

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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Christ Is Risen!

Christ is risen! Sing all voices!
Earth with heaven now rejoices;
Over winter's night of sadness
Rises springtime's sun of gladness.
Fields new-clothed with living glory
Now proclaim the glad some story:
Christ is risen! All men, sing ye!
Love's fair tribute to Him bring ye!
Christ now lives, who once was dead;
See, the night of doubt has fled.
Lo, the grave is empty now;
He is risen: on His brow
Rests the crown of victory,
Sign of immortality.
Sing ye, heaven and earth, rejoice;
Praise ye Him, each mortal voice.
Sing, ye angels in yon heaven,
Sing in rapture, Christ is risen!

—Anon.

God Values Your Soul

If man should gain the whole world and lose his soul, what would it profit him? This is a question that every man, woman, boy, and girl should ask themselves. When we consider and understand that our life here is only a short span of years at the most, we should make preparations to live on with God after this earthly life is over.

In reading God's sacred word, we find that there is only one way by which any soul can obtain eternal life with God, and that is through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. The apostle Peter says in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." God values your soul very highly and through the giving of His Son to be reviled, defamed, cursed, and put to shame and contempt, slaughtered in crucifixion, He has paid an immense price for your soul.

It is written of Him by the Prophet Isaiah, in the fifty-third chapter, "He is despised and rejected of men: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised and we esteemed him not. Surely, he has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities [not for his iniquities]: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with his stripes we are healed." The immense suffering and humiliation that the Saviour underwent was not for any wrong that He had done, for He "did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth."

God, our Father, saw us in sin, lost and without any hope, and the penalty attached to sin was death and destruction, misery, damnation, and eternal burning. It is written, "For God so loved the world [sinners] that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever [that means you, me, or anybody else] believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

We usually measure the value of a thing by what we are willing to pay for it, so we see that God placed an immense value on our souls for He was willing that His only Son should suffer the awful outrage of wicked and sinful men and be exposed to the ghastly treatment and bear the reality and severe pains of one being crucified, the just suffering for the guilty. The penalty of our sins was eternal death. In order for us to be granted eternal life, the debt of our sins had to be met, had to be paid. It took the blood of an innocent man to pay that debt. Jesus was the only innocent man to be found, for all others had sinned and come short of the glory of God.

John wept when he saw us all in sin and no one was found to open the book and loose the seals thereof. Surely, it was a serious thing and something that should cause great weeping. John was soon comforted, for an elder said, "Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof." Read Revelation, chapter five.

When Jesus Christ, the Son of God, suffered, bled, and died upon the cross, He opened the book of life to every soul; and all who will believe can be freed from sin and death and have eternal life. The precious, innocent blood of the Lamb of God is the immense price that God, who loved you, has paid for your soul; and that Blood, if believed in and received as an atonement for sin, will make the "vilest sinner clean" and innocent.

When the precious Son of God was dying upon the cross, the Father looked down upon the scene from heaven and saw the innocent blood of His dear Son flowing freely. Finally, the anguish, pain, and suffering ceased, and it was finished. The Father was satisfied with the sacrifice that He had made for our sins, and the death sentence was canceled to all that will believe and receive His blood as an atonement for their sins.

If a sinner will become sorry and repent, ask forgiveness for sins committed and accept the blood sacrifice, which Jesus offered for their sins, become satisfied with the atonement made, with which the Father is satisfied; it will put them and God together, for their sins will all be covered by the innocent blood of the Lamb. Then they have peace with God through the sacrifice made by the Lord Jesus Christ.

If souls could realize the extreme suffering and abuse that Jesus, an innocent man, underwent to purchase their salvation, they would have to be hard-hearted indeed to reject such a Saviour and turn from their only hope of eternal life.

To give you some idea of what it means to be crucified, I shall quote from Farrar's "Life of Christ":

"It was unanimously considered the most horrible form of death. Among the Romans, the degradation was also a part of the infliction, and the punishment, if applied to free men, was only used in the case of the vilest criminals. The one to be crucified was stripped naked of all his clothes, and then followed the most awful moment of all. He was laid down upon the implement of torture. His arms were stretched along the cross-beams, and at the center of the open palms the point of a huge iron nail was placed, which by the blow of a mallet, was driven home into the wood. Then through either foot separately, or possibly through both feet together, as they were placed one over the other, another huge nail tore its way through the quivering flesh. Whether the sufferer was also bound to the cross we do not know; but to prevent the hands and feet being torn away by the weight of the body, which could not 'rest upon nothing but four great wounds,' there was, about the center of the cross, a wooden projection strong enough to support, at least a human body, which soon became a weight of agony. Then the 'accursed tree' with its living human burden was slowly heaved up and the end fixed firmly in a hole in the ground.

"The feet were but a little raised above the earth. The victim was in full reach of every hand that might choose to strike. A death by crucifixion seems to include all that pain and death can have of the horrible and ghastly—Dizziness, cramps, thirst, starva-

tion, sleeplessness, traumatic fever, tetanus, publicity of shame, long continuance of torment, horror of anticipation, mortification of untended wounds, all intensified just up to the point at which they can be endured at all, but all stopping short of the point which would give to the sufferer the relief of unconsciousness. The unnatural position made every movement painful; the lacerated veins and crushed tendons throbbed with incessant anguish; the wounds inflamed by exposure, gradually gangrened; the arteries, especially of the head and stomach, became swollen and oppressed with surcharged blood; and, while each variety of misery went on gradually increasing, there was added to them the intolerable pang of a burning thirst. Such was the death to which Christ was doomed."

My dear sinner friend, this is a description of the humiliation and intense suffering that Jesus went through because He loved your soul and wanted you freed from sin and to have eternal life. Jesus is a friend of the sinner. What more could you ask a friend to do to prove to you that he loved you? God valued your soul so highly that He gave His Son as a price for your soul, and Jesus loved you so much that He willingly suffered for your redemption. God is not sending souls to hell, but has made a way for you to escape that awful place, and now, He begs you to plead guilty of sin and ask forgiveness and accept the Blood as an atonement, and have peace with God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Choose life, for eternal life is in His blood.

—The late Fred Pruitt

Pure Gold

Gold, when taken from the mines, has a certain amount of dross in it which has to be removed to make the gold pure. This process is done by putting it through the fire and melting the raw ore. Thus the dross is removed and only the pure gold remains.

Just so it is in our lives when we are taken out of this world of sin. We have dross in our lives that God has to remove in order to bring us out pure and holy in His sight. He uses many ways to bring us through the testing time of the furnace of fire, but if we just hold steady while the fire burns, we will come out as pure gold. Some times we have to go through afflictions, loss of loved ones, loss of possessions or be rejected by those we love dearly, but know for sure that whatever He sees best to take us through will be good for us in removing the dross that is in us. His only purpose in putting us in the furnace is to remove the dross which will hinder us in our Christian walk with the Lord.

Let us look at Job's experience found in Job 23:8-10. He says, "He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." I do not know of anyone who went through as many fiery tests as Job, but they worked out for Him a far better and greater life, for it removed the dross that was in him. Let us not be troubled by the tests

which are to try us, for they will remove the dross which is only a hindrance to us.

James 5:11 says, "Behold, we count them happy which endure." Why? Because it worked out in their lives a removing of the dross. Then 1 Peter 5:10 says, "... after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect..." So the suffering will not harm us, but only help us. It worked out a great work of patience in Job. So may the Lord help us. Let us be patient that we may come forth as gold.

Our dear Bro. Fred Pruitt, who has passed to his reward, used to say, "Don't push aside the tool which God is using to get you to heaven," but let us face the storms of life as the eagle who adjusts his wings and goes right into the storm and it raises him higher and higher until he gets above the storm. These tools that God uses may be afflictions, sorrows, heartaches, persecutions, and losses, but let us not push them aside, for they will work for our good if we will let them.

Let us be of good courage when we face the furnace, knowing it will not harm us, but only bring out the pure gold.

The Apostle Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 4:17, 18, "For our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen..."

—Flossie Atha

The Temple of God

In 1 Chronicles 29:1-5 are a few thoughts recorded that we wish to consider. We will only quote a portion: "Furthermore David the king said, . . . and the work is great: For the palace is not for man but for the Lord God." Then he goes on to tell the wonderful things which he had prepared with all his might in abundance. Think of the value of all those things—gold, silver, brass, iron, wood; all manner of precious stones, glistening stones and marble stones. Then over and above all this, consider that because he had set his affection on the house of his God, what he gave of his own "proper good" willingly—three thousand talents of gold and seven thousand talents of refined silver. It is almost beyond our comprehension how much David valued the temple of God.

Then he asked, "... and who then is willing to consecrate his service this day to the Lord?" Then all the people offered willingly (1 Chron 29:6, 7) "of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand drams, and of silver ten thousand talents and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and of one hundred thousand talents of iron." Along with what Solomon added to all this, you can see that the value of this temple was exceeding great.

Now this temple was built during the time of the Law and of the prophets for worship and to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings. It was only a "shadow of good things to come." See Heb. 10:1. Jesus said,

"The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached and every man presseth into it." Jesus was a Builder and came to build a temple greater and far exceeding Solomon's temple, for it was to be built of far more valuable material than silver and gold, precious stones, and is adorned with far more precious things.

