

FAITH^{AND} VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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Why Christ Came

From highest heights the Savior came
To deepest depths of lowest shame;
From palaces of ivory
To humble cradle in the hay.

From form of God to human child,
From Ruler to a servant mild;
From riches vast, to poverty,
From glory to humility.

From worship by celestial throng,
To be the theme of drunkard's song;
From fellowship with God on high
To be forsaken and to die!

Why should He come and pay the price
Of such an awful sacrifice?
Why did He come and bear the Cross
And suffer such tremendous loss?

Because He wanted us to be
With Him throughout eternity—
That all who love Him now might share
Celestial joys and mansions fair.

That perfect bodies without pain
Might be our everlasting gain;
That's why from highest heights He came
To deepest depths of lowest shame!

—Selected by Sylvia Busbee

LET THY WORDS BE FEW

"Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter anything [word, margin] before God: for God is in heaven and thou upon the earth; therefore let thy words be few." Eccl. 5:2. Words gathered in hours of silence burst forth in strength and beauty; but where there is a constant flowing of speech, the words run down into weakness. . . . In the ceaseless prattle there is an awful waste of soul-energy.

—C. E. Orr.

The Oneness of God's Church

As there is but "one God, and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all," so likewise there is but "one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling." It was the purpose of God to save both Jews and Gentiles through the gospel of His Son. Now there was a great gulf of prejudice and vast separation in sentiment and education existing between these two classes; and it might very reasonably be thought that characters so remote from each other could never be blended together in one body, and live agreeably under one faith. Did, therefore, the Lord indulge their alienation from each other, and their extreme peculiarities, by providing a separate fold for each? Nay, says the Great Teacher, "Other sheep I have [Gentiles], which are not of this fold: [not Jews] them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold and one shepherd." John 10:16.

These antipodes of humanity, if saved at all, must be brought together into one fold. Which then was required to surrender his position to the other? The answer is, "He put no difference between them." "But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin." The apostle confessed they were no better than they, the Gentiles. Neither one had to come over to the other, but both to God through Christ Jesus; and here is the beautiful result: "For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace." Eph. 2: 14-16. Then, for all the saved of the nations of the earth, God has provided but "one fold," "one body," "one new man, so making peace." In it are peacefully blended together men of the most widely conflicting idiosyncrasies, and races of the most opposite customs and religions. Of course, these are all removed by the transforming grace of God, and all are conformed to the image of His Son, and all become "children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."

Gal. 3:26, 28. Since, therefore, the infinite grace of God is manifestly sufficient to mold all men into one harmonious body, there is no need of but one church of the living God. Every description of the church shows that it is but one. Every relation that she sustains to her God demands that she be one. Accordingly, we are told that Christ "is the head of the body, the church." Therefore as there is but one head, there can be but one body.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. But now are they many members, yet but one body." 1 Cor. 12:12, 13, 20. "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." Rom. 12:4, 5. "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." Colossians 3:15.

These and many similar Scriptures, declare in the most positive terms that God acknowledges but one body. There is but one true church or assembly, just as there is but one God, one true God. Since we are called of Christ into one body, the call to join various bodies must proceed from antichrist. There is absolutely but one body, and one Christ its head.

Again, the church, or divine congregation, sustains the relation to Christ that a wife does to her husband. "And I will betroth thee unto me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord." "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God." "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." 2 Cor. 11:2. "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom." John 3:29. "For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; the God of the whole earth shall he be called." Isa. 54:5. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Revelation 19:7, 8. —D. S. Warner

"An aged Scotchman, while dying, was asked what he thought about death and he replied, 'It matters little to me whether I live or die. If I die I will be with Jesus, and if I live Jesus will be with me.'"

Meditations on Jesus Christ

The greatest person who ever lived in this world was Jesus, the Christ of God. We receive light and knowledge of this wonderful Man from the Bible under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. How blessed to grasp the glorious vision of the Saviour of men! But there is one thing that we must understand. Jesus Christ can only be known as a saviour by divine revelation of the Spirit of God. To the apprehensions of the flesh, "He is despised and rejected of men: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: he hath no form nor comeliness, and when we see him there is no beauty that we should desire him." To know Christ after a fleshly natural aspect meant a rejection of Him, but to behold Him in the light of spiritual life and holiness of heart and character is to embrace Him. "Though we have known Christ after the flesh," said one, "yet now henceforth know we him no more." One can hear of Christ, and one could even behold Him with their own eyes, but unless such a one is spiritually enlightened there is very little heart-felt impression made. On the other hand, one may have never seen Christ with the natural eye, yet can truly see Him with spiritual revelation by the gospel. It is through this revelation to the heart of man that one can rejoice with joy unspeakable.

Jesus Christ wrought and accomplished for us what no other person could ever do. Instead of reforming the surface of the affairs of mortal man Jesus Christ laid the ax to the root of their trouble. He became a sacrifice to atone for the sins of men in the eyes of a just God and made possible perfect salvation from the cause of mortal woe, which is sin and disobedience in the heart and nature of man. The power of His righteousness is a re-generation of the soul which is the vital principle, that part of man that controls his entire life and actions.

While creeds, systems, governments, institutions, and all other methods of men to remedy the wretched state of mankind, fall short of success, we find the saving grace of this man fully sufficient. But instead of man abandoning his efforts with respect to the saving power of Christ, it is even as the Scripture saith: "The stone which the builders disallowed is made the head of the corner, a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense." They fail to recognize that their real woe is an inward disease of the heart and mind that invades the noble as well as the degraded, and that so often is the case that those who are engaged in trying to bring peace to the old world are themselves the servants of corruption.

The vital center of Jesus Christ is the spirit. One said of old: "There is a spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding." Jesus Himself said, "It is the spirit that quickeneth: the flesh profiteth nothing, the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." Paul, a true believer in Jesus Christ, made this statement, "When Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. Nevertheless, when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. Now the Lord [Jesus]

is that spirit: and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The word "liberty" means access, access into the spiritual things of God who is a spirit. Beware, therefore, dear reader, of a belief in Christ that is earth-born. Seek to know Him in the spirit, for that is the only way that we can truly know Him.

—Leslie Busbee

Devil-Proof Repellent

Flyers in the airforce of the U. S., who operate over shark-infested waters, are equipped with life jackets, and also they have bags of shark-repellent on their shoulders. One flyer who was shot down in shark-infested waters hit these pockets of repellent and it went down over his body. This would protect him for 24 hours. He was in the water 32 hours. Just before they picked him up, he said two big deep-sea mackerels began to circle him and would come closer and closer. He said they would attack a person, and especially if there was any blood. This flyer said he was frightened. He remembered well when he was once before shot down and he heard the scream from his buddy who had been hit by a shark. He said he would never forget that scream. When they picked up his buddy he was gone from the waist down. Sharks strike at the stomach, the softest part of the body. The flyer said sharks come at a person at the speed of 55 to 60 miles per hour.

The air force was thinking of the flyer's body, and gave him everything they could for his protection. But I am thinking of the most important part of man. Each one has a soul. As we go out on the sea of life we have an enemy of the soul that is more deadly than a shark. He is after the soul of man. The devil will strike hard at the soul of man if he isn't equipped with sufficient protection. God has this protection for everyone. It is not reasonable for anyone to risk going through life and coming to the Judgment without this protection. It will mean the eternal damnation of their precious soul. Men have refused God's help and the Bible says, "Hell hath enlarged herself and opened her mouth without measure . . . there, multitudes . . . shall descend into it." Isa. 5:14. But you need not be among that number. God has provided a way for us to sail safely on the sea of life with protection and enter heaven.

Through Jesus we find justification or forgiveness of sins when they are repented of with godly sorrow. Then through the application of the blood of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit, the sin principle is purged and we are filled with Divine power to face this deadly enemy. The Bible tells us that we would be baptized "with the Holy Ghost." (Matt. 3:11.) When we are baptized we are buried or covered completely. So we need the Holy Spirit to come in and fully fill our souls and be a powerful repellent for us. It will last more than 24 hours; it will keep us through this life and see us into heaven safely. It comes from God and has great spiritual power to protect us. The Apostle Paul knew about this

powerful repellent. He said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." (Rom. 1:16.) Jesus spoke of this power and said, "I give unto you power . . . over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Luke 10:19.

