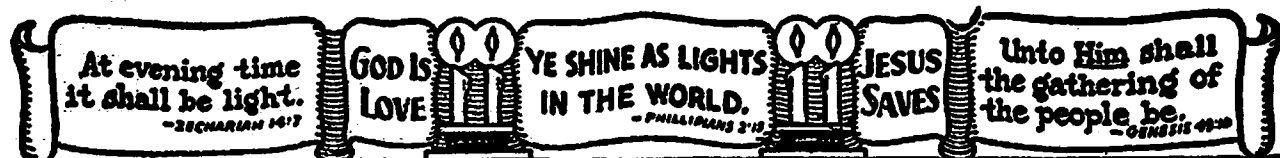


FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



Volume 38, No. 3

47th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35c Per Year

June, 1969

Give Your Best to the Master

Oh, give of your best to the Master,
For He gave His all for you;
And paid your whole debt on Mt. Calvary,
As never another could do.

We all were poor lost sinners,
Wandering in grief and despair;
Far from the portals of glory,
Yet, no one seemed to care.

We were bound by the sinews of Satan,
Our poor souls never were blest;
No earthly power could loose us,
Nor impart to us freedom and rest.

But One from on high was watching,
All praises be to His name;
And seeing our helpless condition,
Dear Jesus, from heaven, came.

With light to brighten our pathway,
With LOVE that never will end;
And mercy without stint or measure,
And His blood to cover our sin.

Praise God for the day I accepted
His love manifested to me;
Praise God for this great SALVATION,
My soul is now happy and free.

I love Him with all that's within me,
His service, my sweetest delight;
Little I can do for my Savior,
But I'll do it with all my might.

For soon will this short life be over,
And we shall be called to go;
To receive our reward up in heaven,
For the deeds we have done here below.

May we each give our best to His service,
(There is power in unity, you know);
That the enemy may be defeated,
And souls be made whiter than snow.

—Armilda Abbott

Serving the Lord

Serving the Lord is a glorious aspect of the Christian life. God wants every soul who partakes of His grace and salvation to serve Him. Paul in Romans 12:11 enjoins this upon us along with other important things. He himself served the Lord as he testified to the brethren at Ephesus: "I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations." Acts 20:19. When Paul became aware that Jesus Christ was the Lord of glory, he became quite willing to serve Him, and that he did faithfully the rest of his life in this world. Men and women, boys and girls of today ought to catch the same glorious vision and see the great field of opportunity that there is for them in the service of God. After our sins are forgiven and we are made new creatures in Christ, we should consecrate our lives to God and be filled with the Holy Spirit and live a life thereafter to the service of God and His cause. "I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1. A sanctified person is one who is given over to serving the Lord.

To serve means to render assistance or benefit; to attend. We can look around us and see various forms of service. Think of the different animals, plants, and trees that are of great service to mankind. The cow, the horse, the chicken, and other animals in different parts of the world are of great service to mankind. And under proper care and due kindness these animals go about their service happily and peacefully. It is in their respective natures to serve. It is true with the child of God. There is something in the nature of the truly born-again soul that yearns to be of service to his Lord. We should be as anxious as the little boy several years ago who wanted to serve in the dining hall at campmeeting. He begged for something to do that helped. Finally the cooks offered him the job of grinding onions. This he gladly set about to do, and although

it cost him some tears and difficulty he was glad to be of some help. So it is with the service of God. It will cost one some tears and difficulty, but the reward will be great.

For a good picture of the virtue of service, let us notice an account in Judges 9:8-13. This parable was spoken to a people who had unwisely chosen a king whose life was the service of a bramble, or thorn bush. "The trees went forth on a time to anoint a king over them; and they said to the olive tree, Reign thou over us. But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness, wherewith by me they honour God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees? And the trees said to the fig tree, Come thou, and reign over us. But the fig tree said unto them, Should I forsake my sweetness, and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees? Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou, and reign over us. And the vine said unto them, Should I leave my wine, which cheereth God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?" Oh, just think of this lesson! The olive, the fig tree, and the vine each thought more of their lot of service than being exalted to be king. We would to God that this attitude were more in the hearts of men today. Instead of wanting to be someone honored and looked up to, souls should be seeking from God and Christ the living substance of the Heavenly Vine that they may produce before the sons of men the precious fruit. The oil of the olive, the sweetness of the fig, and the wine of the grape are gracious types of the fruit of the Spirit-filled child of God given over to Him for service. Greater dominion can one have through service than through pride and exaltation of self. Jesus Christ is the King of kings and Lord of lords, but his role in this life was that of a servant. From His blessed life and service flows the oil of gladness, the sweetness of grace and truth, and the wine of the Holy Spirit. And we who serve Him must needs be a continuation of this kind of service to God and man.

In Stephen's account of the history of Israel he spoke of Israel being delivered from Egyptian bondage and how that God said to Abraham thus: "And the nation to whom they shall be in bondage will I judge: and after that shall they come forth, and serve me in this place." Acts 7:7. In viewing the over-all plan concerning literal Israel we see that it was for them to be delivered by the power of God from Egypt and to go forth and possess the land of Canaan and there they were to serve the Lord God. In study of this, considering the laws and statutes given to them of God and His plan for their life as a nation in the land of Canaan, I am made to realize that if Israel had faithfully followed and obeyed the voice of God like He wanted them to, God's name would have been so exalted and lifted up in the eyes of nations around about that the harvest of the gospel would have been much more effectual than what it was. It was God's plan in separating the children of Israel as a distinct nation to make a great Name for Himself in the eyes of the world. Thus when the fullness of time came

and the Redeemer appeared, the Gentiles would glorify His name for mercy extended to them. I say that if Israel would have faithfully followed the service of God as He thus intended, there is no telling to what extent the witness of salvation would have reached even in this our present day. But the sad thing about it was that Israel as a whole miserably failed to obey the commands of God, and they would not serve Him aright. Thus instead of exalting and honoring the name of God so that the Gentiles would respect and honor God, too, their unbelief and hardness of heart put a blot on the name of the God that they professed. God's name among the Gentiles was blasphemed because of the unfaithfulness of Israel. If they had served Him aright, things would have been different. How much more necessary is it for us today who profess to be children of God to faithfully serve Him!