First, let us see this valuable material. Matt. 16:26, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" One soul is worth more than the whole world according to Jesus' evaluation—much more than Solomon's temple. Then think of the thousands of souls which make up this temple or Church of God. It cost more, for Jesus gave His life to redeem souls from eternal destruction. 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

Jesus said He would build His church (Matthew 16:18), and in His first public message He said, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." Matt. 4:17. Through repentance those precious souls are cleansed from sin by faith in the atonement of Christ and they are brought into the kingdom of God. Our characters were ruined by sin, but Jesus, in bringing us into His kingdom, gives us a new life. In John 10:10, Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly." This new life needs to be beautiful, so Christ will beautify it for us. "The Lord taketh pleasure in his people: He will beautify the meek with salvation." Psa. 149:4. The beauty of salvation is wonderful, but we need some more ornaments, because we are to be a part of this wonderful palace Christ is preparing for His Father and Himself, as we shall see.

Bro. Peter describes the graces that we need in our lives in 2 Peter 1:1-8. He speaks of multiplied grace and peace, glory and virtue through the knowledge of God, and the precious promises by which we might be partakers of the divine nature. Then add virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. These are priceless ornaments provided for the adornment of this temple. (See Ephesians 2:19-22.) Seeing then we collectively are the temple of God, the church, and are entrusted with such precious ornaments, also that we are alive unto God for service, here is just a little of our responsibility—to keep out of our lives anything that would hinder or hide from view these ornaments, as Peter brings out so clearly in 1 Peter 3:1-8. Read it.

May God bless every reader and help you to see the glorious beauty of this spiritual temple of God, the church.

—Ray Key

MEETING AT DAYTON, OHIO

A meeting will be held at Dayton, Ohio, on Wednesday, April 2, through April 13, or longer, as the Lord leads. All lovers of the truth are welcome. We are trusting God to send in ministerial help He can use best. The chapel is at 622 Tyron Avenue. For further information, contact Bro. Wm. McCoy, 24 Belpre Place, Dayton, Ohio 45403. Phone (513) 253-5087.

EDITORIALS

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(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the services and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 24:2; 1st Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House.

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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A hearty welcome and a sincere "thank you" are extended to the readers who have become regular subscribers by returning the pink subscription remittance envelope attached to the wrapper of those special "trial" copies which expired with the March issue. Perchance you have not yet returned the pink expiration envelope, please do so at once in order that you will not miss a copy. The response to this gospel literature extension effort is very encouraging, and we pray that the "glad tidings" of the gospel will move onward in an ever-widening circle until it reaches the shores of eternity. Quite a number of new readers have written how they appreciated the truth presented, and now they want to receive a copy every month. God's Word will not return to Him void, but will accomplish that whereunto He has sent it. May the Holy Spirit continue to illuminate the Bible truths on various subjects which will appear in the forthcoming issues.

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Job, the perfect man in his generation, posed this age-old question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" Job 14:14. The question of immortality—life beyond the grave—has intrigued the mind of man through the ages. The infidel says that death ends all. The skeptic says he doesn't know, that no one knows for certain. The Christian says, "I know my Redeemer lives. . . . I shall see Him."

Jesus Christ answers the question with a clear declaration of the general resurrection of all that are in the graves at the last day: "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; they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28, 29. Jesus promised His disciples, ". . . because I live, ye shall live also." John 14:19b. Furthermore, He said, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. Christ is the firstfruits of the resurrection. The Apostle Paul wrote: "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." 1 Cor. 15:20, 22, 23. The fact of Christ's resurrection is proof that we also shall be resurrected at the last day when the trump of God shall sound. From heaven we look for our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, "who shall change our vile [decaying] body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body . . ." Phil. 3:21. This unfailing promise should carry us onward and upward until our faith is lost in sight.

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FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover reported March 9 that "violent" crime increased by 19 per cent in the United States last year. Student riots at colleges and secondary schools are spreading in defiance of "law

and order." Moral standards and all sense of right and wrong are breaking down. The world is reverting to heathenism at a fast rate. No doubt, very soon the people will reach the depths of wickedness like those of the antediluvian world when God saw "that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually," and He said to Noah, "The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them from the earth." Gen. 6:5, 13.

The rainbow in the sky is the sign of God's promise that He would not again destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, with water. But the destruction of the present evil world will be total and complete. The Apostle Peter writes: "The heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. . . . But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up [not burned over]. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we [God's redeemed people], according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:7, 10-13.

Bro. Mart Samons, evangelist from Danville, Ky., held a revival meeting at Enid, Okla., beginning on March 1. It was a precious meeting with good results. On March 9 to 16 Bro. Samons held a profitable meeting here at Guthrie, Okla. The Word was richly anointed, souls were blessed and the church was edified. The truth went forth clear and definite.

Just recently we were advised by Grace Henry, the author of the book, "Highways and Hedges—Labors of Faith Stewart," that copies are still available. We have placed our order and expect to have this book again in stock very soon. Cloth binding. Price, \$2.15 each, postpaid.

The book, "Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner" by A. L. Byers, is in stock again. The volume has 496 pages in nice gold-lettered cloth binding. Price, \$4.00 each, postpaid.

Three more excellent out-of-print books are now in the process of being reprinted and are expected to be completed in the month of April. Send your order and remittance now and they will be postpaid to you as soon as they are ready. The titles are as follows:

"Stories of Home Folks" by Mabel Hale. About 60 actual incidents from real life—sound instruction for all ages. Paper binding, 160 pages. Price, \$1.00 per copy.

"How John Became a Man" by Isabel Byrum. Life story of a motherless boy, especially good for children and young people. Paper binding, 56 pages. Price, 40c each, or 3 for \$1.00.

"Steps Heavenward" by R. L. Berry. Clear Biblical instructions to the Christian on how to gain and keep the victory amid temptations, doubts, and feelings, on his journey to heaven. Paper binding, 123 pages. Price, 60c each, or two for \$1.00.

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At Easter Services in Dayton, Ohio

Lord willing, my wife, Maybelle, and my sister, Marie Miles, and this writer will attend the services on Easter Sunday (April 6) at the Church of God chapel in Dayton, Ohio where Bro. Wm. McCoy is taking care of the work. The chapel is located at 622 Tyron Avenue. We would be pleased to meet all the saints and readers in that area on that date. It is seldom that we can arrange for all of us to get away from the office at the same time. Perhaps we can also visit briefly some of our readers on our route going to and returning from Dayton if it can be arranged before we leave Guthrie on April 3 or 4. Bro. McCoy's home address is 24 Belpre Place, Dayton, Ohio 45403. Phone (513) 253-5087.

—Lawrence Pruitt

OBITUARIES



Mrs. Eva Clara Wiggins was born Aug. 11, 1892. She died March 7, 1969 at the age of 76 years.

Sister Wiggins was at her son's home when she had a stroke, and was ill only a few days. She was conscious a short while.

She leaves three sons, three daughters, nineteen grandchildren, and forty-one great grandchildren.

She was buried beside her husband, Bro. E. C. Wiggins, in Greenlawn Cemetery, Hammond, La.

Ministers officiating were M. F. Williamson, T. H. Coffey, and J. R. Brown. "Hope," was the theme of the message. Scripture texts used were: Rom. 15:4; Titus 1:1, 2; 1 Cor. 15:12-20; Heb. 6:18, 19; Rom. 8:24, 25; 1 Thess. 4:13.

—M. F. Williamson

Paul Alexander Lawson was born to Dennis and Minnie Lawson on October 11, 1903, and departed this life in Webb City, Mo., on March 1, 1969, at the age of 65 years, 4 months, and 17 days.

He was blessed by having had a godly example set before him, and about 35 years ago, he gave his heart to the Lord and embraced the truth of this Evening Light Reformation. He was a talented brother, especially in his ability and gift in singing bass. He felt his call to the ministry and labored in this capacity in several different states. He possessed a real sweet, humble, tender spirit. He was a real family man and made good provision for his own. "The memory of the just is blessed."

He was united in holy matrimony to Glenna Taylor, August 15, 1934, at Granby, Mo., and to this union four children were born, one son preceding him in death.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Glenna, of the Webb City home; four daughters, Mrs. June Carrick, Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. Anna Mae Koller, Tulsa, Okla., Miss

Mary Lawson, Pacoima, Calif., and Miss Debbie Lawson, Covina Calif.; four brothers, Willis, Yucca City, Calif., Clyde, Mira Loma, Calif., Dennis, San Bernardino, Calif., and Alva Lawson, Webb City, Mo.; three sisters, Sally Black, Duenweg, Mo., Ruth Ellison, Carthage, Mo., and Mildred Clark, Vista, Calif., and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Webb City, Mo., by Bro. Charles R. Smith. Interment was in Carterville, Mo., cemetery.

Robert Theodore Thomas House was born June 26, 1905, to Jesse and Ardelia Thomas House at Dover, Okla., and departed this life March 1, 1969, in Wichita, Kansas, at the age of 63 years and 8 months.

He married Mary A. Phillips on June 6, 1926. They were blessed with 11 children (all girls), two of whom, Izabelle and Darlene, preceded their father in death.