Man has taken atoms from God's created universe and released the power in them. Last year in Nevada at the base of a 3,800 foot shaft, scientists exploded a hydrogen bomb that had power equivalent to one million tons of TNT. It was forty to fifty times greater in intensity than the atomic bomb used in Hiroshima, Japan. Our minds can't comprehend the greatness of the power that God has put in the universe, yet we see it all around us. Now be assured, He can give us plenty of power to repel the devil with all of his forces from hell. But the secret of it all is keeping covered with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is very sensitive and we must listen to His checks when we are tempted by the devil through the mind to do something that is contrary to the Bible. The Holy Spirit and the Word of God agree. They never work in a manner contrary to each other. We should obey the Word and be led by the Holy Spirit at all times. If the God of heaven has put such great power in nature which man is using, then we must not doubt that He is able to give us spiritual power over the devil, which is a spirit, yet he is real. We must keep our souls covered with this power and keep yielded to the Holy Spirit and we will have devil-proof repellent over our souls.

Now we think of the shark that will come in with such great force and strike at the softest or weakest part of the body. The devil works in the same manner. He knows our weakest points. But sometimes he will come at us from all angles at one time. He will circle around us even in the distance to cause us distress and try to frighten us. These are severe times, and we are severely tested and tried. We need to keep looking upward. Nothing can cut off our view of Jesus, who is our example, if we keep looking upward. He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin. God will help us as we hold steady and wait upon Him with faith. The Bible says, "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." (Isa. 59:19.) The dictionary says a standard in this sense would be a "military unit." Thank God for this unit, which is the power of God coming to help us. This is the devil-proof repellent from God. We need not let circumstances overcome us, but we can, through the power of God, rise above them with victory. "He that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." (John 5:18) God's repellent is more powerful than shark repellent. We can say with the Apostle Paul, "I am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." (2 Tim. 1:12.)

—Sister Marie Miles

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

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

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EDITORIALS

This paper is going into many homes. Nearly 14,000 copies of this issue will be printed, and we pray that the Holy Spirit will accompany every "white-winged" messenger and impress the Bible truth upon the mind and heart of every reader. Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Thank God for the precious freedom from sin and condemnation that we have found in believing and obeying the truth.

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

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With the continued blessings of the Lord, this March issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper marks the beginning of the 47th year of publication. Now, as always, this periodical stands committed to the vital Bible truths which brought forth this "evening light" restoration movement of the Church of God in fulfillment of Bible prophecy—those same truths which were taught and practiced prior to the "landslide apostasy" of 1910-1914. As servants of the Church of God, contending "for the faith once delivered to the saints," the publishers and this literature ministry have weathered many storms by the help and grace of God. More difficulties and obstacles are expected in the future, but our faith is anchored in the Captain of our salvation who is not limited nor restricted by circumstances. The Apostle John affirms: "... this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4. Our Father, whom we serve, will and does take care of His own.

In giving the Commission to His Church, Jesus' vision was world-wide. He said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Again He said, "The gospel must first be published among all nations." To reach the unreached in the "regions beyond" is the purpose of this gospel literature ministry which is primarily and essentially a work by faith in God. Without His blessings it could not continue. This institution operates under a charter from the State of Oklahoma as a non-profit religious

and charitable corporation, and no one connected with it receives any personal profit. All proceeds from offerings and sales above the actual operating expenses are kept in the work to expand and increase the output of gospel literature. All who work here have volunteered their services as unto the Lord with no promise of remuneration other than that in God's Word, and His Word has not failed.

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For a history of this gospel publishing work, write for your FREE copy of the book, "God's Gracious Dealings," a 240-page autobiography of the life and labors of the late Fred Pruitt. This FREE offer is good only until April 1, so rush your order. If convenient, include stamps for postage. This record of trials and triumphs of faith will increase your confidence in God.

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The message for this age is: "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." To God's people the call comes from heaven: "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." There is no fellowship between light and darkness, between truth and error, and every honest soul should heed the warning, flee from every false way lest he be a partaker of her sins and receive of her plagues. We are not opposing people as such, but only want to expose the false systems and foul spirits, so that honest souls can escape and find fellowship in the true fold of God.

Sad to say, professed Church of God groups have departed from those precious truths which brought forth the true "evening light" restoration movement. Among them are many seemingly honest and sincere people, but the pathetic condition is that many do not know the teachings of the saints prior to the apostasy of 1910-14. That was long before their time, and then so many have become accustomed to and satisfied with the innovations that were brought in over the years. When those who have never known the old-time truth begin seeking and walking in the light, the saints will show them much forbearance, but fellowship is severed automatically when one who knows the real truth begins to depart from it and to walk in darkness. "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another."

1 John 1:7. There can be no basis for unity on a platform of compromise, yet one with little light and one with much light can walk hand in hand if both are walking in all the truth they know and have hearts open for more truth. The unity of the Spirit exists while they are coming to the unity of the faith. The break comes when one walks away from or rejects truth. When honest souls return to the "old paths" they will find sweet fellowship and oneness with God's holy remnant.

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Bro. Curtis Williams, an evangelist of Clearfield, Ky., has been very ill for several months. We talked to him today (Feb. 22) and he was thanking the Lord for how He had wonderfully brought him out of the jaws of death in answer to the saints' prayers. He had been up and around, in and out of the house for several days, feeling so much better, though weak from the illness. He said to thank all the saints for their prayers, expressions of love and concern, and to tell them that he loved everyone, and looked forward to being out in the work of the Lord again. Let us continue to pray for his complete restoration.

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Two more excellent out-of-print books now in the process of being reprinted are, "Stories of Home Folks" by Mable Hale, and "Steps Heavenward" by R. L. Berry. Lord willing, these will be available about April 1.

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The book, "Highways and Hedges" by Grace Henry is out of stock and, as far as we know, will not be available from the publishers any more.

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As "workers together" with the Lord we are delighted in His service, and we appreciate all those who have and are faithfully supporting this gospel literature ministry by your prayers and finance. Your treasures are being laid up in heaven. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21. What you have sown for Christ and souls, you will reap in everlasting happiness.

—Lawrence Pruitt

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Campmeeting Dates for 1969

Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates which have been received up to press time. Others will be added to the list in later issues as they come in:

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, Okla.—May 30 to June 8.

Holly Hill, S. Carolina—June 6 to 15.

Tulsa, Okla.—June 13 to 22.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 27 to July 6.

General Southern at Hammond, La.—June 27 to July 6.

Akron, Ohio—July 5 to 13.

National Campmeeting at Monark Springs (Neosho) Mo.—July 18 to 27.

Missouri State at Myrtle, Mo.—Aug. 1 to 10.

California State at Pacoima, Calif.—Aug. 22 to 31.

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SPECIAL SERVICES AT SPRINGFIELD, MO.

There will be gospel singing Sat. night, Mar. 29, and all-day services Sunday, Mar. 30, at the chapel located at 718 N. Kansas, Springfield. —Pastor, Bro. Leslie Busbee

LOS ANGELES SPRING MEETING

The Spring meeting of the Church of God at 1381 E. Walnut, Los Angeles, Calif., will be held, Lord willing, Mar. 28 to April 6, 1969. Pray much. All are invited. —Pastor, I. C. Chandler; Bro. T. R. Summers, Deacon

OBITUARIES



Frederick Douglas Christian, son of Washington and Charlotte Berry Christian, was born in Sandusky, Ohio, on Sept. 1, 1882. He departed this life Jan. 13, 1969, at the age of 86 years, 4 months, and 12 days.

He met the saints of the Evening Light Church of God in Sandusky and was saved in the year of 1933. He was faithful in attending service to the very last.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Martha, a son, Charles, a daughter, Leona, and two sisters.

He leaves to mourn their loss a son, Fred, Jr., of Chicago, Ill.; two step-sons, John Whitner and Robert Hicks of Sandusky, Ohio; three step-daughters, Mrs. Mattie Nimmons, Mrs. Fred Seavers, and Mrs. Margaret Bridges, a brother, Oliver, all of Sandusky, Ohio; a sister, Mrs. Lucille Taylor of Cleveland, Ohio; other relatives, friends and saints.

Funeral services were conducted at Sandusky, Ohio, by Henry S. Chaney. Interment was in the Oakland cemetery of Sandusky, Ohio.

Nathaniel James (Jimmy) Francisco, the son of Bro. and Sister Nathaniel Francisco, was born May 6, 1949, in Bakersfield, Calif. Jimmy was the third child of a family of 13, and was the oldest boy. He died Jan. 13, 1969, at the age of 19 years, 8 months, and 7 days.