The 49th chapter of Genesis is the blessing of Jacob upon Israel before he died. The 33rd chapter of Deuteronomy is the blessing of Moses upon Israel before he left them. Take notice in these two chapters that the blessing given to Israel largely pointed to their lot in Canaan. And it pictures service to God and man. "Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon. Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens: and he saw that the rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute. . . . Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties. Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words. Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall." Gen. 49:13-22. Notice the terms in this reading that suggest service: haven, bearing burdens, bowing to bear, servant unto tribute, yielding royal dainties, giving goodly words, and a fruitful bough by a well whose branches run over the wall. We are spiritual Israel today, and we can see from this that we are to be of service to God as literal Israel was intended to be. Failure to serve God acceptably in that day resulted in great calamities and destruction, and likewise failure to serve God today will bring His wrath upon us.

Every person who is saved should be consecrating his life to the service of God. We should live for God and seek Him to fill our lives with those treasures of spiritual grace that will be of service to other men and women in things pertaining to salvation. Paul made this statement once to the Philippian brethren: "Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all." Phil. 2:17. He was willing to pour out his life's blood if he knew that it would mean service to someone else's faith. Oh, let us seek God for the grace to serve Him acceptably and live a life of service to our fellowman!

—Leslie Busbee

"No man ever stood so tall as when he stooped to help a child."

"My Heart Said—"

"O Lord, . . . when thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek." Psa. 27:8. Unquestioning, uncomplaining, instant obedience to that which is ordained by God stands out as a great virtue in those who are motivated by the divine love of God. Obedience seems to be a virtue universally forgotten in this day and age. Not only do we see the lack of it in the home, but also in the schools, universities, on the streets to law and order. In fact, disobedience is rampant in the world today.

God has given us His commandments which are a guide line for us to go by to make it to that eternal rest in heaven with our Lord and Saviour when death overtakes us. But remember, heaven is a holy place. Only the holy and pure in heart can go there. In mankind there are those characteristics that will keep them out of heaven. This life is a time of preparing and getting ready to live in eternity with God. When God has given us a commandment in His Word, we must be like the Psalmist David and obey. "When thou saidst . . . my heart said" I will do as you have asked. It must come from the heart. We must obey with a perfect willingness in our hearts. God will not accept just an outward obedience, but the outward obedience must come from the heart. There is a great blessing in obedience. We might not always understand why the Lord has asked us to do something but God expects us to obey and "farther along we'll understand why."

A man applied to a banker for a job. He told the banker he was ready to do anything to make an honest living. The banker said, "You take that pile of stones that you see at the end of the lot and carry them over to the other side and pile them up in the same manner." The man did his job and received his pay. The next morning he appeared and was sent by his strange employer to replace the pile of stones, and when he finished, he was given his pay. The laborer worked for a week without murmuring, complaining, or asking any questions, carrying the stones from place to place. On Saturday night the eccentric banker said to him, "I like you; there is no nonsense about you; you do what you are told to do. Many men would have objected to doing the work over and over. You shall have work as long as I have anything for anybody to do." The Lord wants such servants. Implicit obedience is required of every soldier of the cross. I am sure the man did not understand all the motives behind his strange job, but it brought great advantage to him. It brought a security that he had not known. There was a quality in the man that the banker knew would be valuable to him. Instant obedience without murmuring, on the battlefield, or wherever it is manifested, will bring great rewards. Sometimes on the battlefield it means life or death. When we are in the army of the Lord, obedience brings us eternal life. "When thou saidst, . . . my heart said unto thee." I will obey because I love to please my Lord and Saviour who has loved me so much that He was willing to take the punish-

ment of sin that hung over my head so I could have eternal life.

Are you willing to obey when you do not see the end of the way? Can you unquestioningly, uncomplainingly obey with a perfect assurance that your Lord and Master does all things right and never makes any mistakes? I am sure God looks upon such obedience with great pleasure. Parents are greatly pleased when their children obey in this manner. Aren't we all just children in the sight of our great, all-wise God? The order might seem strange, the end might not be clear as to the outcome here in this life, but be assured God is preparing us to live in eternity with Him. "If ye be willing and obedient ye shall eat the good of the land." Isa. 1:19. When Jesus called Peter and Andrew to follow Him, the Bible says, "And straightway they forsook their nets and followed him." Jesus told the ten lepers to "go" and they "went" and were "healed."

Is your heart saying yes to God? Are you loving, from the heart, that one who has mistreated you? "My heart said" I will obey Jesus who said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you and pray for them that despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt. 5:44.

God is calling for a continual denying of self and all its desires. God wants the first place in your heart and life. God's ways cross the ways of the world. God's Spirit does not blend with the world. Are you, from the heart, willing for that to be so with you?

"My heart said" I will obey God's Word when it commands me to "Love not the world, neither the things in the world." I will use only those things of the world that I can use to God's glory. I will not set my affections on any of the things of the world. I will act, dress, and go only to those places that glorify God and speak only those words that are prompted by love in my heart. Dear ones, it is a close life, but God can give us grace to please Him and be ready to meet Him when He calls for us.

—Sister A. Marie Miles

Our Sustaining God

I have scaled some rugged mountains,
I have crossed some swollen streams,
I have stood upon the hilltops
Where the golden sunlight gleams;
I have traveled in the valleys,
I have walked some stony roads,
But I find in all my travels
Jesus shares the heavy loads.

Whether things are hard or easy
As the years go passing by;
Whether we are shouting happy,
Or sometimes we stop to cry;
We may know the God of battles
Never lets His children down,
But will give us grace and courage
And at last a victor's crown.

—Walter E. Isenhour

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your Zip Code number. The post office charges 10c to notify us of each change of address.

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

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Subscribe to "The Beautiful Way," a weekly six-page paper for children, edited by Mrs. Marie Miles and published quarterly. Suitable for use in primary and junior Sunday school classes.

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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.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044
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EDITORIALS

Warm Christian greetings to one and all:

Perhaps by the time you receive this June paper the Oklahoma State Campmeeting (May 30 to June 8) here at Guthrie, Okla., will be in progress, and we are expecting the anointing of the Holy Spirit on every service. A good attendance is anticipated, as quite a number from other states have expressed their desire to be present. (Elsewhere in this issue you will find the dates of all the campmeetings this summer.)

In these special evangelistic efforts through the campmeeting season there is a place for every member of the church to fill which involves much spiritual and physical energy in order for God's purposes to be accomplished. Prevailing prayer is the key to Holy Spirit-filled services in which the Spirit carries the truth to the hearts of the saved and unsaved. May each of us pray fervently and be ready for service or sacrifice in the great cause of Christ.