Bro. House loved his wife and children. He will be greatly missed by his family, but their loss is heaven's gain. He had accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and was thereby born into the Church of God.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife, Mary; nine daughters, Sonya, of the home, Mrs. Gladys Jackson, Mrs. Oretta Faust, Mrs. Virgie Walker, Mrs. Gaynell Ross, Mrs. Mary Cook, and Mrs. Ardelia McCray, all of Wichita, Kansas, Mrs. Oletha Oliver of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mrs. Ora Scruggs, Tokyo, Japan; four brothers, two sisters, 23 grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

The funeral services were held at the Church of God chapel, Wichita, Kansas, with Bro. Lewis Williams officiating. Interment was in Highland Cemetery, Wichita.

This is to convey our sympathy
To the family of Robert T. House;
To the children and other relatives
But especially to Mary, his spouse.

Some things are hard for us to understand,
And with death that is often so,
For many of us utter, "Oh, my Father, Why
Did my loved one so soon have to go?"

God does not always answer us,
Or in time we may sometimes see;
Yet He simply wants us to trust Him
And allow Him our comfort to be.

Take heart and just look to the Saviour,
And ask Him to stay by your side;
He will grant you such wonderful comfort,
And peace that will ever abide.

Our Lord knows how much you will miss him,
But He's able to heal up the ache,
And give you grace with which you can bear it
For He knows just how much you can take.

Just hold on to the very fond memories
That are yours to treasure and keep,
And remember that the dead in Christ Jesus
Are just resting, for they're merely asleep.

So all who want to meet with him later,
Make sure to get ready while here;
Then you, too, can rest sweetly with Jesus
And reunite with the one you loved dear.

—With deepest sympathy,
Wichita Congregation of the Church of God,
Bro. Lewis Williams, Pastor

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.

Fresno, Calif.—August 8 to 17.

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

Meeting Notices

REVIVAL MEETING AT GOULDS, FLA.

Lord willing, there will be a ten-day revival meeting held at Goulds, Fla., on April 11 to 20, inclusive. This is a new field and will be the first meeting of this sort held in Goulds.

A company of saints and ministers are expected to attend this meeting. Bro. Lewis Williams, Bro. I. C. Chandler, Bro. H. P. Effinger, and others plan to be there. Pray for them.

We are looking to the Lord to especially work in this meeting, that the old-time truth will be preached in its fullness, that souls will be saved, believers sanctified, bodies healed, and the saints edified—all to the glory of God. This is a young congregation which has come out of "Babylon" and taken their stand for the truth. They need the prayers of the saints in their endeavor to stand for the truth through persecutions. Pray for the meeting.

A warm invitation is extended to all to attend these services. Mail correspondence to Bro. I. C. Chandler or Sister Katherine Williams, in care of the pastor, Bro. Herschell Hargrave, 10835 S. W. 221st St., Goulds, Fla. 33170, phone (305) 248-2949. —Sister Katherine Williams

SERVICES IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Sunday-school and worship services are being held at 111½ East Third Street in Fort Worth, Texas, on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Sunday-school convenes at 10:00 A. M. with worship service following. Dinner is served, after which the afternoon service is begun.

An attempt is being made to find a more suitable location. When found, a notice will appear in this paper.

The truths of God's Word have been going forth under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Pray for this new field of labor, and come and worship with us.

For further information, contact Sister Wilma Meek, 2924 Field, Fort Worth, Texas 76117, Ph. (817) TE 1-1927, or Brother Edwin Wilson, 513 N. W. 88th Street, Okla. City, Okla., 73114, Ph. (405) 842-2989.

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT SHREVEPORT, LA.

The Shreveport, La., church has set Sunday, April 13 as a special day, with plans for all-day services—that is, Sunday-school and preaching before noon, then an after-dinner service of song. This is an invitation to one and all to come and join with the saints at Shreveport, to gladden their hearts with your presence and participation. Come with a song, new or old, come with a message! Come with an exhortation, a testimony, a prayer! If you don't have either, come and listen. Mother and father, bring your children. Young people, bring your friends. Children, bring Grandma and Grandpa. An old-fashioned dinner will be served in the basement before afternoon service. The chapel is at 7106 Southern Ave., Shreveport. —Genevieve Carver

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT DECATUR, ILL.

There will be an all-day meeting on the second Sunday in April (April 13) at the YMCA in Decatur, Ill., with dinner served. All those within driving distance are urged to come and be with us. We would like to have all-day services each month, Lord willing. Pray much for these services.

For further information, please contact Louia A. Morgan, 2347 North Oakland, Decatur, Ill. 62526, Ph. 877-1854, or Murphy Allen, Rt. 1, Box 161, Senath, Mo., 63876, Ph. 738-2551. —Murphy Allen

SPRING MEETING AT BOLEY, OKLA.

The Boley, Okla., spring meeting will be a little later than usual, and will only be a week's meeting instead of a ten-day meeting. Lord willing, the Boley revival will begin Monday night, April 28, and continue through Sunday, May 4. There will be all-day services on Sunday.

We are looking to the Lord to send Spirit-filled ministers to help in this meeting. We desire the prayers of the saints that the Lord will especially work in the meeting. We extend an invitation to all to come and be with us.

For further information, write Sister Ora Spears, Route 1, Boley, Okla. 74829, or Sister Katherine Williams, 905 N. E. 15th St., Okla. City, Okla. 73104, ph. CE 5-2270.

WORK DAYS ON MYRTLE, MO., CAMPGROUND

In the business meeting at the Myrtle, Mo., campmeeting last year the suggestion was made and agreed upon to build cabins on the grounds. These accommodations are needful for housing the increasing numbers attending the meeting. This will require a lot of labor and means. At this writing some offerings have been given, and the project has been started. By faith, we trust to have some of the cabins ready for use at this campmeeting.

The trustees thought it would be good to set the first two weeks in May for working on the building. Planning it over this extended period of time will be an advantage for some coming to help. If you cannot come during this time, but could help later, you may contact any of the undersigned for further information. Please pray for the workers and that God will supply every need.

The custom has been that the sisters in the congregation take cooking utensils, and other items necessary to cook with, from their own homes to be used during the meeting. A few items have been supplied for the kitchen through the years. There is still a great need.

We feel it would be good for the kitchen to be equipped with its own utensils and not have to borrow each year.

Last year, in making preparation for the meeting, we noticed that several of the quilts and blankets are wearing out. A large number of these are used because of the very cool nights.

If you are interested in helping with any of these needs, we urge you to do it freely as unto the Lord. We want to be sure our works are done because we love the Lord and His cause in the world today. When we give with this attitude, our sacrifice is accepted and we are rewarded. We want to be faithful and have the Lord's work foremost in our hearts and lives. Offerings may be sent to A. J. Sorrell, Rt. 1, Box 117, Myrtle, Mo. 65778; Thurman Sorrell, Rt. 1, Myrtle, Mo. 65778; or Sam Sorrell, Rt. 2, Box 51, Thayer, Mo. 65791.

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

Kerala, South India (March 12)—Dear Bro. Lawrence Pruitt and all the family of God in America: Warm greetings again in the holy and powerful name of Jesus Christ who is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

Thank you for your letter dated the 24th of February, 1969, and I am glad to note the contents.

I returned home only last week after my northern trip, and by God's grace it was a successful one. The convention at Parannoor was also a blessed one. God worked on the heart of a young woman. She gave her heart to God by accepting Jesus Christ as her Savior and thus presented herself completely unto the Lord. As she desired, she was baptized (immersed) that day. Praise the Lord! Actually that was a happy day for heaven and for us, because her name was also enrolled in the Book of Life. Thus, one more member was added to the Church of God. (Acts 2:47). Pray for her.

After this convention, I, with two other workers, namely, Bro. K. M. Raphad and Bro. K. C. Varghese, visited our brethren at Challissery, Kunnam Kulam, Trichur, Porkulam, Pazhanji, and Cherackal. I was very happy to know that though physically poor, they are rich in spirit. They are not at all disappointed in their poverty. Please remember our brethren in India in your daily prayers. Special meetings were conducted in these places (in their own chapels) and I am thankful to God for His grace to use me as a useful vessel in these meetings.

After visiting these places, we went to Calicut which is the northern-most part of Kerala. The people at Calicut are having great spiritual thirst, and I think you have a clear idea about the church at Calicut from my father. As the Holy Spirit directed, we conducted a two-day meeting there. We were very happy that a college student came under the blessing of salvation and he was also baptized that day at Calicut. We invite your prayers for the spiritual growth of this young man, also.

We have two more conventions next month at Niranam and Trichur. Please pray that more and more youngsters may come forward courageously.

Some more tracts are being translated and I shall send the copies to you as they get printed. While it is day we must work because the night comes when no man can work. (John 9:4) We request your earnest prayers and co-operation for the progress of the Lord's work in India. Our prayers are with you and your valuable work there.

Yours in the Master's service, —John Varghese

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NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Midwest Nigeria (Feb. 6)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints abroad, greetings of sincere love in Jesus' holy name: We thank you for your nice letter dated January 15, 1969, and for its contents which were duly noted.

Bro. Benson who pastors the Benin City congregation has, in his letter dated Jan. 23, 1969, revealed God's marvelous work in their midst. Thanksgiving service was successfully held there and through its medium God added souls to the church. . . .