As a child and youth Jimmy attended services regularly at the Church of God. As a teen-ager, he sought the Lord several times. While he was saved, he was sincere in his convictions and efforts to live for God and took a keen interest in Sunday-school and young people's meetings.

Jimmy lived in Bakersfield with the family until he went to Los Angeles in 1968 to find employment. He was returning to Los Angeles after a week-end at home when he was involved in an automobile accident and was killed instantly.

Survivors include his parents; three brothers, Steven, Brian, and Mark, of the home; nine sisters, Norma, Karen, and Marian of San Francisco; Eunice, Toni, Jennifer, Betty, Kimberly, and Danelda of the home; grand-

parents, Bro. and Sis. Z. E. Francisco, of San Diego; and Sister Violet Massey, Bakersfield, Calif.

Funeral services were conducted in the Saints Chapel in Bakersfield, Calif., with Bro. I. C. Chandler officiating, assisted by Bro. Alvin Lucas and others. Interment was at Union Cemetery at Bakersfield.

Sister W. R. Jenkins, daughter of Mary and Archable Epps, was born May 27, 1885, in Dark County, Ohio, and has lived in Preble County most of her life. She became ill November 18, 1968, at Bro. and Sister William Abbott's home in Dayton, Ohio. She departed this life January 19, 1969, at the age of 83 years, 7 months, and 23 days.

She was united in marriage April 15, 1902, to W. R. Jenkins who preceded her in death September 8, 1963.

She is survived by one sister, Margaret Ellen Wade, several nieces, nephews, and many friends.

She was born into the Church of God 40 years ago. She loved the Lord and the saints. She was faithful and true to the end. She will surely be missed by her many friends and loved ones. We feel our loss is heaven's gain.

Bro. Wm. McCoy read the obituary, Scripture, and offered prayer. Bro. S. E. Abbott brought the message. She was buried at New Paris, Ohio, where her husband is interred.

Christine Florence Trimble was born January 29, 1890 at Pekin, Illinois, and departed this life in her home at Pomona, Calif., on January 14, 1969 at the age of 78 years, 11 months, and 14 days.

On October 14, 1914 Christine was united in marriage to John Wesley Trimble. God blessed this union with one daughter, Virginia, who survives.

In 1939 the Trimbles moved from Los Angeles to make their home in Pomona, Calif. In 1947 they met the saints of God who worship at 750 So. Eleanor St., in Pomona, and the family made this their church home. We have good hopes she made heaven her home.

Her faithful husband, John Wesley Trimble, followed her in death ten days later, on January 24, 1969. [He had not been well for some time. His daughter wrote that he died from a perforated duodenum ulcer.—M. M.]

Funeral services were held in Pomona, Calif., conducted by Bro. Charles Elwell, with Sister LaVern Manuel assisting. Burial was in the Pomona cemetery.

John Wesley Trimble was born November 6, 1886, in Cement, Okla., and departed this life in his home at Pomona, Calif., on January 24, 1969, at the age of 82 years, 2 months, and 17 days.

On October 14, 1914 he was united in marriage to Christine Florence Bank, and God blessed their home with one daughter, Virginia.

In 1945 he repented of his sins, sought the Lord and found peace to his soul. In 1947 he met the Church of God Evening Light saints at 750 So. Eleanor St., Pomona, and heard the gospel preached in its fullness and accepted it with rejoicing of heart. He attended services there regularly, always rejoicing with uplifted hands, being a great blessing to the congregation and many others. One of his special exhortations was, "Work diligently daily at your salvation lest you fall."

He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Virginia Weick; a grandson, Steven; a granddaughter, Pamela, all of Costa Mesa, Calif.; one brother of Los Angeles, a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were held in Pomona, Calif., by Sister LaVern Manuel, Bro. Charles Elwell, and Bro. Ira D. Stover. Burial was in the Pomona cemetery.

In their loss the following poem expresses the sentiments and feelings of the Pomona, Calif., congregation where Sister LaVern Manuel is pastor:

"It Comes From the Mighty Hand Above"

Among us dwelled a man of God,
With wisdom and knowledge from God endowed.
Oft with our trials, burdens and woe
To this brother's house in despair we'd go.

Advice and counsel he'd give in love,
And say, "It comes from the mighty Hand above."
His words could be stern, yet given in grace,
You MUST deny self to run this race!

Before we left he would always pray.
Our problems seemed just to fade away.
His prayers would follow us, we knew,
Until that battle was done, and through.

Our hearts are saddened, his presence is gone,
But his words of counsel and his love last on.
Long, long will we hear his voice in love,
Say, "It comes from the mighty Hand above."

—Pomona, Calif. Congregation

PROFITABLE MEETING AT AKRON, OHIO

I would like to report that on January 29 through February 2, Bro. Mart Samons of Kentucky was with us in a meeting. Each evening and Sunday the attendance was very good. Some were present from local towns and cities, as Massillon, Cambridge, Alliance, Sandusky, Ohio, and from Pittsburgh, Pa. The Word of God went forth with power. It was as a two-edged sword, cutting down all the works of the devil, everything that has exalted itself against the knowledge of God, not being afraid of men's faces, but letting the Word of God have its right-of-way. We were edified and uplifted beyond words. Many souls were benefited. Praise His Name!

—Sister Hazel Clark, Pastor

SPRING MEETING AT WICHITA, KANSAS

The annual spring meeting of the Wichita, Kans., congregation will be held March 21-30. We will be looking to the Lord to send Spirit-filled ministers of His choosing to deliver the Bread of Life. We extend an invitation to all who can to come and be with us in this meeting. The chapel location is 1701 N. Ash.

—Bro. Lewis Williams, Pastor

EASTER MEETING AT JEFFERSON, OREGON

The Easter meeting of the Church of God at Jefferson, Oregon, will begin March 28 and end on Easter Sunday, April 6. This meeting will be held, as usual, on the free-will offering plan. Cabins are furnished, as well as the bedding. Meals will be served in the dining hall.

We are inviting everyone to come and enjoy this meeting, and looking to the Lord to send in the ministers of His choosing, to be with us to preach the Word. We urge all to come, and especially those who are near and far in the Northwest.

For further information write or call Sister Hilda Neilson, P. O. Box 34, Jefferson, Oregon, 97352, phone (503) 327-2564, or Sister Bea Spaur, Pastor, P. O. Box 348, Jefferson, Oregon 97352. Phone no. (503) 327-2855.

—By Sister Margaret Cable

HOME MISSIONARY REPORT

Dear Saints and co-workers in the gospel: We surely thank the Lord for another God-given privilege to greet our brothers and sisters in our dear Lord's name. This to me is one of the greatest comforts we enjoy in this time-world—the precious fellowship with the dear saints of God. "And truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ." Praise the Lord! We can say with David of old, "Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house and the place where thine honour dwelleth." Oh, bless the Lord!

Early Wednesday morning, January 8, 1969, we left home (Oklahoma City) with about fifty pounds of literature, including some song books, from the Faith Publishing House, enroute to Alabama and on to Florida.

We spent a few days in Alabama with the saints. It was very encouraging to find the saints there happy in the Lord and still standing for the "old-time truth." Those who fled from "Babylon," even though they are suffering persecutions because of their stand for the truth, are very much encouraged, pressing on for the Lord. Bro. Effinger testified that he is coming to himself more and more. Bro. L. Shelton testified how miraculously the Lord healed his body in 1967 when the company of saints went to Aliceville, Ala., for the meeting. He was anointed and prayed for and has been healed ever since. Sister Shelton is well. She is up and going, thanking the saints for their prayers. They have painted their chapel inside and out, looking forward to their campmeeting this year, Lord willing.

We arrived in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on Wednesday, January 15, prayer meeting night. We found Sister Savage, a minister who took her stand for the truth a few years ago, yet standing and being faithful to the work of God. I was very thankful to meet Bro. Hargrave, a minister, and the other saints who drove from Goulds, Fla., (which is about fifty miles from Ft. Lauderdale) to be in prayer meeting. They do this weekly. After listening to their encouraging testimonies and the Word of God, we soon perceived they were our brothers and sisters, sincere saints of God with their hearts opened for light and understanding. This Scripture came to mind: "And the people said unto Joshua, The Lord our God will we serve and His voice will we obey." Josh. 24:24. These words of Jesus became more real to my soul: "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice: and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." John 10:16. Praise God! As the poet expressed it, "Thy children are gathering home."