The Word and "ministry of reconciliation" have been committed unto the church—the channel through which God has designed to reach the world with the good news of salvation by the atoning sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul wrote: "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." 2 Cor. 5:20, 21.

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It has been observed that the pioneer ministers of this "evening light" reformation "had no interest in promoting unity on the basis of compromise. If unity were to be real and permanent, it must be in line with the standard of New Testament Christianity." That is still the position of God's people today. God has called His church out of the world in spirit to be a separate and distinct people unto Himself. They are in the world, but not of the world, and Jesus prayed that they should be "kept from the evil." Christ came to bring peace and harmony among His people, but on the other hand, He came to bring division in spirit between the saint and the sinner, the sheep and goats. Read Luke 12:51-53. During Jesus' personal ministry we read that "there was a division among the people because of him." Jesus is yet a "stumbling stone" and a "rock of offense" to many people.

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Bro. Kenneth Probst, young minister residing at Bartlett, Kansas, writes of his burden for the West Cabin community near Vinita, Okla., where he and Bro. Curtis Williams held a profitable tent meeting last autumn. He is encouraged with the interest there, and at present they are having Sunday morning services and Thursday night prayer meetings regularly. Due to the care of this work and other responsibilities, it seems that he will not be able to help Bro. Williams very much in the tent work this summer, although he had previously planned to, if the Lord

willed it so. His heart is in the work of the Lord, and your prayers could open up the way for him to help in the evangelistic tent work this summer. The field is great and the laborers are few even as it was in Jesus' day when He exhorted His disciples, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Matt. 9:38.

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Just off the press is another excellent book which has been out of print many years, entitled, "The Redemption of Howard Gray" by C. W. Naylor. This account is based on the actual experience of a man seeking and finding the way of salvation. It will enlighten and interest every serious reader. Paper bound, 72 pages. Price, 40c each, or three for \$1.00, postpaid. Your order will be filled promptly.

As the Lord permits, other out-of-print books on vital subjects will be reprinted.

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In stock at this office are about 350 different titles of gospel tracts to be sent out free in limited quantities for careful and prayerful distribution. Where prices are quoted, they are at cost or below. Write for a FREE four-ounce sample to read and pass on or enclose in your letters. Also, request a complete price list of Bibles and other books which we have in stock.

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The second edition of the Spanish songbook, "Himnos de Gloria," is just off the press. The book, consisting of 137 songs in words only, carries the Church of God message. The total of 150 pages is bound in a heavy paper cover with cloth tape over the rib. Price, 50c each, postpaid. Quantities of these books are mailed to our mission stations in Mexico free of charge.

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Bro. James Huskey, missionary at La Mision, Mexico, writes on May 13 that he and his family are all well and very busy preparing for their campmeeting there by the river which will be held May 24 to June 2. He requested prayer for this evangelistic effort, that souls would be saved and every need supplied. He also requested a supply of Spanish tracts, and these were mailed to him on May 16. A package of Spanish songbooks will be sent to him this week. Another campmeeting may be held at Ojos Negros, Mexico, later in the summer, perhaps about the 4th of July.

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Last week my wife, Maybelle, her sister, Maude Hornbeck, and this writer were privileged to enjoy a two-day visit on a large cattle ranch, operated by my wife's cousin, on the Continental Divide (over 8,000 feet elevation) near Pie Town, New Mexico. The majestic mountains, the great valleys and the wide expanse of open space spoke eloquently of the handiwork of God. We were made to exclaim with the poet, "How great Thou art!"

On our return trip we visited my birthplace on my parents' old homestead located 18 miles northwest of Clovis, N. Mex. They went there in 1906 (before the Santa Fe Railroad was built there or the

city of Clovis was founded) and lived on the homestead until 1917. The half-dugout (with one room above) where I was born 57 years ago has long since disappeared, but the five-room house which my father built new in 1915 is still standing, though deserted. The doors, windows, and part of the roof are gone. Baled hay is stored in one room. Like many farms nowadays, the land is owned and operated by a "city" farmer or corporation. The visit brought many pleasant and sad memories of more than fifty years ago. To know of the hardships which my parents (now deceased) endured in those pioneer days would bring tears to your eyes.

On the same day (May 17) I had a good visit about old times with Mr. C. F. Roach at St. Vrain, which was our postoffice seven miles from the homestead. He has lived in Curry County since the year of 1908. Also, I had a short visit with Mrs. Qualls who lives on the old Dixon homestead which joined our farm on the north. We spent the evening and night with old friends, John and Eunice Taylor, in Clovis, N. Mex., now a thriving farming and cattle center of about 25,000 in population.

It was about the year of 1913 while living on the homestead that my father first heard the pure gospel preached at our local school house by Bro. A. J. Hammond. Later Bro. George Harmon and the saints from Clovis held a tent meeting near our home and my parents attended the services. Conviction seized their hearts, and later at home they prayed through to a Bible experience of salvation. A few months later my father sought for and obtained the experience of sanctification as a second definite work of grace. Then the Lord called him to preach the gospel. Purchasing a Model T Ford for transportation, he filled appointments to preach on Sunday at various school houses for thirty miles around. Moving from the farm to Clovis in 1917, we resided there until June, 1918. Moving again, the family arrived in the Model T Ford in Guthrie, Okla. on June 6, 1918—fifty-one years ago. (For further record of the life and labors of Fred Pruitt, write to this office for his 240-page book, "God's Gracious Dealings." It will inspire your faith in God. Price, 50c per copy, postpaid.)

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The calls for gospel literature are increasing, and we are pleased to report that, with the blessings of the Lord, the co-operation of our readers, and the faithful consecrated labors of our co-workers in every department, the production of literature is likewise steadily increasing to meet these demands to a greater extent. The ways and means at our disposal are being utilized in this gospel literature ministry. The entire staff at this office are happy in the Lord and His service—just to have a small part in the worldwide effort to "rescue the perishing and care for the dying." The salvation of one soul is worth more than all earthly wealth combined. Our decision is fixed to be faithful at our post.

The co-operation of our readers is certainly appreciated, and we pray the Lord to bless and reward

each one many-fold. Your continued prayers are requested, as we feel our dependence upon the Lord for divine wisdom and grace in dealing out the Word of God through the literature from this office.

—Lawrence Pruitt

OBITUARIES

Ruby Eva (Duncan) Creel was born April 26, 1918, near Jet, Okla., and departed this life at Enid, Okla., on May 8, 1969, at the age of 51 years and 12 days.

She was married to Leroy Creel on Nov. 30, 1942, at Guthrie, Okla. To this union were born four children.