Abbi congregation marches on steadily, Christ being the Founder of the church. The gates of hell shall never prevail against it. Sunday, the 9th of February, 1969, has been appointed a day for another baptism of the converted brethren. . . .

I am personally requesting you, the saints, for prayer in behalf of members of Abbi congregation of Church of God for an increase of faith. For if our faith goes, everything goes; our joy, our peace, our love, our power, and our usefulness. Jesus said, "I have prayed . . . that thy faith fail not." He brought Peter through because He prayed for him and He will bring us through because He is praying for us. What a wonderful Lord and Saviour and Friend He is!

Sincerely in His service, —Pastor Titus U. E. Enu

Prayer Requests



Kentucky—"My wife has been very ill. I ask an interest in your prayers that the good Lord will help me to be able to wait on her. He has been so good to us both. We are up in years. We have a family of five children, the youngest is 50 years old. Three of them are unsaved. Pray earnestly that they will give their hearts to God before it is too late." —J. W. Benton.

Ill.—"I've had headache for three or four days. I think it is caused from infected sinus as my eyes ache, too. Pray earnestly for my healing. I hope to be able to attend some of the meetings this summer. . ." —Mrs. Nina Champion.

Ind.—Sister Lowell Wilson's son had to quit school because of being so nervous. Her son and wife are getting a divorce and she feels so sorry for the children. She is not well and her husband is afflicted with palsy. Do take all of them to the Lord in prayer.

Okla.—Sister Lebow has pains in her body and has lost weight.

Pa.—"I desire prayer for diabetes, ulcer, and a throat condition." —Rebecca House.

Ohio—"I suffer quite a lot with my stomach." —Sister Maudie Sharp.

Texas—"Various afflictions." —Mrs. C. A. Amos.

Calif.—"My wife had the flu and is suffering from the effects of it, also other serious afflictions." —H. P. Huskey.

Mo.—"Continue to pray for my husband. . . . He has hiatal hernia of the stomach. He aches and has burning all over his body. He also has an over-acid stomach. He suffers greatly." —Ellen Wilson.

Okla.—Sister Harrison wants prayer for her unsaved loved ones. Her husband and daughter were in the hospital. Her knees gave way and she fell.

Mo.—"Husband had a stroke four years ago and cannot talk. . . . My health is bad." —Mrs. R. A. Dunway.

Mo.—"Pray for a friend. . . . He has serious bone trouble. . . . I have ruptured stomach, broken health . . . have many burdens." —Mrs. B. Golden.

Iowa—" . . . high blood pressure." —Sister Charles Green.

Ill.—"Bladder and heart ailment . . . husband has pains in face." —Luvena Toler.

Ore.—Sister O. K. Myers, a mother in Israel, has been suffering with arthritis in her shoulders and arms.

Phone Calls: Ark.—Sister Pearl Steele wanted prayer for herself, her husband in the hospital, and a son in Vietnam.

Colo.—Bro. McEndree wants prayer for a couple in whom they are interested. The woman suffers greatly with her head. They desire spiritual help.

Ind.—Edna Hammond is having a lot of trouble in soul, mind, and body.

Calif.—Sister Jettie Mae Phillips wanted prayer for her body.

Texas—Carolyn Holland desired prayer for her children as they have been having the flu. Other requests, also. Pray for the work of the Lord at Pampa.

La.—Bro. Coffey had the flu again and was suffering intensely with his head. Sister Coffey is better.

Ind.—"I have neuritis and pleurisy . . . suffering greatly. I have been healed of arthritis in my shoulder and neck, also gall bladder trouble." —Sister Mae Hill

Mo.—"I have some friends who have twin boys almost 21 years old. One of these boys, Donald Morrison, has had a nervous breakdown. He is in the Veterans' Hospital. I told his mother I would write for prayer. . . . I have some afflictions and unspoken requests." —Thelma Holbrook.

We are thankful for how the Lord has blessed Sister Jessie Taylor. She was out to prayer meeting last night for the first time in months. She still needs prayer but has good courage. She appreciates all of the saints' prayers.

We do thank the Lord for answering prayer for the different ones. We would like to see more working of the Lord, but we do thank God for the way He does hear and answer prayer. We need to remember the many times the Lord has heard and answered prayer. It should build up our faith. I read in Mark 6:51, 52 where Jesus walked on the water and calmed the rough sea. It said that the disciples were "sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered. For they considered not the miracle of the loaves." They had forgotten about the other miracles Jesus had done. We do not want to forget all that Jesus did while here on the earth and also since He has ascended into heaven. He has not changed, but is the same today. —Sister M. Miles

Love is never rude, seeks not her own, nor fights for her own rights, is never resentful, never imagines that others are plotting evil against her.

Home is the acid test of the truly yielded life, for in all other phases of Christian service there is a certain amount of glamour; but in the home one is confronted with the bare facts of life, stripped of all glamour. The home is given to help every Christian "not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think." And it is in the home that we have the privilege of demonstrating that the Christian life is "faith which worketh by love." —Author unknown

From The Mail Box . . .

Florida—Dear Sister Marie, greetings to you and all there at the Print Shop in the name of our Lord who is our all in all. I am happy in the Lord for the grace He shows to me. . . .

I was happy to have Sister Katherine Williams visit us for two weeks. I count it a great blessing from the Lord to have her in my home. . . . She is a very sweet saint of God. . . . Bro. Hargrave and his congregation seemed glad to have her with them in their services. We were with them in their services the two Sundays she was here. . . . They are with me here in Ft. Lauderdale each Wednesday night when there is no hindrance. I do enjoy having them.

We are looking forward to a revival meeting at Goulds, Lord willing, where Bro. Hargrave is pastor. [Meeting is set to start April 11.] Pray for its success in the salvation of the lost, the sanctification of the believers, and a deeper consecration of the saints. Pray the Lord to send messengers of His own choosing, and give anointing to His Word that it may be far-reaching, for truly the truth is needed in this place where there is so much false doctrine. . . . I plan to worship with the saints at Goulds twice a month, Lord willing, until the Lord works out something here. . . .

I want to thank you for the literature that Sister Williams brought, as I kept some here and Bro. Hargrave took some to Goulds with him. I'm enclosing a small donation. . . .

May God bless each one and your efforts there in getting out the Word of God in print.

Yours in the One Body, —Sister Mattie B. Savage

Mo.—Dear Friends: I have received your magazine for the first two months of this year. . . . Thank you so much for sending the paper. I shall renew my subscription for one year. Also send the paper to . . .

I note that your paper has not advanced in price as everything else has . . . —Mrs. Frank Morris

Canada—Dear Sirs: I read a copy of your paper and enjoyed it very much.

So often, when we trust God exclusively, we feel as Elijah did when he said to the Lord, "and I only am left," all the rest have turned to Baal. But it is so delightful to read of others who are trusting in God for healing, and receiving it!

I enclose a dollar. Please put me on your mailing list for the "Faith and Victory" paper. —Mrs. John Rabel

Calif.—Dear Ones in Christ: May the dear Lord richly bless each of you dear ones in body and soul and may your lives be lengthened out for the good of many precious souls and to the glory of God.

Please send this offering to India to those needy ones who are starving for food for soul and body.

May the dear Lord keep the good word going out in Jesus' precious name. I pray daily for the work of God.

—Sister Ella V. Phillips

Ill.—Dear Sister Marie and all at the Print Shop, greetings in Jesus' dear name: This leaves me happy in the Lord and thankful for His love and mercy. I am thankful for the "Faith and Victory" paper and its truth.

We still have our little prayer meeting every Sunday night. Sister Thelma Sprague from Du Quoin comes down. Pray for us. . . .

Yours in Christian love, —Mrs. Mildred Snell

Mo.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings in Jesus' name: We do trust that the Lord is blessing you physically and spiritually in every needed way. We are praying that the publishing work will be a blessing to many. . . .

The Lord is blessing the little work here at Senath, Mo. We had our all-day meeting here yesterday, March 2. We had good attendance and good services. I suppose you knew about the rotating of our all-day meetings at Myrtle, Mo., Grubbs, Ark., and here at Senath, Mo. The next all-day service on the first Sunday of the month (April 6) will be at Grubbs, then in May it will be at Myrtle, Mo., and then back to Senath in June. We believe it will work real well this way. . . .

Yours in Him,

—Murphy Allen

Oklahoma.—Dear Workers at the Print Shop: We greet you in Jesus' dear name. We would like to express how we appreciated the Lord's goodness to us in sending one of His servants to Nowata, Okla., for a few nights' meeting—from Jan. 30 through Feb. 3. Bro. Wm. McCoy from Dayton, Ohio, brought messages on the Kingdom of God, sanctification, the true church, and he touched on many other good truths of God's Word. We felt that God had prepared us a feast of heavenly food for our spiritual growth, and how we enjoyed it!

Pray for the few here that our congregation will grow and that we will abound in God's plan for all of us.

—Mike Goodwin

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer

Kentucky (March 13)—Dear Bro. Lawrence, Sister Marie, co-workers, and saints everywhere: We send greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus. We are glad to report that we are still on the battlefield for the Lord and have victory in our souls. Praise be to God!