We went to Goulds, Fla., that weekend. The Lord wonderfully blessed the meeting with good altar services. A number sought the Lord for spiritual help.

They have a nice building in Goulds, located on a corner with ample parking space. Bro. Hargrave gave a good testimony of how the Lord blessed the saints to get this building. . . .

The saints are looking forward to a meeting in Florida in April, Lord willing. The date will be set later. At that time a company of saints plan to go and help them. Do pray for this meeting.

We want to thank all the dear saints for your prayers while we were on this mission trip. Surely we felt your prayers and the Lord's presence was with us. We give Him all the praise and the glory for all that was accomplished. Praise the Lord!

Continue to pray for the work in Florida. Bro. Hargrave is a young minister and the majority of the congregation are young saints. They came out of "Bab-

ylon" just a few months ago and took their stand for the truth. They surely need our earnest prayers. Some of them are being greatly persecuted.

With Christian love, —Katherine Williams
905 N. E. 15th St., Okla. City, Okla. 73104

NATIONAL MISSIONARY FUND REPORT

To the dear Saints scattered abroad: It is with thankful hearts we again greet you in the precious name of Jesus. The Lord has been so good to shower us with His grace from day to day, and sometimes makes us to feel that it is in abundance.

In Nahum 2:1 we read, "He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: Keep the munition, watch the way, make thy loins strong, fortify thy power mightily." We have met with the pressures of Satan against us, and this we all do if we live godly. One night the Lord spoke to us and said, "All the time I walked the face of the earth I labored under pressure." As I mused upon this I thought of the various times that, in the face of envy, jealousy, malice, and hatred, the Lord Himself labored on to do the will of His Father, and my heart began to sing, "Lord, we fellowship thy passion, gladly suffer shame and loss; with thy blessing pain is pleasure; we will glory in thy cross." In 1 Peter 4:1, it reads, "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind." Let us encourage everyone to hold to God's unfailing hand. We shall have the crown of life if we endure unto the end. Ever keep heaven in view, and what we do, do it as unto the Lord.

We desire the saints everywhere to be agreed in prayer with us concerning making a change in the evangelistic house trailer. Due to the fact that the present trailer's two beds are so narrow, and it isn't self-contained, we feel it good to sell it. We recently had an advertisement in the paper to sell it and received many calls by phone. The weather was so bad at the time that only a few came to look at it.

It will soon be time for the weather to open up for the tent meetings and we have been earnestly looking to the Lord to open up avenues for the tent to be kept busy all summer long. If you desire to have a tent meeting held in your vicinity, please contact Bro. Curtis Williams, Clearfield, Ky., or the undersigned. We believe the Lord will heal our dear Bro. Curtis and make him strong and able to go, as he has expressed this to be his burden. Satan is against any effort to reach hungry souls, so, saints, let us travail before the Lord in this behalf. Bro. Kenneth Probst, who has recently moved to Bartlett, Kans., is consecrated to labor along with Bro. Curtis. We have full confidence in these brethren. The Lord has used them in past days, and we feel the Lord will bless their labors and sacrifice for the salvation of souls. Let us all discharge our duty that we, too, will have a part in the joy of bringing in the sheaves.

We want to say we appreciate the concern of those in the past, who have given of their personal time and talents, and to those who are faithful to remember the Church of God national missionary fund and its efforts. Heaven is a good bank and it will never go broke. Let us lay our treasures there. God is a good Rewarder, pays the best dividends. He makes us rich in the Spirit.

Those of you who desire to have your offerings sent to certain ministers, feel free to express this, and we will carry out your desire. May the Lord bless you each one.

Yours in the Lord's work, —Ralph M. Beisly, Treas.
407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kansas 67337

MEXICO MISSION REPORT

La Mision, Mexico—(Feb. 13)—Dear Ones: We are rejoicing today with joy unspeakable and full of glory, as it says in 1 Peter 1:8, because we have the assurance that our God is and is answering our prayers. We have many burdens and requests in prayer, but know that He will answer in His time.

We do thank you for sending the offering. It was an answer to prayer. . . .

Bro. Tomas is much encouraged in the work. Bro. Smith's death was a great blow to him, but he seems to have taken faith and a double portion of the Spirit, as if the mantle of Bro. Harland has fallen on him. The last of next week Bro. Tomas and his family plan to be in Mexicali with Sister Cole's congregation for two or three days of special services. Bro. Tomas has the determination to go on and follow the Lord by faith, even if no one sponsors him as Bro. Harland did. This I learned while having a good talk with him. Bro. Tomas has a burden for his helpers in the work, namely, Bro. David Rosas who is holding regular services at different places in the desert, and Bro. Chon, the young Indian who goes with Bro. Tomas and is a big help in reaching these tribes with the gospel. Both of these young brothers need some help and consideration for their labors. Bro. Tomas' work seems to come up to the standard of what an American missionary's operation would be, and is, we believe, more effective in that he knows the language and customs and has these native workers, his converts, working for the Lord.

Bro. Stover and Bro. Chandler have taken a good interest in the Mexican work. They came to La Mision in January for a workers' meeting. Bros. Tomas, David R., and Chon came from the desert. Sister Cole and the Rodriguez family from Mexicali, Sister Opal Kelly from Guthrie, Okla., and the Huskeys from La Mision were there. There was a Bro. Juan whom the brethren received as a worker among us, Brother Irineo who feels the Lord calling him to go to some tribes in Southern Mexico, and Bro. Ernesto A., who lives close to the beach house that we used for this meeting. The meeting was very profitable and we feel that a spirit of openness and togetherness is continuing to prevail among the workers here.

There is an orphanage close to us that now has 103 children. I have the dental clinic there, and I take care of all their dental needs. This gives me a good chance to work with them spiritually. The Americans who run the orphanage do a good job of caring for them in a material way. The Lord has just lately laid on my heart a heavy burden for the souls of these children and workers here at this orphanage. . . . The Lord impressed me to have an open door prayer meeting there four days a week. I received permission to use the large sitting room for this. Three or four adults come to pray each day, and if some of the children come in I talk and pray with them. For me it is a precious time, and I am praying that it will be for them, also. Pray with me that the Spirit of truth will always have liberty. The hour of this prayer meeting is between 3:00 and 4:00 P. M. on week days.

We had services in our house last night with about fifty present. Our Sunday-school over on the other hill is growing. Bro. Juan is bringing some of the Word. We still have the trade school project in the planning stage. We need a larger building for this. We believe it will all come about soon.

Pray for Charlotte as she is very weak in body after having the flu. She has pains in her left side sometimes.

We are trying to work out some plan whereby means can be directed to Bro. Tomas and the workers with him without undue risks. It should be known that no one should send any money or checks to a Mexican address. Some have sent money to us to our Mexican address, but we very likely never got it. We can send money through the Mexican money order system, which is fairly safe, to other parts of Mexico from here. For this cause we decided that anyone could use our postoffice box for letters to our Mexican brethren. If any would like income tax receipts for their offerings, they should send their offerings to Faith Publishing House, making checks payable to the Church of God Missionary Fund, and designate by letter the missionary to whom it is sent. I am sure this would be all right with all, although we are praying to the Lord, that if it is His will, to provide a secretary to handle these things which are so important to the work of the Lord here in Mexico.

Yours in His service,

—James Huskey
P. O. Box 2262, San Ysidro, Calif. 92073

NATIVE MEXICAN MISSIONARY REPORT

El Valle de la Trinidad, Mexico—Dear Brethren: Thank you for your prayers and letters that have brought us much comfort in our many battles. It comforts us greatly to know that you are praying for us. Truly, we are in need of the prayers of the saints. God is with us and helping us much with the work. Thank the Lord, we no longer fit in our little chapel. We are asking God to help us enlarge the chapel a little. The Lord is touching hearts. Some souls who had been worshipping with the Seventh Day Adventists have tasted the Truth and are now worshipping with us here. I give all glory and honor to God, who does all.

Please pray for Brother David Rosas, that God may use him more effectually every day. He cares for the work in El Alamo, El Llano, and the Rincon.

Pray also for Brother Chon, an Indian boy who is my helper. He goes with me wherever I go and prays and reads the Bible. His life is a testimony. He is very faithful and feels a call to preach the gospel.