In her early teens Sister Ruby heard and accepted the plan of salvation as taught by the Church of God. Even though it was not always convenient to attend services with the saints she had a great desire to please the Lord in her life and activities. Since a recent move to Enid, Okla., where she has attended services regularly at the Church of God, she has lived even a more devoted life.

Survivors left to mourn her passing include her husband Leroy, of the home; a daughter, Sharon, of the home; three sons, Stanley, San Antonio, Texas, Jim, Enid, Okla., and Edward of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Fred (Erma) Reed of Canton, Okla., and Mrs. Chester (Lela) Creel of Enid, Okla., and a brother, George Duncan, of Wichita, Kansas.

The many phone calls, cards, flowers, and tokens of sympathy which have been shown the family in this time of sorrow are greatly appreciated.

The funeral services were conducted at the funeral home at Enid, Okla., by Bro. Willie C. Murphey and Bro. John Sisk. Interment was in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, west of Enid.

Anna (Chappelle) White was born December 15, 1884, to Mr. and Mrs. Isom Chappelle at Montgomery, Ala. She passed away March 26, 1969, at Oklahoma City, Okla.

Sister Anna married her childhood sweetheart, Sam Henry White, which union lasted more than 62 years.

Very early in life Sister White professed Christ as her Saviour. She became a member of the Church of God some years ago and remained until her Homegoing.

Survivors include seven daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Clayton, Mrs. Mary W. Pratt, Mrs. Alma W. Warren, Mrs. Ruby W. Hornbeak, and Mrs. Florence W. Hill of Oklahoma City; Mrs. Alice W. Phillips, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Lucille W. Jones, San Francisco, California; four sons, James A., Washington, D. C.; Samuel F., Eugene, and Lawrence of Oklahoma City; two brothers, Isom Chappelle, Phoenix, Ariz., and James Chappelle, Ypsilanti, Mich., and one sister, Mary Graham; 31 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, and a host of relatives and friends.

When my life-work is ended,
When my toiling is past,
When the Lord has descended,
I shall see Him at last.

I regret not my suffering,
Nor my sorrow and care,
When I rise to the glory
That awaits over there.

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Herman Kelley, assisted by others, at the Church of God chapel, 800 N. E. Third St., Okla. City, and interment was in the Seward Memorial Cemetery.

Luther Williams was born July 26, 1894 to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Williams at Guthrie, Okla. He passed away April 17, 1969, at Oklahoma City.

He married Miss Ruth M. Wilhoite. Bro. Williams became a member of the Church of God some years ago and remained until his Homegoing.

Survivors include his wife, Sister Ruth Williams of the home in Okla. City, Okla., one daughter, Mrs. Bessie Marie Rucker, and two sons, David S. Williams of Okla. City and Edwin S. Williams of Los Angeles, California; one sister, Lula Webb, and three brothers, Ben and Arthur Williams of Fresno, Calif., and Fred Williams of Okla. City; 8 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Herman Kelley, assisted by others, at Guthrie, Okla., and interment was in Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie.

ALL-DAY MEETINGS DISCONTINUED

Sister Verga McCoy writes that their regular all-day meeting each month at Dayton, Ohio, will be discontinued until after the campmeetings. Watch for the announcement of the resumption of all-day services in Dayton.

Campmeeting Dates for 1969

Following are the campmeeting dates for this year of 1969. More complete notices of the June meetings will appear in this issue, and all the others will be published in the July paper:

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, Okla.—May 30 to June 8.
Holly Hill, S. Carolina—June 6 to 15.

Tulsa, Okla.—June 13 to 22. Correction: This is not a campmeeting, but only a spring revival meeting at Tulsa.

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.

Bakersfield, Calif.—July 25 to August 3.

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

Fresno, Calif.—August 8 to 17.

Boley, Okla.—August 8 to 17.

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

Dover, Okla.—August 22 to 31.

Campmeeting Notices

OKLAHOMA CAMPMEETING AT GUTHRIE, OKLA.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting will be held, Lord willing, May 30 to June 8, 1969, on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner Streets, Guthrie, Okla.

This will be the 35th annual State campmeeting on these grounds. A hearty welcome is extended to all, and provisions will be made to care for those who come. A dining hall and dormitories are on the grounds. Expenses will be met by free-will offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting—the salvation of souls, sanctification of believers, and the divine healing of bodies.

Contributions of money and food may be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Porter, Route 5, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044.
—L. D. Pruitt, Trustee

HOLLY HILL, S. CAROLINA

The annual campmeeting of the Church of God at Holly Hill, S. Carolina, will be held, if it is the Lord's will, from June 6 to 15, 1969. Everyone is invited, saint and sinner.

For further information write or call Bro. Hutson Crummie, R. 1, Box 42, Holly Hill, S. Carolina 29059. Phone (803) 496-5231. Hutson Crummie

JEFFERSON, OREGON

The campmeeting of the Church of God at Jefferson, Oregon, will be held, the Lord willing, June 27 to July 6, 1969, inclusive. All are invited and welcome to come.

This meeting will be supported on the free-will offering plan as usual. Cabins and bedding are furnished on the grounds.

God blessed here in our Easter meeting this spring, and we are looking to God for another feast at Father's table. We urge everyone to attend this meeting.

All the saints here are praying that God will send His Holy Spirit-filled ministers to be with us to preach the truth of His precious Word.

For further information, write Sister Hilda Nielsen, P. O. Box 34, Jefferson, Ore., phone 327-2564, or Sister Bea Spaur, P. O. Box 348, phone 327-2855.

—Sister Bea Spaur, Pastor

GENERAL SOUTHERN—HAMMOND, LA.

The annual General Southern campmeeting of the Church of God will convene Friday, June 27, on the camp grounds at Hammond, La., and will continue through Sunday, July 6, 1969.

We are expecting the Lord to meet with us in mighty power, to save souls, sanctify believers, and heal the sick. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers of His choosing, who will preach the Word of God under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, without fear or compromise.

As in the past, meals and lodging will be provided on the free-will offering plan. We urge everyone who possibly can to be here for this meeting.

For further information write or call T. H. Coffey, P. O. Box 1177, Hammond, La. 70401, ph. (504) 345-2412.

32nd NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, on the saints' campgrounds at Monark Springs (Neosho), Missouri, July 18 through 27, 1969, inclusive.

We extend a very sincere and cordial invitation to all who read or hear about this campmeeting to attend, if at all possible. We need the Lord and each other more now than we ever have before.

