe that many even stop to consider the risk involved.

Teen-agers have only to look at the examples of those who at first were popular and the life of the party, but have gone from a social drink to the habitual drink. Where is their popularity? Parents no longer consider them fit company for their sons and daughters. I hear many protests: "Oh! but I can control my drinking." No doctor will verify the fact that anyone will be able to stop drinking whenever he wishes. It is true that some can; but statistics show that one out of nine casual drinkers becomes an alcoholic.

Workers and employers should take a long hard look at records of workers (175,000 each day) off the job because of drinking—plus the many who lose their jobs because their social drinking is no longer under control.

Older people say, "We won't become alcoholics; we are wiser and have had too much experience for that. Look at skid row, or in any local community. Are there any older derelicts there? I think the answer is plain to all. Age is no barrier to alcoholism. Rich and poor alike suffer the same cell damage from the use of alcohol. Many awake to find that the people they wanted to impress most by their drinking couldn't care less.

Who then profits from the use of alcoholic beverages? The state? Again look at the statistics. "For every dollar received in liquor tax, four dollars and eighty-two cents are spent for court cases, jail and welfare costs." Surely that cannot be considered profitable business—not to mention the heartache and sorrow of those involved. It certainly cannot be said that children gain any good from their parents' use of alcohol. Broken homes are much too numerous; and many are forced to go hungry so that the money can be spent for liquor. Ask the loved ones of those killed because of drink, if they advocate its use. Ask those who, because their minds were dulled by its effect, have caused death to others, if the remorse they suffer is worth the so-called pleasure.

Much more could be said from man's point of view; but let us look at the highest authority of all—God's Word. In Proverbs 23:29, 30 we read: "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at

the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine." Prov. 20:1 reads: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

As a young person, I am fully convinced that social drinking is not worth the risk.

—Alan Vandenbos

## The Consolation of Israel

"And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Luke 2:25-32. This man was waiting for the consolation of Israel. This was to be brought to pass in the Lord's Christ, and the Holy Spirit pointed out to this man the little child that was brought into the temple that day by Mary and Joseph as the Christ. To this just and devout man the babe was the salvation of God for all nations on the face of the earth and the means of triumph for the Israel of God.

The word consolation means "solace, or comfort." There would be no need of consolation were there no sorrow or distress. The history of the Israel of God is no bright picture. As a nation among the nations of the world it went from bad to worse. To the Jew of olden time there was but one bright spot in his heart during the years of humiliation and captivity. And that was the promise of the Messiah, the Christ, who would be King on David's throne and rule as Sovereign over Israel forever. When Zedekiah was dethroned from Jerusalem by the army of Babylon and the children of Israel were carried captive into Babylon, Israel was a separate and independent nation no more. No more of the sons of David fell heir to the rule of Israel. Even when Israel returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt their temple and city they were not restored to the kingdom that they had once been before.

While all this shame and humiliation was taking place and foreseen, God was speaking by the mouths of His prophets of a better day. Isaiah prophesied of One who would say: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to



comfort all that mourn; to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified." Isa. 61:1, 2. All of this was pointing to one who would come and take away the reproach of Israel, dry their tears, and make them the planting of the Lord. Many things were spoken of this promised Saviour, and the Israelite people were well acquainted with the sacred writings of such. Each succeeding generation hoped to be a witness of the fulfillment of all these wonderful things. Think what such a prophecy of this meant to Israel of that time: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. . . . And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth." Micah 5:2, 4. Close scrutiny of the sacred writings disclose great anticipation of the fulfillment of God's great promise to Israel. Some people have the idea that the Old Testament is not for us today to study and read. But how else are we going to really know the need of mankind for a Messiah except as is recorded in the Scriptures? The Old Testament writings point out the condition of mankind and his desperate need of a Saviour. Only those who were enlightened by the light of these prophecies truly received with joy the Messiah when He did appear, even as Simeon did that day in the temple.

The root of Israel's trouble was the nature of sin. The Messiah was to be the one who would "save His people from their sins." Matt. 1:21. "And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord." Isa. 59:20. Yes, the scriptures described to the weary heart the Deliverer, mighty to save, who would "bear our griefs and carry our sorrows." Isa. 53:4. Oh, how the world needs this Saviour! What a consolation to the people of God to believe in the promise of such a One!

God, through His prophets, made wonderful exceeding great and precious promises concerning the future state of Zion, the city of God. One of these we want to notice especially at this point is that of Isa. 54:13 which says, "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." Reading again in Isa. 52:1 he said: "For henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean." These promises teach us the state of Zion under the grace and rule of the Messiah. Under the control of Christ, He, as the Door, (John 10:9) would permit entrance only to those who approached in humility and repentance of heart and life. Notice how Christ applied this prophecy of Isaiah in John 6:44, 45, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent

me draw Him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me." The statement has been made, and is true, that through Christ we must come to God. But it is also true, as these scriptures reveal, that we come to Christ only through God. These are the only people who can be received of the Lord Jesus; those who are taught the fear of God according to the scriptures and have sensed the reality of God, His love, His fear, and His grace. In this was to be a great consolation to Israel, in that the great cause of her downfall and ruin was because of those of her ranks who turned their backs on the fear of God. But here the prophet promises that Zion under the Christ would give no entrance to such people. This was a great source of comfort to the preserved of Israel who sought to maintain the fear of God in the midst of false brethren.