Dear ones, we are well in body and soul, only by the grace of God that keeps us holy and with peace in our hearts. In these evil days I know that if we do not watch unto prayer we shall not endure unto the end; because the earth is as it was in the days of Noah—full of violence and corruption. Oh, how we must beg God's protection diligently to be kept by Him in our trials.

The last day of January we went out on the desert to have services, about 90 miles from here, or about three and a half hours' drive. We built a fire and all gathered around the bonfire. We sang and prayed and preached. God gave us a blessing and several hearts were touched. How beautiful it was! The next morning a woman came asking for prayer. The Lord wonderfully saved her. Traveling homeward, Chon and I rejoiced to have a part in the ministry of God, even though we are so small. Oh, what joy I have in seeing souls come to Christ! This is my crown and my joy.

Today we went to have services with the Quilique Indians on the reservation. God covered us with rich blessings and we are very happy.

We ask special prayer for the 22nd and 23rd of February. We plan, Lord willing, to be in Patzcuaro with Sister Edith Cole for two days of services. Pray that souls will be saved. Pray also for some brethren here who are very needy in their souls as well as economically.

Yours in Christ,

—Tomas and Diama Mendoza

Editor's Note: The foregoing letter was written to Bro. and Sister Byron Wittenborn in Spanish from Bro. Tomas Mendoza. Sister Wittenborn translated it to share with you. Bro. Tomas is a faithful full-time missionary, worthy of our support as well as the other workers in Mexico. You may write him directly through Bro. James Huskey's box number which is P. O. Box 2262, San Ysidro, California 92073.

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

Kerala State, S. India (Feb. 6)—Dear Bro. Lawrence Pruitt and co-workers, greetings again in the precious name of Jesus Christ who promised, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Your letter dated January 16, 1969, reached me duly. Thank you very much for the contents.

This time our hearts are overflowing with great joy and gratitude because our annual convention ended successfully and it was a glorious victory above all we asked or thought. Though my father was absent [present with the Lord] from the convention this year, yet our heavenly Father was in it and blessed us abundantly. Praise the Lord! Saints came from far-away places, such as Calicut, Trichur, Challissery, and Niranam to the convention. We had a very good flat roof which we constructed for this purpose in front of our Bethel chapel. This time we did not have to hire the public address system (mike set) because, as you know, we have our own mike set now which God provided. We had open-air meetings, Bible classes and at night public meetings. Oh, it was indeed a season of refreshing and joy from on high. As Peter said to Jesus Christ, I also felt that "it is good for us to be here" (Luke 9:33). Especially, the heart-touching testimonies of some youngsters have shaken and stirred up the hearts of a group of young men here. May God work in them is our prayer. . . .

Kindly pray for the needs of our faithful workers. Sorry to know that our brethren at Calicut are even now worshipping in a rented room. We request your earnest prayers for the need of a chapel at Calicut.

Now we are marching on to the next convention at Parannoor which starts from tomorrow onwards. Though these conventions are very expensive, God provides our needs miraculously. Glory to His name! . . .

I have a plan in mind to have a Christian library here which will enable those who desire to read Christian literature and the gospel of Jesus Christ. Now I am distributing some good books, but a library is of good use. For that, we have enough books here, most of them are in English. But there is the need of a library room which we do not have. We believe that there is nothing impossible with God, and if He allows, we can construct a library room beside our Bethel chapel. We are praying for it. . . . May God work according to His will is our prayer.

Regarding the tract, I am printing one by one, and so far I have translated and printed two tracts. Enclosed is the second one, entitled, "You Can't Do Wrong and Get By." More of them are being translated. I shall send a copy to you as they get printed. I have to give five to eight dollars as printing charge to print 5000 copies of each tract. The money that you sent me for that purpose is separated and it is being used for that purpose only.

We are praying for our Nigerian brethren, and also for you and the work carried on there. Kindly remember us also in your prayers.

Yours in service and fellowship, —John Varghese

FROM NATIVE PASTOR IN BIAFRA, NIGERIA

Southeastern State (Biafra), Nigeria, (Feb. 10)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, in bonds of Christian fellowship and love I greet you and all the saints in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am surprised as I could not read from you in reply to my last communication of September 12, 1968. May I attribute your seeming silence to pressure of work in the Print Shop and Office? I am wondering whether or not you have had the letter under references, and my twelve-page writing about my last 81 days' experiences in Biafra concentration Camps forwarded in two separate covers to you for publication in "Faith and Victory," and in pamphlet form for my distribution to friends who will not have access to "Faith and Victory"? Please let me know before long.

I am happy to inform you that we have so far completed the work of our thatch mud chapel, and we are now worshipping in it. The Lord is adding souls every day. Praise His wonderful name! What we need now are doors and benches.

The work in the entire field is progressing in spite of the present problem in our nation. Slack not in presenting our spiritual needs and our physical problems before the Throne of grace, asking God to return peace to our nation. Please pray without ceasing, and God will hear and answer your prayers in our behalf. . . .

My family members are doing well in health, and God is caring for us. My senior son and daughter are the best singers in the Church. . . .

I need financial assistance now more than ever, and I am convinced to believe that God shall supply my needs through you. Please help me, and thanks. I am praying for you and the saints abroad.

Your Brother in Christ, —Pastor Jackson U. Etuk

NSE UMANAH WRITES FROM BIAFRA, NIGERIA

A letter dated Feb. 1, 1969, written by Bro. Nse Umanah and signed by pastors of four districts in Biafra, Nigeria, reports their great disappointment in not receiving replies from us for many months. Evidently they do not know that mail has been suspended to that area and we have no way of communicating with them. Neither do we know how they get their letters out to us by air mail.

The field secretary, Bro. Umanah, reported in the letter that the last annual conference was held on Dec. 20 to 22, 1968, at the Asana mission chapel. God's presence in the meetings gladdened their hearts, and the altars were filled in every service. Hundreds were converted, baptized, and partook of the ordinances of the Lord's House. Twenty-one congregations were represented, along with their pastors. Bros. B. U. Etuk and B. E. A. Inyang, who had been afflicted with strokes, were present and active in the services.

In spite of the civil war and great suffering in the country of Biafra it is evident that God's work in the salvation of souls is moving forward. Let us continue to pray for the believers in Nigeria who are undergoing such great adversities, and that our communication with them will be speedily restored.

—Editor

Fla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: Enclosed is one dollar for "Faith and Victory." Please send to the address following. . . .

We thank the Lord for His goodness to us. We are well. We always desire the prayers of God's people.

Respectfully,

—Amos G. Davis

REPORT FROM SISTER SAM ABBOTT

Ky.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, and saints everywhere, greetings in the precious name of the One who died for us: I'm praising God today for saving my soul and filling this earthly tabernacle with His Holy Spirit more than 32 years ago. I can truthfully say with that precious old song: "Where He leads me, I will follow." I desire to always keep filled with the Holy Ghost, and to be led by His Spirit in all things.

It has been several months since we have witnessed for God through the "Faith and Victory" paper, but we have kept busy in His service, and truly His service is my sweetest delight. Praise the Lord! Last year we were privileged to attend the Holly Hill, S. Car., Hammond, La., and Myrtle Mo., and Monark Springs, Mo., camp meetings. The preaching of the Word was precious and timely, and the fellowship of the people of God was refreshing and sweet to our souls. God worked with many souls and we feel much lasting good was accomplished. We met several people who attended some of these meetings for the first time. We feel that the Lord is gathering His people together and getting His Bride ready for His coming.

As the summer days faded into autumn, I attended the Hammond, La., assembly meeting in company with Sister Nellie Bethel. The Lord blessed her in driving safely each way, about 700 miles. As we traveled along and talked of the things of God, we could feel His sweet presence with us. Several folks received help at the altar, and one dear soul was saved after living 75 years in sin. Bro. Abbott and I visited the saints in the Carolinas again before going to the Guthrie, Okla., assembly meeting. It was real encouraging to find those of our acquaintance yet walking in the "old paths." We also visited the Golden Rule Home at Shawnee, Okla., and enjoyed a time of refreshing as we talked and prayed with these dear ones. I enjoyed visiting the "Faith and Victory" Publishing office where consecrated workers labor year after year, sending forth the gospel by the printed page. As we stood looking over the thousands of gospel tracts neatly stored on shelves, I was told that thousands of them were being mailed each week to all parts of the world, as they were printed in different languages. We should all help in this literature ministry by having these little gospel messengers on hand to give out at every opportunity. I enjoyed the book section where many Bibles and other good books are for sale. The big press was not running, but I was thankful for the visit.