As in previous years, meals and lodging will be furnished on the grounds. The usual fee of \$5.00 for camp tents and \$1.00 for cot and mattress will be charged. Also, space in dormitories will be \$2.50 per person. With the Lord's help we will try to provide for all who come. All who can, please bring bedding. It would be advisable to bring wraps, as the weather turns very cool at times. Meals will be served on free-will offering plan.

We know God will send His Spirit-filled ministers to bring us His Word. We are instructed in 1 Thess. 5:12,

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you." We like to know those who labor among us. Let us pray earnestly for the ministers and the meeting, that the power of the Holy Spirit will give fresh anointing for every service, convincing sinners of their need to turn to God, that believers will be sanctified, bodies healed, and an overall upbuilding of the Church of God.

Four services will be held daily, in addition to children's meeting in the morning and young peoples' meeting in the early evening.

There will be an 11 P. M. curfew. All are expected to be in their tent, cabin, or dormitory at this time. Allowance is being given to ministers or those working at the altar or praying for the sick. We appreciate the co-operation given and want to commend our precious young people for their consideration. It was a blessing last year to hear different groups gathered under the tabernacle singing the praises of the Lord throughout the day between services. We still remember the precious meeting the Lord gave us last year, and our expectation is even greater this year.

It will be necessary for those coming by bus or train to come to Neosho, and either take a taxi to the grounds, or call GR 2-6427 which is out of Granby, Mo., and some one will come after you.

We would appreciate receiving your orders for tent and dormitory space as soon as possible. Please send orders and offerings to Bro. H. A. McMillian, Rt. 5, Box 50, Neosho, Mo. 64850, or Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas 67337.

Special Work Days

There will be special work days at Monark Camp Ground on the following dates: June 14 and 28, July 4, 5, and 12. All help will be appreciated. Please remember these dates and come, if possible. —Ralph M. Beisly
407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas 67337

Other Meeting Notices

GOSPEL SINGING NEAR ROGERS, ARK.

The saints plan to have a gospel singing at Central community building on Saturday June 14. Service is to begin at 8 o'clock in the evening. All-day services will be held the next day, Sunday, June 15. Please come. The building is located about 10 miles east of Rogers, Ark., just off Highway 62. Bring your songbook and come. For further information contact Bro. T. V. McMillian, Route 5, Box 29, Neosho, Mo. 64850.

SPRING MEETING AT TULSA, OKLA.

The Spring meeting (not a campmeeting) of the Church of God at 1102 Norfolk and Pine Pl., Tulsa, Okla., will be held, Lord willing, on June 13 through June 22, 1969.

Pray much for the meeting. All are invited. The pastor is Bro. Lewis Williams, Wichita, Kansas, phone AM 4-8481. For further information, call Bro. M. D. Gaines, phone FE 5-8946, Tulsa. —Maple Littlejohn, Sec.
2021 N. St. Louis, Tulsa, Okla. 74106.

CHANGE OF DATE AT DECATUR, ILL.

The all-day meeting at Decatur, Ill., will be the third Sunday in June instead of the second Sunday. For further information, contact Bro. Murphy Allen, R. 1, Box 161, Senath, Mo. 63876.

REVIVAL MEETING AT NORTHPORT, ALA.

A revival meeting will be held, Lord willing, at Northport, Ala., on June 6 to 15, inclusive. The prayers of the saints are requested that the Lord will send the ministers of His choosing and anoint for the preaching of His Word. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to attend these services.

For further information, contact Bro. Lindsey Shelton, 23 Hightown, Northport, Ala. 35476.

EVANGELISTIC TENT MEETINGS PLANNED

Dear Saints scattered abroad: Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus. We have found Him to be our comfort, hope, and joy. He who knows the future is able to direct our ways, if we will commit them unto Him, and we find it a good old path. " 'Tis the good old way, the gospel way, that my Saviour's feet have trod, 'Tis the blood-stained way, the Calvary way, but it leads straight up to God." We want to see the end of this pathway to heaven by the grace of God.

We desire to let the saints know about the coming tent meetings. We received a letter from Bro. and Sister Curtis Williams, and they informed us, Lord willing, a tent meeting will start the first of June at Junction City, Kentucky. Those in that area are urged to attend. From there, it will move to the Ft. Worth-Dallas, Texas area, and possibly work in other places in Texas. We are thankful the Lord has spared Bro. Curtis Williams and that he is willing to go out in the tent meetings in the name of the Lord. Let us continue to hold him up in prayer that much good will be accomplished through this evangelistic effort. We look about us day by day and see souls lost, and we pray: Lord, help us somehow to reach them. The song writer put it like this: "How to reach the masses, men of every birth, for an answer Jesus gave the key, and I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." We desire to see Christ formed in the heart of every person on earth.

We want to thank all those who have responded to this effort by your prayers and financial support. May the Lord bless each one. We know the Lord will not forget your labor of love. He is faithful to His faithful children. Those who desire to help support these tent meetings with your offerings, may send them to the undersigned.

Let us continue in God's love and abide in His calling until He calls us from labor to reward. The time is so short and we must go forth earnestly and sincerely. Pray for us.

Yours for the gospel, —Ralph and Inez Beisly
407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas 67337

(Editor's note: The evangelistic tent meetings are supported through the Church of God National Missionary Fund, of which Bro. Ralph M. Beisly is the Secretary and Treasurer. Make your checks payable to this Fund and mail directly to him. You will be laying up treasures in heaven.)

TENT MEETING IN FT. WORTH-DALLAS AREA

Lord willing, the evangelistic tent and equipment will be used in the Fort Worth-Dallas area for a meeting June 13-22. At this time we are not certain of the exact location where the meeting will be held, but those who may wish to attend can obtain this information by contacting Ed Wilson, 513 N. W. 88th St., Oklahoma City 73114 (phone 405-842-2989) or Clifford Wilson, at Faith

Publishing House, Guthrie, Okla. 73044 (ph. 405-282-1768). Please pray with us for souls, and come help in the meeting if possible.
—Bro. Ed Wilson

Meeting Reports**LOS ANGELES SPRING MEETING REPORT**

Our revival convened in Los Angeles, Calif., from March 28 through April 6, 1969. The Lord gave us a glorious meeting.

Some souls claimed salvation and the saints were encouraged. Some received help by a deeper consecration to God, and bodies were healed.

The attendance was good. Fifty saints took part in the ordinance service, which was very precious.