Thus we see that the real consolation of Israel was the Messiah, Jesus Christ, the Son of God; and the Temple, Church, or Congregation that He would build and gather. The great difficulty with the Jews concerning these prophecies was what it visualized to their expectation. And to many it was nothing at all like what they expected, because their vision was not Spirit-enlightened like Simeon's. Their thoughts took in a lot of fleshly ideas and notions concerning the rule of Christ. But to the meek and lowly, to the "babes" was revealed the great Consolation of Israel when He appeared. Instead of literally taking the throne of David as they supposed He would, the Man who claimed to be Christ was crucified on Golgotha's hill. Instead of exalting Israel from servitude and captivity of Rome, Jesus of Nazareth went about their coasts meekly teaching the multitudes of the common people who flocked to hear Him. But to the "Israelites indeed in whom there was no guile" such as Nathanael, He was "the Son of God, the King of Israel"! John 1:46-51. Instead of rebuilding the temple after the fashion of Moses, Christ preached to the people a "spiritual house" "not made with hands." Instead of giving them bread from heaven like God did by Moses, Jesus preached that He Himself was the living Bread. John 6:34, 35. Jesus preached "a Jew inwardly" and "children of Abraham doing the works of Abraham." Rom. 2:29. John 8:39. To this, the blinded hearts of the nation of Israel could never conform. And thus they rejected Him even as one of their own rank testified later after he became converted. "Of this man's seed God according to His promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus . . . For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew Him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they [the Jews] have fulfilled them [the prophecies] in condemning Him [Christ]." Acts 13:23-27.

But, oh, how we rejoice that the consolation of Israel has come! The wise men were informed of His birth as King of the Jews, and the lowly shepherds heard the glorious message from the angels,



But He has come to save to the uttermost. He purchased for Himself a spotless bride. By His suffering, death, and resurrection, He purchased and redeemed unto God a new Israel, a host of men and women of all nations. We are now the Israel of God, having been born of the Spirit and abiding in the faith of Christ. Israel is no longer confined to the human descendants of Abraham. Now the Gentiles of the world, all nations and tongues, can share in this wonderful grace. And now we that rejoice in this consolation (Acts 15:31) can say with Simeon: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." —Leslie Busbee

### Danger Ahead!

A man said the other day, "If you were more like Jesus you would preach more about heaven and less about hell."

Let us have the truth. Jesus spoke in description of hell while on earth thirteen times, of heaven only once. You would think by the way some people talk that they had more love for their fellowman than the Lord Jesus Christ had. He who was love itself, for God is love, so loved that He gave Himself for man's salvation. Is it a mark of love to hide the truth from men because it is awful?

Listen, dear reader, to these words from the Son of God, who came all the way from heaven and died on the cruel tree to save you from hell.

Of the wicked, He said, "Them which do iniquity, He shall cast into a furnace of fire; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." Matt. 13:41, 42.

To the careless and indifferent, he said: "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment." Matt. 25:41, 46.

To the unsaved professors, He said, "Cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matt. 25:30.

To religious hypocrites, He said, "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" Matt. 23:33.

To those who permit the affairs of this life to hinder them, He said, "It is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched, where their worm [accusing conscience] dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9:43, 44.

Of the rich man who forgot God, He said, "In hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, . . . and cried, I am tormented in this flame." Luke 16:22-24.

"Because there is wrath, beware lest He take thee away with his stroke; then a great ransom cannot deliver thee." Job 36:18.

Would I be faithful to you, dear reader, if, knowing the awful hell of fire that awaits every unsaved soul, I neglected or refused to warn you? Listen to

what God says to this: "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning to save his life; the wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thy hand." Ezekiel 3:18.

### A Graphic Illustration

Suppose an excursion train were going out from this town. I was on the railroad and as I walked I came to a bridge and found it broken. I knew the train with its hundreds on board was about due; in fact, I could hear it coming. I think for a moment, "I will warn them of their danger and stop them." But I think again, "It would be a pity to spoil their holiday by such terrible news. Some people might get scared, and maybe some of them might faint, some who are sickly might get very much worse." I love them so much and want them to have a good time, so I wave them farewell with best wishes.

The train rushed on and all on board were killed or wounded. The whole town was deluged in sorrow. I came among them and told them I knew the bridge was down, but I loved the people so much that I could not think of warning them and spoiling their pleasure. And besides that, I feared that some of them would not believe my report and make light of me.

### Would You Call That Love?

How long would they let me live in that town, or even live at all? What are we to say then of men who stand before their fellow men whom they know are going down to hell, unsaved, without Christ and yet never warn them of danger?

### God Says:

"The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17.

"The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven in flaming fire, taking vengeance on them that know not God, and obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess. 1:7, 8.

"But the fearful and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." Revelation 21:8.

### How Shall We Escape?

Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by ME." Saint John 14:6.

"Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

Jesus says, "He that heareth my word and believeth on Him that sent me hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation." John 5:24.

There is no way to get out of hell, and only one way to keep out!

"O God of truth and grace,  
Teach us that death to shun,  
Lest we be banished from Thy face  
And evermore undone."

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