We also spent a very pleasant hour with Bro. and Sister Willie Murphey and daughter, Sister Kathleen. They explained to us how the "Mission Trail" was printed and how the radio broadcast messages were prepared. This requires much work and study. May we all uphold these publishers and workers with our prayers and with our means, for we are workers together with God, you know.

The day after Christmas I left by train for California. The Lord blessed with a safe trip. I was thankful to visit our daughter and family, and to attend the latter part of the assembly meeting at Pacoima, Calif. I surely enjoyed that precious meeting, and also was glad to visit the dear residents of the Senior Citizens' Home on the campground. It brought joy to my heart to see these dear elderly saints praising God and rejoicing in their souls with the hope of heaven. Truly, salvation makes us happy here. After about three weeks I returned home by train, thanking God for a safe trip. I witnessed for the Lord, spoke to some about the things of God, and gave out tracts.

Bro. Abbott wishes me to take this means to thank the saints for their prayers in his behalf when he was ill with the flu. He came home from the Guthrie meeting, as he did not feel led to drive to California in winter. Soon thereafter he became real sick and was quite ill for several days before we learned of it. We have no phone at home and live seven miles from town, but God was looking down. The Lord impressed my sister and her husband in Cincinnati, Ohio, who went to his aid, then called us in California. When we got word to the saints for prayer, God healed him almost instantly, and the second day he was in town and called us. What a mighty God we serve! Also, at this time it was eleven degrees below zero with three inches of snow on the ground.

We have been helping out in the work in Dayton, Ohio, for several weekends. Bro. McCoy was called to Oklahoma recently to conduct Bible study services. Pray for us.

In the Master's service, —Bro. and Sis. S. E. Abbott
R. 5, Box 16, Somerset, Ky. 42501

Prayer Requests

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and Bro. Pruitt: I thank God for His wonderful love and care for me. He is so good to us, and especially to poor unworthy me. Twice in a week it looked like I was coming down with that terrible flu. But I was anointed and prayed for and God healed me before the next day. But I am having a real battle with numb hands. . . . I would appreciate it if you would earnestly get under the burden for my complete healing for both arms. I fell in my yard three years ago and hurt my right arm so badly that I could not raise it to my head without the aid of my left arm. . . . Praise God, He only permits what is best. I can truly thank God, for it is working for my good. God says that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. (Rom. 8:28.)

May God bless all of you at the Print Shop and supply all your needs, spiritually and temporally.

Much Christian love, —Sister Dessie LeMelle

N. C.—My eyes are weak. I have bronchial trouble. My wife has a bad, running sore on her toe and a knot on the back of her neck as large as a baseball. She is real nervous. My sister in Ky. is afflicted and heavily burdened. Her husband is in a serious condition with cancer.

—H. L. Lemmons

Calif.—Dear Marie, I am writing for Mother, Annie McKinney, for a special request for prayer. She has been very, very ill with the shingles. I really do believe it is the sickest I have ever seen my dear mother. As I write this, she is thinking of others. She said to ask you how one would go about sending the "Faith and Victory" to President Nixon. She has known him and his family for years. In fact, when we lived out by the Murphy Ranch, the Nixons had the only grocery store close. Richard Nixon used to deliver our groceries. Mother has more times than one walked to the elder Mrs. Nixon's house (about a mile) to pray for her when she was sick. She has known the older Nixon family for a long time. Even though she is so sick herself, she has a good clear mind and thinks of others who are sick.

[She is now at the Senior Citizens' Home in Pacoima.]

Calif.—Sister LaVern Manuel who is a faithful minister and child of God, has been very weak from a heart

condition. She has had to rest a great deal. Do pray earnestly for her. She has been a great blessing to many through the years. We deeply appreciate her and her labors in declaring the Truth and living the life.

Ark.—"I can hardly walk. I have arthritis, diabetes, and hardening of the arteries. . . . My husband is unsaved and nearly blind, also has other ailments." —Mrs. W. Bryan.

Ala.—"I have not been to a doctor for over three years. . . . Was encouraged to trust the Lord for healing after reading the tract on divine healing . . . need healing of stomach, kidney trouble, also a rash. Want prayer for . . . who is desiring to get back to the Lord." —Sister Leora Frink.

Okla.—Sister Katherine Williams is burdened for a number of souls to be saved who need the Lord very much.

Mo.—"Delmar Severs' mother needs prayer. She had a hard fall during our ice storm and is bedfast at the present time." —Sister Eunice Cole.

Okla.—Sister Anna White is very much afflicted and needs a definite touch of healing.—Otis Hill.

Colo.—"I have arthritis, . . . maybe cancer. I have trusted God and not had surgery, and I'll trust Him if I am not healed. . . . My son is in hospital, . . . had stroke . . . not saved." —Mrs. Lillie Ratliff.

Okla.—Remember Sister Tempie Crisp in prayer. She is afflicted. —Sister Littlejohn.

Colo.—Please pray for me. Arthritis has afflicted my right hand and threatens the use of it. —Fred Allen

La.—Sister Sybil Goldsberry needs prayer for her body, also for her mother who is very low.

Calif.—Please pray for a lady who has a soreness in her rib cage. . . . Also some young people who are trying to stop smoking. . . . —Mrs. Janie Garner

Kansas—Remember Bob and Geraldine Dean's 15-month-old baby girl. She had an attack of infantile paralysis. It affected her whole right side. The Lord has helped her, but she needs complete healing.

Okla.—Mildred Hall has written for prayer for soul and body. She is the daughter of dear Sister Maude Christ who has gone to her reward.

La.—Do continue to remember our dear Sister Coffey. She needs complete healing. We are thankful for how the Lord does touch her again and again. Bro. Coffey has trouble with his heart.

Okla.—Pray for Sister Jessie Taylor. She needs elimination of her bowels. She is in a serious condition and is looking to the Lord for deliverance.

La.—Bro. and Sister Pinkerton need prayer for their afflictions.

Okla.—Sister Vera Chapel has not been well since she was in a car wreck.

La.—Dear Sister G. A. Nichols had another stroke. Pray God to give Bro. Nichols strength to care for her.

We think about the Israelites being bitten by the serpents in the wilderness. God told Moses to make a brass serpent and lift it up on a pole. All who looked at it would be healed of those serpent bites. (Num. 21:9) We read where Jesus said, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." (John 3:14) The serpent was a type of Christ. If the children of Israel looked at the type of Christ and received healing, why can't we look at Christ Himself and be healed? They didn't get healed by looking at their serpent bites, but by looking at the type of Christ. Be encouraged, dear ones. —M. Miles

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PAPER—3 years for \$1.00.

From The Mail Box . . .

Mont.—Dear Ones at the Print Shop, greetings of love in Jesus' dear name: I hope you are enjoying the rich blessings of God's faithful ones.

We did appreciate this month's "Faith and Victory." We always do, but this one just seemed a little extra. . . .

Keep us on your prayer list, please. May the dear Lord bless and encourage you to keep up the good fight of faith.

—Sisters Betty Davis and Edith Boyer

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' dear name: This leaves us saved, sanctified, and satisfied in Jesus. The revival in Bakersfield, Calif., closed Feb. 2. It was a glorious meeting, richly anointed by the Holy Spirit. Approximately fifty souls found peace with God. Some were sanctified, some got different help, others received healing for their bodies. Some were under deep conviction but would not yield. The meeting closed with great solemnity. The very air seemed heavily charged with the Holy Spirit lingering, waiting to be invited into hearts that were resisting Him. We thank God for the ones who yielded to Him. How happy they were! With Christian love, —Dazella Bell Taylor

Mo.—Dear Ones: . . . I think the Bible Lessons booklets are very handy and interesting. I am glad you decided to do this. We appreciate the extra pages of the "Faith and Victory" also.

On the first Sunday of March the all-day meeting will be here at Senath, Mo. In April (first Sunday) it will be at Grubbs, Ark., and in May (first Sunday) it will be at Myrtle, Mo. . . . —Evodna Marler

Calif.—Dear Friend: I want to thank the one who forwarded the "Faith and Victory" paper. I enjoy it very much. . . .