We are thankful for all the visiting ministers and our pastor who preached the truth in its fullness. May we ever treasure these sermons in our hearts and put in practice all of God's Word.

—Bro. I. C. Chandler, Pastor

—Bro. T. R. Summers, Deacon

EASTER MEETING AT JEFFERSON, OREGON

Greetings to all the dear saints: I am praising the dear Lord today for the sweet peace and joy He gives unto me, and the many blessings He bestows upon us from day to day. How wonderful it is that the precious Lord heals our bodies and gives us grace for every need. Yes, we are serving a mighty God!

Our Easter meeting at Jefferson, Ore., for 1969 is in the past, but the seed that was sown is still bringing forth fruit. . . . I praise God today that the devil was defeated again, and I believe that all the dear saints here will testify that there is a closer fellowship and a greater understanding, compassion and love than ever.

We had a precious meeting from start to finish. Not as many saints came as in former meetings. Some came from California and Washington, and others came from different parts of Oregon. The preaching was anointed and messages were very timely and the saints were edified. Some write that they are still rejoicing for the spiritual food they received. Only two visiting ministers were present and we thank the Lord that He did not fail in sending ministers that were filled with the Holy Spirit. Yes, we know God's Word is still true that the government is on Christ's shoulder. Our God is still on His throne taking care of His church.

Now we are looking forward to our campmeeting which begins July 27. We want to invite all the dear saints and everyone to attend this meeting. We are asking God to send ministers filled with the Holy Spirit and power to preach the Word without fear or favor.

We are very busy here, as there is much visiting to be done. Some saints are isolated and some are old. When they are not able to get to the services, some of the saints drive out to see them, to read and pray with them. In bringing comfort to them, it comforts our hearts.

We don't believe it will be long until the Lord will come. May we all do our best for the precious souls who need God. May we watch and pray, keeping the love of God in our hearts. May the dear Lord stir our hearts to work while we can.

Your Sister, saved and sanctified and kept by power divine,
—Sister Bea Spaur, Pastor

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

GOULDS, FLA., MEETING REPORT

Dear Saints and fellow-laborers in the gospel: Greetings of love in our dear Lord's name.

We are thankful to report to you how the dear Lord blessed and worked in the Goulds, Fla., meeting which was held April 11 through 20. The attendance was good. The Lord wonderfully blessed with good weather. Thank Him for His goodness to us! The Word of God was preached with much power under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. The Lord blessed with good altar services. A number sought the Lord for salvation and others received help. Twelve were baptized. The ordinance services were very sacred and anointed of the Lord. Some of the young saints who recently took their stand for the truth testified they had not witnessed an ordinance service like it before. They said it became real to their souls. Praise the Lord!

We wish to thank the dear saints for praying for the meeting and desire that you will continue to pray for the work in Florida.

We have received a letter from Sister Hargrave (the minister's wife) since we returned home, stating that a complaint was sent in, apparently during the meeting, to the Zoning Board about the chapel where the saints have their services. It seems there is a county ordinance requiring churches to have at least two and a half acres of land. We do not know whether the saints have that much land or not. Let us pray that the Lord will work this out to His glory. If they have to move, surely the Lord has a better place for them. Pray for the saints to keep encouraged through it all. We serve a great God and there is nothing too hard for the Lord to do. Praise the Lord!

The Lord did some wonderful healing during the meeting. Several testified of their healing and were praising the Lord for it. The Lord healed my body of a severe cold and cough during the meeting, for which we give Him all the praise. "What a mighty God we serve!"

Christian love and prayers, —Katherine Williams

NATIVE MEXICAN MISSIONARY REPORT

Dear Saints scattered abroad: We send greetings to all from Valle de La Trinidad (Valley of the Trinity), Mexico.

It says in Isaiah 61:3, He "will give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." It is true that He is concerned about souls, the work upon hearts, and moves them to repentance. He has done many miracles and wonders and is just the same today and always. Oh, what peace I have in my soul because I have a God who sees and cares for His children! As David said, "The Lord is my shepherd" (Psalms 23), I also say it today.

It gives me joy to see souls here seeking for the Lord. Each day more and more come to services and all have a desire to walk with God. We are happy to know that our work is not in vain.

We are praying that someone filled with the Spirit will come and occupy the place in Ojos Negros. We thank the Lord that it [the chapel] is now finished and almost paid for. I give God thanks for all the brothers and sisters in the Lord who have prayed and helped in a monetary way for us to finish it and pray that God will richly bless each one in his soul. We are looking to God about having campmeeting there (Ojos Negros). Please pray for us.

Your Brother in Christ, —Tomas Mendoza R.

NATIVE MISSIONARY REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (May 5)—Dear Bro. Lawrence Pruitt and co-workers, greetings again in the precious name of Jesus Christ, the wonderful Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace. (Isa. 9:6):

Thank you for your nice letter dated April 22, 1969, and its enclosures were noted with great thanks. Please excuse me for the delay of my last letter which was too late to be printed in the May paper. It so happened because we were busy with the preparations for the Trichur convention.

As the Psalmist says, "Give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever." This time He was good to us to bless the Trichur convention. He heard prayer and poured blessings to those who attended the convention. Six young ladies were baptized. Please pray for them. Believers got food for their spiritual growth. You see, some of our believers are of the type Apostle Paul describes, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." (Heb. 5:12) These conventions are of great help for their growth into believers of full age who can eat strong meat.

Our next convention starts by the 15th of May at Niranam. I went there yesterday to make some arrangements for it and returned home just now. We need spiritual as well as physical help from God for this convention. We request your prayers. We plead to God with importunity to grant us enough means to get along with the work of spreading the "Evening Light" truth in this land, that sinners may be convicted, backsliders may be restored and believers be well established. This is our aim and prayer.

After this convention we plan to go on a tour into other distant places and every nook and corner where the light of the gospel has not been spread yet. And thus the door to the gospel can be opened in various places. We have the public address system for this purpose. Another essential thing is a gospel van because it is of great use to go as a group carrying the public address system to distant places, speaking and distributing tracts. We believe that nothing is impossible with God. Let us look unto His face together for it, because once Jesus said, "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 18:19). Praise the Lord for His living promises.

Please convey our best wishes to all the brethren in America and in the print shop. . . . We in India remember your Oklahoma campmeeting in our everyday prayers.

Looking unto Him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, we remain yours in the Master's service,

—John Varghese

MISSION REPORTS FROM NIGERIA

Nigeria (April 14)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all saints everywhere: "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." Psalm 34. Greetings are hereby sent to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour who is the ONLY King of kings, One who so loved us and gave His dear life for us that we might be saved.