We would like to witness to what great things the Lord has done for us in the past few months. In November I made a trip north, and while there took a deep cold with chills, so I left for home and arrived here on Friday night. I continued to get worse. On Sunday I took my bed with what seemed to be double pneumonia. I would show some improvement, then turn for the worse again, until I was bedfast for about eight weeks. There were three different times that I thought the Lord was going to take me on Home. I felt it would only be a few minutes until I would see what heaven looked like. I was looking for the angels to come for me, but instead, in answer to prayer, the Lord touched my body and I would get better. At one time my neck and face began to turn numb and I was very low. Again prayer was offered by the dear saints across the country, and in about ten minutes I felt the numbness leave. What a mighty God we serve!

The one thing that seemed to bother me the most was that the Lord hid Himself from me to where I could not feel His presence. I would pray and it seemed to be of no use. I would search my life, and could not find anything in the way. I would search for the Lord in every way I knew how, yet I could not feel His presence. I considered the matter and prayed to the Lord like this, "Lord, I have done nothing worthy of your mercies, and though I am nothing and not worthy to come in Thy presence myself, yet, through the blood of Jesus, I come to You, pleading the merits of Jesus' blood on behalf of my soul, and through faith, I commit myself unto Thee." In a short time, we received a letter from one of God's servants, telling us they had been praying for our healing. While in prayer, they saw a vision of God's big

hand, and I was lying in His hand with His thumb and fingers bent down over me. The Lord's servant asked the Lord to heal me and send me out in the field again to work for Him. The Lord spoke and said, "He is in my hand." When this letter came, I felt a deep assurance in my heart that the Lord would not fail me and my faith was stronger.

We would like to thank all the saints for the many prayers, cards, phone calls, love offerings, for those who came and labored in the home with us, and those who offered to come if needed. We just can't find words to express the deep appreciation in our hearts to God and His people. We know that it is only through His mercy and the prayers of His people that I am living today.

For about three months I could only read a few lines at a time, but praise God, in answer to prayer, I am now able to read well again. At this writing I am getting along real well. Sunday before last we were able to go to Junction City, Ky., and last Sunday we went to Dayton, Ohio, for meeting. It was wonderful to meet with the saints again, and worship our Lord together in truth and in Spirit.

Please remember us still in your prayers. I'm still not able to preach, as my lungs are very weak and tender and take spells hurting very much. But we are looking to our God, who has already done so much for us, to complete the job He has started.

We want to say we have fully trusted God for our healing and expect to trust Him for the rest of our lives by His grace and help. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." Praise God! I love Him. He has done so much for me.

Your Brother in Christ,

—Curtis Williams
Clearfield, Ky. 40313

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

N. Car.—Holy greetings to all the brethren everywhere in the name of our beloved Savior:

The little flock here are all well at this writing, thank the Lord! Some of us have been quite sick from time to time, however. But we are happy to report that we trusted in the Lord for our healing and not the "arm of flesh." Praise His Name! We are so glad that we have one in whom we can trust. I have heard of doctors not being available at certain hours of the night, but, praise the Lord, our Physician is available both night and day.

Bro. and Sister Gordon Humphrey and son have visited us twice since I sent in a testimony. We enjoyed having them here so very much. Bro. Humphrey brought some encouraging messages to us.

We have missed Bro. Curtis Williams' visits since he has been ill. He certainly has been a blessing to us. We are so glad to hear that the Lord has raised him up again and he will soon be able to get out for the Lord once more. We also hope that the Lord has touched dear Sister Williams' body, too.

The Lord is continuing to add to the church. We really need a chapel. Here lately we have had quite a few visitors. We feel that more people would come if we had a chapel. So we are asking all our brothers and sisters everywhere to be agreed with us in prayer concerning a building for the Lord's service. We have five large beautiful lots, all paid for and the deeds in our hands. There's actually enough land for a campmeeting site. We believe that the Lord gave it to us for this purpose. We know that there's nothing too hard for the Lord.

We would like very much to have some of our brothers who know something about building to come and help us.

We do not have money enough to buy building materials and pay a contractor or a builder. So if any of the saints feel led to help us with the building we will surely be thankful. A few people have promised to help us as soon as we get started.

Do pray that God will strengthen our new-born babes in Christ. Also remember the ones who have back-slidden.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister C. B. Nelson

Route 8, Stanley Rd., Durham, N. C. 27704

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

Mich.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We sent you a letter requesting prayer for our son. . . . He has infection in the thyroid gland and it has his system upset all over. Pray for him for soul and body.

Oh, if people would look to the greatest Healer there ever was! He knows and He cares. He doesn't have to run tests. . . . When I had cancer, I know the people would not have believed I had it if the doctors hadn't said I did. They didn't treat me. They wanted to operate, but I wouldn't let them. I trusted the Lord and He healed me. The doctors themselves could hardly believe it. They told me when I left the hospital that I would be back there in six months' time for an emergency operation. It has been twenty-seven years this month since I was there, and I haven't gone back yet. Praise His name!

I believe God will heal our son, and we ask you to still be agreed with us for his healing and salvation.

Pray for us that we keep true and faithful. I could not go on without Him. . . .

In Christian love,

—Floyd and Esther Hines

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

La.—Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord: Greetings of love to all the faithful workers at the Lord's Print Shop who are laboring day after day to get the gospel message to the world by the printed pages.

We appreciate all the literature that comes from the Lord's Print Shop, and may the Lord ever bless to keep it flowing on pure and clear until Jesus comes to claim His own.

We love the Lord with all our hearts and count it a privilege to bear the cross and suffer with Him here that we may reign with Him eternally. Praise His dear name forever!

I want to thank each and every one of the saints who have held us up to God in prayer, and also for the many letters of encouragement since Wife has been afflicted. It will be five years April 2, 1969, since she was brought down with a stroke. The dear saints everywhere are holding on in prayer for her. Also, we want to thank everyone who has sent cards of cheer and comfort during this time of sorrow and affliction. We pray God to reward each one for your acts of love and kindness to us. Please continue to remember Wife in prayer.

We believe God is working in all things. We have our lives and all that we have consecrated to God and mean to keep yielded to all His will by His grace and help. We have prayed many times that the Lord will help us to really be humble in heart and bring us closer to Him, also to bring us safely to heaven whatever the cost to us may be. Now we count God faithful to hear the sincere cry of our heart, and know that He is working all things for our good and His glory. We give Him thanks and praise, knowing that He loves us too much to let one trial more than is needed come upon us. . . .

May the Lord ever keep His hand on you and the work there and make the literature a blessing to everyone it may reach.

Your Brother in the One Body,

—G. A. Nichols
Loranger, La. 70446

Kanſas—Dear Readers: I want to testify how the Lord has helped me. By not knowing and walking in the full light of the Lord, I let a great hindrance come into my life. When I learned the truth of how wrong it was, I could not overcome by myself, but I promiſed the Lord if He would help me out, I would testify through the "Faith and Victory" paper. The Lord juſt took over and helped in the moſt marvelous way. When there is ſin in our lives we cannot pleaſe God. But when we give our hearts completely to the Lord, He helps us. "For thou art the God of my ſtrength." Pſa. 43:2. David of old prayed, "Deliver me from all my tranſgreſſions. Make me not the reproach of the fooliſh." Pſa. 39:8.

Dear Christian friends, do not give up praying. The victory may already be in sight. Keep on praying.

Psa. 40:13, "Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me: O Lord, make haste to help me." I pray the Lord to guide and help me in His service. I love my blessed Lord more each day.
—A loving friend

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie and fellow-workers for our Lord: "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Psalm 103:1, 2.

As I send my testimony to this good "Faith and Victory" paper, I feel like the Psalmist David of old. I don't want to ever forget the benefits of my Lord and Saviour. He has been so good to me. God has healed me many times, and helped me through many trials and battles of life.

I sent a testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper when I was just 12 years old. That was in the year of 1926, just a short time after I had found the Saviour sweet to my soul. He had sanctified me wholly, and filled me with the Holy Ghost. It still holds good over these many years. By the grace of God I mean to go all the way with Jesus.

About fifteen years ago the Lord promised me He would save my husband. I did not know when He was going to do it, but I believed that He would. In May of last year the Lord wonderfully saved him. God answered a prayer He had stored in heaven until His time to answer it. Praise God for the answer! He has been a blessing to me since he got saved. Now I have help in prayer, as we travel this highway of holiness together for the Lord: . . .

I am sending a small offering and a dollar for the "Faith and Victory" paper for three years. May God bless you is my prayer. —Sister Gladys Wheeler

La.—Dear Sister Marie and all the dear saints, greetings in Jesus' dear name: This leaves me saved and happy to be a child of God. I am so thankful He ever put a love in my heart for the truth of His Word. I am grateful for all the dear saints and their prayers. They mean more to me than words can express. I feel I would never have seen the beautiful church of God and accepted this true and holy way if it hadn't been that the saints were praying for those who have an honest heart but were in deception and needed deliverance. God heard and answered prayer in my behalf, and I am sure He will for others. We need to keep encouraged and keep praying.

I like the thought expressed by a sister recently, "Souls need encouragement and not criticism." Do pray for me that I will be an encouragement and not a hindrance along this pilgrim way.

I want to thank the Lord for coming to my rescue recently. I had a hurting under my left shoulder blade when I went to bed. It would get easy, then it would

hurt again. But the Lord touched and healed me and I am so thankful. Praise His sweet name!