May God bless you and your work. May it go on. —John Lynch

Ind.—Greetings: I do not know to whom I am indebted for my own subscription, but I am truly grateful. And you may continue the subscription to the undersigned for another year, thereby making the total number of subscriptions enclosed twenty-three.

Most cordially yours, —Wesley S. Harris

Kansas—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers: I am still thanking the Lord for His wonderful plan of salvation and especially am I thankful to be saved, myself. I am still enjoying glorious peace within and determined, like Paul, that nothing shall separate me from the love of God.

I am writing to send a small offering to help with the missionary work in India. I trust it will be of some help to Bro. Varghese and the other saints there. May God bless and help them each one.

I want to encourage each of you at the Print Shop to keep up the good work and be not weary in well-doing, for you shall reap in due season if you faint not.

Praise God again for all of His benefits and may He keep each of us in perfect love.

Christian love, —Sister Shirley Knight

La.—Dear Brother Pruitt: You will find a check enclosed for . . . which I would like to designate for the Nigerian mission field, or to India, Mexico, or to any other place where you might see the greatest need. I love to give to God's great cause. . . .

I am not a minister. I am only a retired lumber grader, eighty years of age. I first made a Christian profession at the age of about twenty. At that time I joined the Missionary Baptist denomination where I lived for a while, but did not know what it meant to be a Christian. Later I joined the original Methodist Episcopal church who preached true holiness doctrine at that time.

About the year 1912 I came in contact with the Church of God Reformation movement. It was like a refreshing stream in a desert land. I loved God's truth better than life, but the compromise soon came and they returned and affiliated with old Babylon. When I left Babylon, it was nevermore to return.

I was well acquainted with A. J. Miller, R. H. Owens, Willie H. Jackson, and others in the good days of the past. Christian love,
—J. Rolley Self

Minn.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Miles and all the saints, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I still have faith and am holding on to my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, from whom my help comes. . . . The dear Lord is still holding me up. . . .

Pray for my mind, soul, and body. Some days the Lord gives me help, then it comes right at me again. . . . Keep me on your prayer list.

Your Brother in Christian love, —Ernest Kirchner

Colo.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I thank the Lord for salvation and for all that He has done for us. The Lord has blessed in a temporal way, so that I am able to send in an offering for the Lord's work.

My eyes are failing some and I am looking to the Lord for help, so pray for me. May God bless you and all the workers there. Your Bro. in Christ, —Frank Kutra

Kentucky (Feb. 11)—Dear Bro. Lawrence and workers, we greet you in Jesus' dear name: It was believing in Him that made us free. I'm glad to be free today. I'm much encouraged in my soul.

I have been trying to get closer to God. Of course, that always brings a battle with the devil. But God said, draw nigh to me and I'll draw nigh to you. I find it just that way.

We trust you are well by now. Surely a lot of folks had that flu. The Lord kept our family from having it. They are all very well. I'm still having lots of trouble with this hernia. Any more, when I preach hard, or do just about anything, I have to suffer for it. Do keep praying for me. There are quite a few things I feel the Lord wants me to do. . . .

The Lord is blessing the few here. Bro. Jarvis is so much better, and has gained about thirteen pounds. Also, the Lord worked a miracle for Sister Presley here. Some seem to be more interested in the truth.

We pray daily for the work that you folks are doing there for the Lord. We are expecting you to keep it up. . . . Give all the workers our love.

Lord willing, we will start a meeting in Enid, Okla., on Saturday, March 1.

Pray that we will always be faithful, as we have it fixed to do that.

Yours in the One Body, —Mart Samons, Wife and boys
222 N. First, Danville, Ky. 40422

Minn.—Dear Saints at the Print Shop: The love of God passeth all understanding. I have found it so.

I have been sick with the flu and pneumonia, but the Lord raised me up. It just seems that the Lord has

something more for me to do, so He lifted me up. I am still a little shaky as you can see by my handwriting. I am enclosing an offering. . . . May the Lord bless and keep you for the blessed work you are doing for the salvation of men. . . .
—Bro. Andrew Senti

N. Jersey—Dear Sister: A friend gave me the "Faith and Victory" and I think it is a wonderful publication. Enclosed is a money order for \$1.00 for the paper for three years. Also, may I have some free tracts to pass along the way? I pass the "Faith and Victory" on to someone else. It has been in three homes now. Praise the Lord!

Do you ever come to the N. J. or N. Y. area? We don't have the good campmeetings here like you have. . . .
A Christian friend,
—May Underwood

Ark.—Dear Sister Marie and all the saints: I was happy to be with you at Coffeyville, Kansas. It is good to be with God's children wherever we meet them. . . .

Truly we bow our head in humility before God and thank Him for His many blessings to us as His people, for redeeming us from sin, and remembering the words the angel spoke to Joseph, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." Oh, praise His dear name for freedom from sin! . . . I am very thankful for what Jesus has done for me. I don't know how deep and how bound I would be today without the saving grace of God. But now I am free, praise the Lord!

We trust this finds you and all the workers happy in the Lord. We are thankful that Gene and Dora Lela Beisly are giving their time in the work there. I enjoy to see them progressing in their souls. May God bless them. We pray God to bless the truth by the printed page and let it reach many dear souls today. I am sending a new address for the paper. I gave her a paper and she enjoyed it so much. She gave me the money to have it sent to her. . . .

Pray for us to be faithful to God and do what we can for souls.

Yours in the Master's service,
—Margaret Eck

La.—Dear Sister Marie, we send greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus: May God bless you dear ones there in the office as you work and labor for the Lord sending the pure gospel forth through the printed page. We trust the Lord will supply your every need and give grace for every trial. . . .

Dear Sister Coffey has surely been a sick woman. . . . Please pray that the Lord will heal her if it can be to His glory. Bro. Coffey needs her so much. She stands right by his side and is a real example as a minister's wife. . . .

I am so glad that I have learned the wondrous secret of abiding in the Lord and found the strength and sweetness of confiding in His Word. Praise the Lord! I'm still encouraged to go all the way with Jesus. . . .

I surely enjoy the articles and the many testimonies in the paper. Pray for us.

In Christian love, —Sister Audrey Baumgartner

S. Carolina—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings in Jesus' dear name: I thank the Lord for sufficient grace to keep me through every trial and test. It seems that Satan is busier now than he was when I first got saved. It seems that he comes up with something new every day to devour my soul. But praise the Lord, His grace is sufficient. I desire the prayers of the saints everywhere

that I will stay encouraged in the Lord, because He said in His holy Word that the "race is not to the swift" to win the prize, but to the one who held out faithful to the end. Also, remember my wife and children in your prayers.

I am sending in the report on the date our campmeeting will start, Lord willing. We plan to start it on June 6 and go through June 15, 1969. Everyone is invited. For further information, write or call Bro. Hutson Crummie, Rt. 1, Box 42, Holly Hill, S. C. 29059. Phone 803-496-5231.

—Hutson Crummie

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer



Okla.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I thank and praise the Lord for His many blessings to us. I thank Him for how He healed my hands after I got them burned. It was three weeks ago, on the 27th of January. I was lighting the hot water tank at our laundry. The gas had accumulated under the tank, and when I put the match to it the flames came out at me, burning my hands and leaving blisters. I came home and called for prayer, with my hands burning all this time. I prayed for the Lord to take the burning out and heal my hands. It wasn't long until the Lord relieved all burning and pain. Praise the Lord! I never had any hurting in my hands after that. Sister Fern Stubblefield came to see me and got here in time to rejoice with me for what the Lord had done. For three days I kept the blisters drained and trusted the Lord to keep infection out, which He did. He healed them without any scars. Thank the Lord, when He heals He does a good job. . . .

I thank Him for how He has answered prayer many times in our home. Pray for me that I will always trust Him completely for all our needs. If we can, by His help, overcome the small things, it will strengthen us for the bigger ones.

Your Sister in Christ, —Lois Chrisman



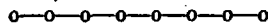
Ohio—Dear "Faith and Victory" readers: I can testify that the Lord brought me through a very severe illness. I surely praise Him for that. I truly love Him and I want to please Him in every way.

I can say this leaves me encouraged to press on with the Lord who has been so good to me. . . . If we wait on the Lord He gives us strength. I know the Lord has helped me many times.

I became ill January 16, and I was very ill. I called upon the Lord and He healed me. I feel better than I have for a long time. . . . We can love and trust Him and not be afraid. . . . The Lord is our great Physician today. I trusted Him all the way through.