We got yours of 12th of March which so much gladdened our souls and refreshed our bodies. Thanks are given to God and to you for the encouragement. Your letter of August 7, last year, was received in our last mail, same day. We are sorry that the crisis so far detained it on the way.

Thank you for the "Faith and Victory" issue of August, 1968 enclosed in the same cover and the two letters by Bros. Nse and Jackson printed therein.

Next week our campmeeting will begin. . . . News of the meetings will come to you as usual by our secretary, Bro. Nse Umanah as the Lord permits.

Thank God, I am well again to carry on the work He chose me to do. The way is very clear now for communications. Both banking and postal services are once again in operations for which we are thankful to God. Therefore anyway you are led by the Holy Spirit of God can now be carried out without further delay as we desperately need both physical and spiritual help everywhere. War victims are very numerous.

Send to us "Faith and Victory" papers as usual. Also, send us "The Beautiful Way" papers, and Efik tracts you printed, please. We pray for you every time.

Yours in Christ,

—B. U. Etuk

S. E. State, Nigeria (April 21)—My dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in Jesus' wonderful name, the only Name where-by believers hope for eternal salvation.

Your seeming silence had thrown so many of us into doubt. Now that you have answered, we are more than grateful to you.

I am still active with others in the Mission work, and God is blessing wonderfully, too. I have to inform you that we have so far completed and opened for worship our thatch-mud chapel in Ikot Esen Akpantuen, my village, since December, 1968. What remains now are doors and benches. At present we are using bamboo chairs. May God provide funds for doors and benches is the prayer of every member of the congregation. The Lord is adding souls every day. Praise the Lord! We are holding, Lord willing, a campmeeting at Ikot Ofon Ikono, Uyo, April 25 through 27. I am happy to see the work sprouting and growing despite the onslaughts of the enemy and the afflictions of the present civil war. The work in the entire 20 mission stations is advancing and progressing. Thank God, the areas where mission stations are located have been fully liberated from the vandals by the Federal troops. May God's wonderful name be praised, for He has mercifully raised His mighty hands, smote the enemies, and saved us from bloodshed and premature death. "O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation." Psalms 95:1. "Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man, preserve me from the violent man." Psalms 140:1.

I noticed that you published in "Faith and Victory" just an extract from the twelve-page writing about my 81 days' experiences in Biafra Concentration camps. . . .

Post office and bank transactions are functioning now. Thank God, we are going to have regular communications as before.

Your Brother in Christ,

—J. U. Etuk

S. E. State, Nigeria (May 5)—Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, greetings in Jesus' name:

I believe you have my last letter by now. Our campmeeting held at Ikot Ofon April 25 to 27, 1969, was ended successfully. The members from Uyo, Abak, and Opoko districts turned up in great numbers. The attendance was 1,196 souls. I conducted the communion ser-

vices and 495 members took part. The superintendent, B. U. Etuk, along with four pastors and all the evangelists were present. Many souls were healed Saturday night and blessed.

I held house-to-house prayer meetings at Ishiet Evong and Ikot Akpabio and at Nung Asang as was led by the Lord. Pray that the Lord opens the way for me to preach the gospel at Ibuno, the longest distant in this territory.

The Home Mission owes us gospel literature to arouse the interest of the displaced souls here in this time of civil war.

I am making a full-time preaching on Sundays at our mission stations and wish you to pray for my success. The only thing to hinder the missionary tour is finance.

Every type of parcel will be welcomed at the post office. The members are in great need to read the home mission papers.

Pray for greater expansion of the mission work in Nigeria. The members of this center send greetings to the home mission and workers in Jesus' dear name.

—Pastor M. U. Ekpene

Prayer Requests



W. Va.—"We are not well in body." —A. L. Bright.

Okla.—Desire prayer for unsaved loved ones.— Sister Tillman.

Mo.—"My daughter is mentally ill." —Rachel Smith

Mo.—"Sister Edith Torrance is not well." —Sister Lena Bowman.

Va.—Sister Bessie Faudree is not well.

Ga.—"I am suffering with my stomach and knees." —Ethel F. Grogan.

Mo.—Have several afflictions. —Fern Elliott.

W. Va.—"Have nervous trouble." —Maude Springs.

W. Va.—"My daughter will go to the hospital to be put in traction for a slipped disc in her back and possibly an operation. . . . She is unsaved . . . has two little boys. Also pray for my mother . . . has arthritis . . . and for me." —Sister Essie Carter.

Ariz.—"Pray for my brother, F. E. Wilson. He has been ill for some time. . . . Pray for his wife, Ellen." —Maude Hammett.

Mo.—"Pray for me both soul and body." —Myrtie Niswonger.

Mo.—Rickie Porter was in an accident. He was thrown out of the car. He suffered head, shoulder, and possibly other injuries. He is suffering very much.

Mo.—Remember Bro. Asa Gibson as he has serious afflictions and has suffered greatly.

Mich.—Bro. E. Kirchner called and wants prayer for himself and his wife who is in the hospital.

We have heard from a number who desire prayer for their unsaved loved ones, friends and relatives. We should all keep a burden on our hearts for this sin-filled world and for souls who are under the "yoke of bondage." Time is fast closing out and souls are going on so unconcerned. Our hearts are troubled and concerned. When we see literal dangers ahead we do all we can to warn others about them. We should be more concerned when we see souls plunging head-long into hell and eternal damnation. The gospel needs to be published, preached, talked, lived, and sent forth in every way possible. We each one have a debt to others that we need to pay.

One dear Sister is heart-broken, as her husband has left her. Pray earnestly for her. The heartache is so real and severe. Several souls are seeking more light

and earnestly desiring the truth. Some are afflicted in various ways, problems need to be worked out, and many other requests come in for prayer.

We do thank the Lord for how He does answer prayer. It does our heart good to hear about it. Sister Evelyn Wilson has written that she has received a touch from the Lord. Sister La Verne Manuel is able to be out to services but still needs complete healing, and so does dear Sister Wm. McCoy. Sister Thomas in Washington is thankful for what the Lord has done for her grandchild. Sister Coffey is some better, but is still looking for complete healing. Bro. Coffey still needs complete healing for his arm which he hurt in a fall. Remember that the Bible says: "In my distress I cried unto the Lord, and he heard me." Psa. 120:1. "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles." Psa. 34:6.