The dear Lord is working out problems for me, too. Surely we are serving a mighty God who can do all things.

I like to read the "Faith and Victory" paper and all the good testimonies. It seems as though I had heard from home. The family of God is something to be thankful for, especially if we are part of it. May the dear Lord bless each one is our prayer.

My foot and ankle are improving, for which I am thankful, but I am expecting complete victory. Keep praying for me. Also, remember my children and their families who are unsaved that they will be saved before too late.

May the Lord continue to bless and preserve His work there at the Lord's Print Shop.

Yours for the Truth,

—Effie Miller

Okla.—Dear Ones at the Print Shop, greetings of love in Jesus' dear name: I want you to know what the Lord has done for me in answer to prayer. He has healed me of the paralytic stroke I had in my lower limbs. He healed the sore on my lower lip which had begun to bleed at times and sometimes was painful. It had been there for ten years or longer. Thank you for your prayers. I still need prayer for catarrh in my head and throat. I am asking the Lord to restore my hearing as it is getting real bad. The Lord says as our faith is, so be it unto us. Praise the Lord for what He has done!

May the Lord's blessings be upon each one of you
at the Print Shop. —Walter Worley

S. Dak.—Dearest Sister Marie and dear ones who have been praying for us here: It seems I cannot find words to express the wonder of the preciousness of the love of God. O, the magnitude, the vastness of His mighty power toward His unworthy creatures. My husband had an affliction for more than a year and he gradually grew worse. Caring for him was sapping my strength until I wondered if I could hold out. I would call upon God continually for help and strength, and He never failed to renew my strength, but I was often despondent. This winter has been unusually severe—so very much snow and cold. My husband decided to have surgery and asked me to pray for him. I told him the Lord could heal him, but he thought the Lord needed help. I felt led to call for prayer: Though it was minor surgery, in his condition I am fully assured that it was only the mercy and goodness of God that brought him through to health, and he feels so, too, deep in his heart.

During the more than two weeks he was in the hospital, I was alone here on the farm with my 11-year-old grandson Don, who attended school. Much of the outside chores fell to my lot—caring for the hogs and cattle. Asa, my husband, was reluctant to leave the chores for me, but there was no one else. I said, "Never fear, for my trust is in the Lord." Consider, Sister Marie, I am 75 years old and have been quite frail, and my indoor duties had kept me inside all winter. Now, I must go outside and face the elements. It was very icy and hard to keep one's feet, but a strange peace and calmness possessed me. I realized my dependence was wholly upon God. I said, "Dear Lord, you know I am not used to this severe cold. Temper the wind for the shorn lamb," and praise His name, the temperature hovered around the 31 degrees above zero mark for days on end. The weather always seemed mild to me as I went about the chores.

About a week after Asa left, a great blizzard left everything blocked with snow. A neighbor kindly came

up and cleared paths for us. Then in a few days another storm, worse than the last, came and no one could come to our aid. I wondered for a moment if God had forsaken me, but the thought came to me, "God will get glory out of this!" I prayed, "Only leave me a little path, Lord, so I can get to the feed," and bless His dear name, He did. I found the little path to the feedyard and fed the cattle easily. As I found a path to carry water to the pigs and feed them, I was climbing over a board fence to get there. I suddenly felt my own unworthiness, incapacity, and nothingness, and the great mercy of God, after I had failed Him so much the past months. I thought of that tract, "No One Needs Thee More Than I," and realizing how true it was, and the sense of well-being and strength the Lord in His great mercy had given me, my heart was filled with thanksgiving and praises to God. All my crosses, miseries, and trials were swallowed up and so vastly surmounted by the favors of God. Madam Guyon expressed a thought the Lord had given her. "The obscure path through which the Lord is pleased to conduct us is the surest to mortify our life, as it leaves us not any prop to lean upon for support. The vanity of the creature is changed to love nothing but littleness and humiliation, etc." My prayer closet was my only diversion.

I look back on that time as a blessed time of nearness to God, and heaven seemed very near and sweet and precious to my soul. The storms and hazardous roads made it impossible for our sons to get here until Asa came home, so my help was from the dear Lord alone.

Please pray that my husband and children will realize their need of a closer walk with God, and that I continue to be encouraged in the Lord, for I "sojourn in Mesech."

May the dear Lord bless and keep you all strong in His mighty power.

Lovingly and prayerfully, —Sister Olive McFarling

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

Editor's note: Some of our readers have asked about Bro. Wayne Turner who is serving a life sentence in prison at Angola, La. Bro. Melvin Dale Doolittle forwarded to this office a letter from Wayne. Excerpts from the letter are as follows:—

Dear Friends in Christ, greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus: I do thank God for the opportunity to tell you that I am still saved and trusting in Him. He has seen me through many trials and temptations. Please continue to pray for me that I remain faithful to the end.

To begin to thank everyone for the cards, letters, and gifts I received over the Christmas holidays would be a big job. Nor could I ever begin to tell you how much they meant to me. The letters of faith and encouragement have been more than a person could ask. It is my prayer that the Lord will bless each one in a special way, and I know that He will. . . . There were some who mentioned my not writing more on the Christmas cards I sent. The rules here at the prison state that in sending cards I am not permitted to write more than a simple greeting. It would be such a pleasure to be able to write more, but were I to do that, my cards would be returned to me unmailed. . . .

The past year has seen several changes for me, the biggest being my recent change in jobs. For some time I had been concerned over several things in regard to my work in the Chaplain's office. . . . For several months I have felt the need for a change. I prayed about it, and finally was approached regarding a new job. I did nothing about it, and then was approached two more times. The third time matters were taken in hand by the department that wanted me, and with the full approval of the

Warden in charge I resigned my job as the Chaplain's clerk and was assigned to the hospital as the bookkeeper. My duties are varied and quite interesting. I have my own private office, and this affords me the place of quiet where I can read, study, and pray. I feel, too, that I shall have a better witness here in the hospital. . . . I desire your prayers that I will serve the Lord well in this new position. I feel that it is His will that I be here, and I know that He was the One who worked it out.

This past summer my mother was able to come down to Louisiana and spend ten days with me. It had been two and a half years since last we had seen each other, so you can imagine what a blessed time it was for us. We visited together for about six or seven days, and the officials allowed her to stay all day when she would come. I do not know if she will be able to come down again this year, but I am trusting the Lord will work it out.

I have had the normal winter illnesses of cold and flu, but outside of this, the Lord has given me good health, and I am thankful to Him for it. I have a compassion for people who are ill, and this is one of the reasons I feel the Lord can use me here in the hospital. One young man is a special burden to me right now, and I'd appreciate your remembering him in prayer. He is a terminal patient who is not saved.

Again let me say thank you for your help, concern, and prayers. . . . May God bless and keep you.

Yours in Christ,

—Wayne Turner

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

Okla.—Dear Saints, greetings to each one this beautiful day in the name of our dear Lord. "This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24.

The Lord surely has blessed me and supplied my every need since I gave up my job to live closer to Him by obeying Him. I'm learning better how to serve Him. It means much to be in His will and have His peace abiding in our hearts. It has been precious to be here with dear Bro. and Sister Sam Barton in their declining days. I'm learning precious lessons from these dear ones who have been in the way a long time.

I felt I needed to tell how the Lord has protected me from the flu. I have visited in different homes where it was, and Bro. and Sister Barton both have had it. Last night I felt I was coming down with it, so I told the Lord I'd write in my testimony if He wouldn't let me take it. A voice said, "Write it, anyway." While I do have a soreness in my chest, I don't feel that I have the flu. But, if I take it, I'm thanking the Lord anyway as He has been so good to me. I want to praise Him for all He does. I love the saints and appreciate the standard of God's people and desire to hold it up in my life in every way. I heard a Brother preach that we can cause others to have doubts by failing to measure to the standard, or rejecting God's Word in any way.

I enjoy my work for the Lord and keep busy all the time.

Do remember our unsaved loved ones. It seems that so many have given up the race. Pray for me that I be faithful to the Lord.

Love to all the saints,

—Frances Perkins

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

S. Carolina—Dear Brother Lawrence and all at the Print Shop: I received the roll of papers you mailed to me. I surely can use them. So many thousands of people today are going so deep in sin, not thinking of where they are going when they leave this old world. God needs workers to go out and spread this gospel before it is too late for them to repent. I put out a lot

of "Faith and Victory" papers and tracts in 1968. By the help of the dear Lord I want to do more in 1969. That is the best paper that I know of to put in the hands of people.

I will be 75 years old my next birthday, and I have something to thank the Lord for, as He gives me good health and strength to work for Him. By His help I am going to live and work for Him just as long as I am able to go. Praise His name!

Your saved brother, born into the one family of God,
—Eddie Driggers

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

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and all the office staff, greetings of love in Jesus' sweet name who is so good to us each day and night. He answers prayer and keeps us in His loving care. I don't want to fail, but I want to keep victory in my soul. We realize we don't have much further to go. We both are in our 75th year.