I desire the saints' prayers for my unsaved children. May God bless you. Pray for us that we keep true to the end.

In Christian love, —Mrs. Alma Humphrey



La.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, we send greetings of love to you, Maybelle, Marie, and all the workers at the Print Shop in the precious name of Jesus, the One who means everything to God's children:

The Scripture, "Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ," means so much to me, for we can all quote it from the heart and not just with the lips. It is the victory I desire to have all the time over everything that would be contrary in any way to my precious Lord's will. He has done too much for me to

want to hold back a little bit for self and not yield completely to His precious will in everything.

I like the part so well in that song that says, "And gives us the victory again and again." We will have battles again and again as long as we stay here, but thank the Lord, there is a victory for every battle. . . .

We always enjoy getting the "Faith and Victory" to learn how things are going there, and we enjoy the testimonies from different ones telling of the victories and blessings of the Lord. . . .

Dallas Flynn is very poorly. One of his boys or Angus Flynn has to spend the night with them to help during the night for Aunt Mamie isn't able to care for him alone. [Pray for Bro. Dallas, and also for Sister Alta's daughter, Ruth, who is not well.]

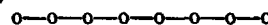
May the Lord bless all of you much in your labors for Him. A Sister in the Lord, —Alta Flynn



Calif.—Dear Saints, greetings: I intended to write you, but became ill the 27th of December and I have not fully recovered yet. The Lord has been merciful and good to me. I appreciate all the saints' prayers and the good care I received here in the Sunset Guest Home at Pacoima. I am still weak and have not been outside yet, but can be around here in the worship services in the Home. I give God praise for seeing fit to spare my life. I told Him I was ready to go and also ready to be healed. My healing is gradual, but God knows best. I have received much good as I lingered along. Part of the time I was not at myself, and some say they saw death in my eyes, but God has seen fit to spare me and has brought me thus far. I thank and praise Him.

I hope all are well there. Christian love to all.

Your Sister, —Rada Watkins

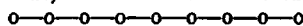


Florida—Dear Sister Miles: Praise God for His wonderful saving and keeping grace. The saints here in Goulds are looking to God for our continual keeping and guidance along the highway of holiness. . . .

We were wonderfully blessed to have had Sister Katherine Williams from Oklahoma in our midst. We were all inspired by her.

We desire the prayers of the saints for the work here, and also for the meeting planned for the middle of April, Lord willing. We are looking forward to meeting the people of God and seeing souls saved and delivered out of confusion.

Yours in Christ, —Hershell and Mary Hargrave



Mo.—Dear Saints: I thank God for salvation and the power it gives those who obey all of God's commandments.

I promised the Lord that I would write my testimony for Him. On January 10, 1969, our older girl, Melisa, became ill with a very high fever. After I got home from work on Friday evening the Scripture, "With His stripes we are healed," kept coming to my mind. The thought also came to me that we do not have to wait for sickness to take its course, but we can claim the healing now. My mind was already made up to trust the Lord, live or die, not only with myself, but with my children, also. So, I got my Bible after worship and proceeded to study the Lord's will on divine healing. The Lord seemed to increase my faith. I then went to prayer. After praying awhile, I got up from prayer and stood looking at our child as she slept. I began praying, standing there. All of a sudden it seemed as if the very presence of God's Spirit came into the room. I stopped praying and went to bed, reminding the Lord of that verse which says, "With

His stripes we are healed." The next morning all the fever was gone from our child. She was up and playing.

How I thanked the Lord! What a blessing that gave my soul and how my faith was increased! I appreciate the Lord so much!

Pray for us that our entire life will be totally consecrated to the Lord.

With Christian love, —Melvin D. Doolittle

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

Kansas—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I was so happy to get to see you at Coffeyville. I just felt that the preaching was very good that day and it was just what I needed. I'm still feasting on what I heard.

I am sure God healed my body that day, of the affliction I requested prayer for, although there are times I have some symptoms. But, by the grace of God, I don't yield. I just thank God for healing me. . . .

I read the books I bought from you at campmeeting, and I thank God for those dear ones who can write such good things. That Bro. C. E. Orr must have been a precious saint. Although I never met him, I certainly enjoy reading his writings. I say that no man liveth unto himself, and no man dieth unto himself.

I'm sending you the missionary check and \$2.00 for the Sunday-school booklet. . . .

May the good Lord bless each one of you is my prayer.

With love, —Mamie Norcutt

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

Virginia—Greetings in Jesus' dear name to all at the Lord's Print Shop where all those tracts, papers, books, and good testimonies come from: The "Faith and Victory" paper is very good. If we keep the faith, we have the victory. Praise the Lord for the truth! The devil would like for this work to slow down. He hates the truth. With a real determination let us all do all we can to keep it going. It costs money and God is looking to everyone to do his part. Sometimes I feel I haven't done my part when I read and know that by the printed page that someone else will find help for his troubled soul. Let us be sure we have done what we could.

Remember me in your prayers.

—Sister Bessie Faudree

Questions and Answers

Question—One group puts out a cry that Jesus did not arise on the first day of the week. Their claim is seventy-two hours exactly, no more, no less. As the crucifixion was on Wednesday P. M., according to their claim, and burial in the evening at about 6:00, that would bring His resurrection to Saturday evening at 6:00 P. M. Are they right or wrong?

Ans.—First, let us consider the hour. The Jews divided their night into four watches of three hours each, and the day into four general parts. The first began at sunrise. The second part three hours after that, the third at mid-day, the fourth three hours after and continued till sunset. Christ, having been nailed to the cross a little after mid-day (John 19:14-17) and having expired about 3:00 o'clock (Mark 15:33) the crucifixion was finished within the space of this third division of the day. (Clarke's Com.) Three of the gospels mention the 9th hour (or 3:00 o'clock) as about the time Jesus expired. (Matt. 27:46-50, Mark 15:34-37, Luke 23:44-46.) It was during

the fourth division of the day, from 3:00 o'clock to about 6:00 o'clock, or sunset, that Jesus was buried.

Now let us consider the day. Matt. 27:62, Mark 15:42, Luke 23:54 and John 19:31 all set the day of the crucifixion as the day of preparation. That was the day immediately preceding the Sabbath. The old Jewish Sabbath was on what we now know as Saturday, therefore the day of preparation would have been Friday. According to the above Scriptures we conclude that about 6:00 o'clock on Friday evening Christ was laid in the tomb. There seems to be no evidence anywhere to support the idea of a Wednesday burial, nor does there seem to be any logical basis for a conclusion that three days must embrace exactly 72 hours. Keep in mind that the old Jewish day ended at sunset and the new day began immediately. Jesus was buried between three and six o'clock on Friday, or the day of preparation, and the Sabbath began at 6:00 o'clock of the same evening, running on through the night and ending at 6:00 P. M. of the next day, when the first day of the week began. That day had progressed through the night hours and to the dawn mentioned in the following texts: Matt. 28:1, Mark 16:1, 2, Luke 24:1, 2, John 20:1. Some time prior to this the Lord had arisen for the angels said, "He is not here, but is risen," indicating that He had already come forth. (See Mark 16:9.) Thirty-six hours are about all that passed from burial to dawn of the first day of the week, but it did involve parts of three days in its accomplishment.

Question—Did the earthquake have anything to do with Christ's resurrection?

Ans.—Literalists, doubting Thomases who must see before they will believe, require an explanation for everything before they are willing to accept it, therefore we hear the report that it was the trembling of the earth that caused the stone to roll from the door of the tomb. The Word plainly states that an angel rolled away the stone. (Matt. 28:2.) The outstanding role of the earthquake in my estimation is its symbolic meaning. The very Son of God, the absolute offspring of the august Majesty on high had just finished giving His life for a wicked, sin-cursed world of lost humanity. That event was accompanied by an earthquake, a symbol of the impact His dying would have upon the whole world. The old Jewish law system with its ritual and show went crumbling into history. All nature was indeed in commotion.

The announcement of His resurrection was also accompanied by an earthquake, a symbol of the impact His rising would have on every nation, kindred, tongue, and people of the earth. No other force in all history has exercised such influence on all mankind as the rising of the Son of God from the tomb! It seems entirely fitting and proper that such an event should be heralded to the world with a fanfare of all nature again in commotion. To my mind this was God's way of introducing His own dear Son to the world a Conqueror, a Ruler, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, a King supreme!

—C. Wilson

SORRY that we do not have space for more writings.