We went over to Senath, Mo., for their all-day meeting last Sunday and I got sick with the flu Sunday night. However, I was able to come home Monday. I was anointed and prayed for Sunday afternoon. I feel the dear Lord did hear and answer prayer in my behalf as He has many times before. It is the first time I've ever had this kind of flu. I am glad we have such a good doctor (Jesus) who is worthy of all our love and honor. I just can't thank and praise Him enough for His love and blessings to us. The all-day meeting at Senath was real good and well attended. The chapel was pretty well filled for the morning service.

I received the first book of the Bible lessons and I have read it all. I liked it so well. We enjoyed the "Faith and Victory" paper, too.

Sister Marie, I think about how I used to enjoy reading the letters your dear mother wrote to me. I still have one. It must be the last one she wrote me. It was written in 1953. I remember how I used to let others read her letters and they would enjoy them, too. I would keep them for a long time and read them over and over. Her letters were a blessing to us.

We need your prayers. Do remember to pray for my sister, Myrtie Niswonger. She is in a pitiful condition.

—Bro. Asa and Sister Katie Gibson

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

Kentucky—Dear Sister Marie and co-workers, greetings to you in the name of Jesus: I trust this finds everyone in good health and pressing on for Jesus. Only eternity will reveal the good done for God. The last "Faith and Victory" was extra good. I enjoyed each article very much.

I had the flu and a virus followed. Surely I was on the borderline for three or four days. All my neighbors thought I was going out. My stepson came in and wanted to take me to the doctor or get me some medicine. He said they would give me some shots and help me. I said, "Fred, I have lived almost seventy-one years and have never taken a shot in my life and I will not begin now." A few days later he asked Dale about me. When Dale told him how I had recovered, he was really surprised. Oh, why can't people see the goodness and compassion of our God? I fear they are watching so-called Christians run to the doctor, and think there is nothing to divine healing. Truly the Spirit of God is not in Babylon. Oh, what an awakening there will be in the near future!

I have two brothers, one will be 73 in March, and the other is about 60. Both are in sin. I have other loved ones in sin. Pray for them.

It seems the flu affected my left eye. Remember it, also my kidneys. May God enable us to send out the truth for years yet. . . .

May God lead you even if the way seems filled with loneliness and dread, and may He send the sunshine of His love to light the path ahead. Thank you for your prayers, tracts, and everything.

Love and prayers, —Sister A. F. Baldrige

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

Ohio—My dear Sister Anna Marie, greetings in Christian love: I appreciate the truth with all my heart. I also appreciate all the many different experiences that the Lord allowed to come my way, experiences that I never thought would be mine to face, but I surely thank the Lord from the very bottom of my heart for every one that it has been my privilege to face for my Saviour. All of it put together surely meant more to my soul than all the wealth this old world could ever offer. As I was lying on my bed a few nights ago I thought if I had the power to or could exchange places with anyone, and lose the Lord from my life, I don't know of one person I would exchange places with in order to avoid the suffering route. The presence of the Lord as He reveals Himself to my soul from time to time I value far above silver or gold. I've never seen anything in all my life in this world that could ever be compared to that heavenly atmosphere we can have when the Lord and I are alone in my little room. We surely have some wonderful times together. There have been some battles also, but He has always been right here to share the load and to prove Himself strong in the battles that seem too hard for me. He has never failed one time.

I have run pretty low on tracts. When I was able I wrote quite a few letters, but the last month or so I have been having some real battles with bodily afflictions. I take such weak spells and have high blood pressure along with my other afflictions. I'm looking to the Lord to undertake for these conditions. I'm so glad my trust is not in the arm of flesh, but in the great Physician.

I am herewith ordering some tracts. I hope I am sending enough to cover the cost.

I wish you dear ones would agree in prayer for my body. I enjoy writing and witnessing for my Lord. I know what He can do, for He has healed me instantly at various times.

May the dear Lord richly bless you dear ones as you labor on there in the Lord's work.

From your little Sister in the Lord, —Maudie Sharp

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

Ky.—Dear Sister Marie: I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed the books that Sister Wilbur Jarvis of Danville, Ky. had you send me as a gift. I know God was in it, for He knew my heart and how I love His Word and enjoy good gospel tracts and books. I am glad to know I belong to the Church of God and know what it means. . . .

Please pray for the healing of my body. I know He can heal me. I believe in God and I put my trust all in Him. In James 5:14, 15, it tells us what to do. He didn't say, call the doctor, or go to the doctor. Pray for my healing that I may do more work for God. . . .

May God bless you and keep the good work going until He comes.

A Sister in Christ, —Mrs. Leonard Floyd

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

Texas—Dear Brother and Sister, greetings in Jesus' dear name: This leaves me saved and sanctified and pressing on the upward way, singing the song, "Lord Jesus, help me to do something to save some poor sinner today," and help someone who is hungering and thirsting for more of God and the strait and narrow way.

I am sending . . . for some books for Mrs. . . . to read. She called me and asked about the church. . . .

Pray earnestly for her to see the truth and accept it. Pray for her husband, also.

May the Lord bless and keep all of you is my prayer.
A Sister in Christ, —Nellie Lovell

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

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in the blessed name of Jesus, to all the workers at the Print Shop: I am glad to be able to say I am happy in the Lord. He surely is wonderful to me, and I want to do all I can to get everyone saved that I can. We surely are living in perilous times. Awful things are happening.

I hope you folks are all fine and the work going well, for the people of this day surely need this truth. We have been pretty well this winter, thank the dear Lord for that. He has been real good to us.

I am sending you an offering and I want the 64-page Bible Lessons booklet for adult Sunday-school lessons for this year of 1969.

Yours in the service of our King, —Nathan Mobley

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

Okla.—Dear ones in the Lord: We are so thankful we can report victory in our souls. Our determination is to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

We wish we were able to say that we had complete victory over affliction, but we feel that it is a blessing in disguise. We have dark hours and then the sun shines through.

Bro. Barton, like Paul, thinks that he has finished his course, and gets homesick to go to be with the dear Lord, as he told a Brother the other day. The Brother was suddenly inspired of the Lord to sing a song of encouragement to him, and it was just what he needed to make him take new courage, and all week he lived on the words of that song. Bro. Barton almost preaches to those who come to see him, and he says the Lord gives him messages in the night when sleeplessness prevails. He is so thin and worn in body. From the viewpoint of the human, we wonder how he can go much longer without strength, but God's strength is hidden from the view of man.

We want to thank all of you for your letters of encouragement and offerings of love. God will bless you every one, for He sees all you do unto others as unto the Lord. It may be just a few words of encouragement, but they all mean so much. Our Lord takes note of our doings. I find that doing things to please the Lord brings pleasing results to myself. Oh, that feeling that "ye have done what you could"! God does not wait till death to let us know He is pleased with our lives.

Husband had a nice visit with Bro. Wm. McCoy from Ohio. It surely helped him over a rough week.

—Bro. and Sister Sam Barton

2262 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla. 74110

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

Ark.—Dear Workers at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' great and precious name. I've just been re-reading some of the good articles in this January "Faith and Victory" paper. How good to read how God blesses His trusting children! As one said, many were the experiences we had last year. It is good that we don't know the future except as it comes to us. I do thank God for His all-sufficient grace, and His strong arm on which we can lean with full assurance and confidence. We can know that when we do His will, keep humble and filled with His Holy Spirit, He never will leave nor forsake us.

God healed me several times last year and again this year. I had symptoms of the flu and God stopped it. Awful pains were under my left shoulder blade and in my neck and head, down in my arm. No one was there to call in to pray with me. I said, "Dear Lord, I read

in the Bible that if I would abide in Thee and Thy Word in me, that you would hear and help. Now that promise is mine and I believe it." The suffering lasted about 12 to 14 hours. God wonderfully healed me once again. Oh, how wonderful, how good to get a touch from heaven and to know that God is near!

Dear ones, let us take courage anew for this precious year of 1969. Love more, trust more, and pray more for the dear ones who are out in sin, that many will turn to God with all their hearts and taste and see that the Lord is good. Time is passing so swiftly and so many are still in sin. Lord, burden our hearts more to be a blessing to others. Let us pray more for the workers at the Print Shop, and send more help. Save a little here and there, and put it in the gospel work. God will bless. The more we help the more the Lord will help us, so let us help for the glory of God.

If we stay true and obedient to Him, there is a crown at the end of the way. Paul said it was for him and for all who loved Christ's appearing. Praise the Lord forever! Pray for me.

With love,

—Sister N. E. Adams

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

Illinois—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in the name of our dear Saviour: I praise Him today for all He has done for us. I pray the Lord to help us to have more faith and more spiritual insight. His Word says that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. Let us keep our eyes on the blessed Word of God.

I want a double measure of faith. To get it I know the Lord may let me have some deep trials to prove me. We have to be tried first. These deep trials prepare us for the Master's use. The Lord cannot use us until we can from the heart say, "Thy will be done."

I am thankful I can tell you I am able to do all my work. My broken ribs are healed. I praise the Lord for all He has done for me.

I am praying for the work there and for all the workers.

With love,

—Sister Lettie West

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

Miss.—Dear Children of God: I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper very much. I love the Lord, and I thank Him for His many blessings to me. I could never repay Him for the blood that covered my sin. I can never thank Him enough for giving me a pure heart, one that is filled with love, joy, and peace that only comes from God. When our hearts are filled with love, they are filled with God, for the Bible says that God is love.

I have loved ones who are not saved. Pray with me that God will bring them in before it is too late. I often think of what Jeremiah said in 8:20, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

As I was looking through some old papers today I found a tract that Bro. Fred Pruitt wrote, entitled, "You Can Be Delivered From the Power of Sin." This is a wonderful tract, and if you still have some of them, I would like for you to send me a few to give out. I am sending an offering to help with the expense.

Yours in Christ,

—Flora Keller

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

Illinois—Greetings to all of you dear saints that labor day after day (and no doubt well into the night many times) to make it possible for all who have a desire to know more about God's precious word.

It is truly my heart's desire and prayer that I may please God in all that I do or say. I want my life to be a living testimony for Him—proving the saving grace of

God. He performed one of the greatest miracles that has ever been performed when He saved my soul and sanctified my heart. That was back in 1953 and He is still the lover of my soul! He has never failed me yet. He always comes to my rescue and I've found every promise to be true. He is a very present help in time of need. He's never late, and I've learned that many times my plans have been changed completely that God might have His way. I'm glad that I can feel the tug of the Holy Spirit as He directs my path. He has promised never to leave me nor forsake me as long as I am an obedient child, and walk in the light of His Word.

My heart always rejoices as I read the "Faith and Victory" paper. I always get much help and comfort from every bit of it. It is such a blessing to me.

I am trusting some day God will make a way that we (my husband and I) can come and be in some of your services. . . .

Please remember us when you pray. We are standing with God and for God and we love and appreciate the saints, but we see so few around close.

Christian love to all the saints, —Sister Irene Romoser

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

Kansas—Dear Saints everywhere: Today finds me still saved and encouraged in our dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am glad to be saved and free from sin. There is nothing I would take in exchange for this blessed hope I have in Christ Jesus. I am happy in my soul. God is everything to me. If I would give up God I would lose everything. God is my all and in all. When I need healing, He heals me. When I need food for my soul, He feeds me. He supplies my every need in every way. Thank God.

I am thinking of the song No. 93 in the "Evening Light" songbook which says: "My life and breath are in Thy hands, my joy and all I know; I live and breathe at Thy command, Then shall I leave Thee? No!"

I never will forget the experience I had one day when I was very sick about sixteen years ago. My tonsils were swollen so badly that I could not get air enough to live. As life was leaving my body I was very happy, happier than any time I had ever been on earth. It was a joy that my tongue can't tell, and the sweetest rest I have ever had. I could have stayed there. But the Lord wanted me to come back. When I opened my eyes, the room was full of saints praying for me.

Saints, I am living, and mean to keep on living, true to God so I can enjoy that experience again, hoping God will let me stay next time. . . .

Your Sister in Christ, —Odessa Johnson

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

Ind.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings once again in Jesus' dear name, who arose from the grave that we might have life, that where He is we might be also. I surely appreciate all the blessings of God, how wonderful He has been to me, and I trust Him to guide my steps from day to day. He has said in His Word, that it is not in man to direct his own steps. That is why folks have so much trouble in this old world. They try to go their way, and the most of them will have their own way, regardless of the consequences. . . .

I took my retirement Friday night, Jan. 31. I did not have to work that night. . . . At nine o'clock I went to my department. The boss said, "Come over here, they want to take your picture." I followed him and there by a dial they had a large table with a big cake at the end all decorated up, and it said, "Happy retirement to Earl," in big red letters. The boss gave me a white church to hold, and I asked, "What is this?" He said, "It's your

going-away present." About that time the whistle blew and all of the department came over and got all around me. After the picture-taking was over they had me to open all the presents they had brought me. . . . We never know what effect our life has on others. And God sometimes uses sinners to give us a blessing and inspire our hearts.

Keep holding me up to the throne of grace that God will get glory out of my life. Amen.

Your Brother in Christ,

—Earl B. Bliss

o—————o

Speak an Encouraging Word

In Deut. 3:28, we read, "Charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him." What an influence words have! If we could only keep in mind the power of encouraging words, we might not be so slow to give them. I do not mean flattery; encouragement is not flattery. But there is a way of saying something encouraging that in itself makes a person feel you have confidence in him, and gives him confidence in himself. It is not altogether the words we say, but oft-times the tone of our voice has an important part, for so often the tone of the voice betrays the feelings. When a person feels they "just can't" do a certain thing, how encouraging it is to have someone come along and say, "I'm sure you can!" The person who thought he could not, begins to think, "Well, I can try, anyway," so he tries and succeeds. If he had not received encouragement, he might not even have tried.

We see many of our young people get saved and then soon backslide. Oh, how my heart goes out to them, and often I ask myself if I am doing all I can to encourage them. I read a story once about a young girl who had been saved but had backslidden. She had done this so often that she felt it was certainly no use for her to try again. But an elder sister told her that a certain well-established minister (whom this girl knew) was once just as unstable as she. "Now," she said, "if God has established that one, He can establish you." The young girl took courage and got saved; and though she made some mistakes after that, the Lord established her in His grace.

If a brother or sister, whom you know is saved and sincere, gets up to testify and can hardly express himself, almost makes a blunder and sits down, do not hang your head and look disappointed, but look hopeful, pleased that he has tried; give him an encouraging word or smile and see how much good it will do. We must all begin. I am sure that many of our most stable saints could relate some experience where they felt they were almost a failure when they began this Christian race, but the same God that supplied the grace for them has an abundant supply for each of us.

Also, when someone has spoken some word of encouragement to you and it has been a real blessing, pass it on. It might prove a real blessing to others. While at campmeeting a Sister in our congregation received some real words of counsel about how we need to talk with or "woo" the Holy Spirit in our

hearts and how that if we don't communicate with the Holy Spirit and show our love for Him, He will leave completely. Soon afterward at prayermeeting, this sister related this thought and it was a real blessing to the congregation.

I feel the need of parents being real examples on this line. This will have an influence on our children. I had graduated from high school before my parents became acquainted with all the teachings of the Church of God, but some of the first things I can remember in my childhood were of my parents doing kind deeds for a neighbor or saying kind words of someone who had made a mistake, while others were ridiculing. My mother had a poem and I have heard her quote the first two lines, oh, so many times, especially when we were not as diligent to see the needs of others as she wanted us. Then we would hear her say, "If by a little word or deed of kindness, you can drive away a tear." Now even today, when there is a need to help or encourage others, I am still reminded of those lines of that poem.

"When the heart is sad and lonely,
And the eyes with tears o'er-flow,
Gentle words and deeds of kindness
Fall like sunbeams on the snow.

"Let us help our fallen brother,
Lift him gently by the hand,
Speaking words of cheer and comfort,
Point him to a better land.

"Kind and loving to each other,
Gentle words to all we meet—
Thus we follow Christ our Saviour,
Proving all His service sweet."

May the Lord help each of us to be an encouragement to others. —Sister Leta Inman

Free and Full Salvation

Over seven hundred years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah spoke these words: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat, yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread and labor for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness." Isaiah 55:1, 2. We do not have to spend precious time with an experience that does not produce the Spirit-filled life that Jesus Christ paid for you and me on Calvary's hill. When He spoke the words, "It is finished," our salvation was completed. The debt that our Lord paid for our salvation on the cruel cross fulfilled the prophecy of Zacharias in Luke 1:74, 75: "That he would grant unto us that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life."

The devil realizes in these modern religious-minded times that he must work in a different manner

from before when much of the works of the flesh were openly committed or manifested, but now they are camouflaged with religious professions. The enemy of our soul doesn't have respect of persons. He will endeavor to enter into any congregation of God's people as readily as he will in the nominal religious groups. The epidemic of lethargy is sweeping the land.

We see many who are not satisfied with the workings of our heavenly Father, but are reaching out with a self-spirit for things that will in the end corrupt their souls. Yet the Word of God still stands true—(1 John 1:7), "But if we walk in the light [light of God's word] as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Salvation means deliverance—deliverance from all sin and death. When we say death we refer to Ezek. 18:4, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." This death is a spiritual death.

Salvation in its fullness (Heb. 8:10) speaks of the new covenant. The Lord will put the laws of God in our minds, producing a new mind and a new spirit. With these laws written in our hearts, then and then only will He be to us a God, and we shall be His people. Now we are empowered to live a saved justified and sanctified life here in this present evil world. Gal. 1:3, 4. This also means being delivered from man-made religious laws which are not according to the doctrine of God's written Word. This point extends into many categories, but one is that the sacrificial Christ-like life is fast fading away.

When we are born into the family of God, we lose our identity. We are just children in God's family to take orders from Him by the Spirit of God that worketh in us to will and to do. We are not our own; we are bought with a price. He also tells you to "glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God's." Where does that leave room to dress in the ungodly attire which women and men are wearing these days? There is no shamefacedness displayed by those who rear their sons and daughters in the fashions of this wicked ungodly world, which is promoting an abounding degree of lust. Yet the Word of God stands true (Phil. 2:15), "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life . . ."

Remember the church at Ephesus (Rev. 2:4). The Lord held one thing against them—they had left their first love. The Apostle Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Amen.

—Sister Hazel Clark

If you were busy being glad,
And cheering others who were sad,
Altho' your heart might ache a bit,
You'd soon forget to notice it.