—Sister Marie Miles

A Father's Day Tribute

North Little Rock, Ark.
June 9, 1958

Mr. S. B. Mizell
999 Glory Avenue
Paradise, Beyond the Stars

Dearest Daddy:

This is my first letter to you since you moved to the above address over nine years ago. Seems like Father's Day is an appropriate time to write. Did you think I had forgotten you? A million times, no. How could one forget such an unselfish life as yours—not only toward your family, but also others, particularly widows and orphans. And what a godly life! No mere Sunday Christian, you, Dad, but you lived it seven days a week. I know, for I watched your life year in and year out, under the most trying circumstances: Plowing in the new ground; working contrary mules; milking kicking cows; cranking Model T's until your great strength was exhausted, and prying and pushing them out of axle-deep mud. Not one time in all those years did I ever see you angry or hear you utter so much as a disgusting word. You simply had some God-given something inside that kept you sweet and Christlike, no matter how severe the test. Even when I was rebellious and disobedient, and there was nothing left for you to do but "pour it on", you were a man, and did your duty, but always with love, and not one sign of anger or revenge. What precious memories, these! That firm discipline kept me from being a juvenile delinquent or worse.

Speaking of widows and orphans, all of us recall your kindness for many years to two of Mom's widowed sisters and their children. One of them told me years ago that if her son ever loved anybody, he loved you. His sister wrote me years ago that in the many times they were in our home, often spending the night with us because of loneliness, dangerous looking clouds, etc., that she never heard one unkind word out of you all those years. Only about a month ago I received a letter from the other widowed sister mentioning the time you opened your doors to her and her fatherless children. I can't recall how long they made their home with us, but anyway in this very letter she states that she does not recall one unkind word out of you (Mom, either, of course) during their stay. You will recall that wonderful bouquet another cousin of mine wrote to you before you left us—saying that while you never made the headlines of the newspapers, yet you left a community far better than you found it, and that your godly influence would live on and on in the

lives of others. None of these people were one bit of blood kin to you; just by marriage.

And what about people outside the family? I recall that a man for whom we worked some, perhaps two or three different years, after watching your life during that time remarked to someone, "If I ever get religion, I want the kind Sammie Mizell has." Also, years ago word came to me that a certain dying lady who needed God, and who knew your life so well, sighed this remark; "Oh, if only Bro. Seaton or Sammie Mizell were here to pray for me!" People are in dead earnest at a time like that, Dad; they don't utter idle words.

Well, Dad, if I should go into detail about your many good deeds through more than fifty years of service to the Master, and about all the wonderful things people have said about you, I could fill this paper. I am so happy in the thought that I handed you these bouquets and more while you were living, and that I didn't wait until it was too late to show my love and appreciation for you, even in the way of hugs and kisses.

Say, Dad, did you meet Mom at the Eastern Gate when she arrived this past April 27? She's just as fine as you, and maybe after she has been in heaven nine years, as you have, I'll get around to writing her, also. Your and her prayers in family worship 365 mornings and nights in the year, plus your godly lives, of course, have perhaps had more influence on me than all the Sunday-schools and preaching put together.

Regarding your life, my prayer is the latter part of Numbers 23:10—"Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!"

Oceans of love,

—Alvin

From The Mail Box . . .

Ohio—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all at the Print Shop, greetings in Jesus' name: I am thanking the Lord for His love and mercy. Here is a small offering for use in the publishing work.

We are in perilous times. I have recently received a letter from our district representative in Washington, D. C., the Honorable Donald E. Lukens. I feel that this letter, or part of it, should be of interest to the whole church. I had corresponded with him some, and I wish to enclose an excerpt from his letter, and I quote: "I have introduced a constitutional amendment clearly indicating the legality of prayer in schools and public places. It is interesting to know that Congress begins its sessions each day with a prayer.

"I will always do my best to stand for those principles of freedom and democracy which you mentioned in your letter." (End of quote.)

Saints of God, I feel we should all get behind this man with our prayers that we may be able to preserve our principles of freedom.

The Bible tells us to pray for rulers and those in authority. Your Brother in Christ, —Theodore Sallee

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Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and Bro. Lawrence: I feel so much in need of keeping in touch with the saints by letter, visiting, or writing. I have a special interest in the "Faith and Victory" paper and have had for many years. A number of years ago I became burdened to see the paper put out two times each month, and I still haven't changed my mind. Some way it seems that God wants it that way.

I am doing what I can in the gospel work. For many years Beulah [deceased wife] and I had been going to the meetings at Jefferson, Ore. Since I lost her, I married

Loretta Miles of Orland, Calif. We are going on, as much as possible, where Beulah and I left off, only we are planning to go more places as the Lord leads. The Lord so wonderfully blessed in the last all-day meeting at Jefferson, Oregon, in April and gave victory.

We have in mind to go to Mexico to their campmeeting which will be held May 24 to June 1.

I would be unable to tell you about all the blessings God has poured out on us many times while traveling or in prayer. My burden is mostly to encourage the saints and rescue those who are slipping back. We have good meetings here at Orland. . . . Possibly we will make our home here, as we can go north or south, either way, in one day's drive. We love the Lord and His work, and wish to continue in the same.

I would like to be in the Guthrie campmeeting again, but the dates don't work out right.

I had a very bad case of "shingles." It was very painful, but it is all gone now.

May the Lord bless all of you.

Yours in Him, —A. E. (Gene) and Loretta Harmon

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Ill.—Faith and Victory Publishing Co.—I would like to renew my subscription for the "Faith and Victory" paper. It has been about three years since the last one expired and I have really missed them. I haven't found any other paper or magazine that affords as much encouragement toward living by faith and depending on God's divine healing as this one does. During my recent illness I found some of my 1966 papers and it encouraged me to continue to trust God for my healing, and I can report victory. God completely healed me and I am up and able to carry on my usual activities. I also wish to order some tracts.

Yours in Christian service, —Mrs. Ethel Walls

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

Wash.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, I would like three copies of "How John Became a Man." We were close to Bro. Shaw, as we spent many hours visiting shut-ins and souls in hospitals, until he became too feeble and was confined to a nursing home. The last time we went to call on him he had just passed away when we went to the home, so we miss his presence very much. A wonderful saint has gone Home.

I would also like to have three copies of the book on "Sanctification" by J. W. Byers.

God bless you in all your labors. —Chester D. Snyder

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

Calif.—Dear ones at the office and all the dear saints everywhere, greetings in Jesus' dear name: How I do love the holy family of God our Father!

I would not be writing again so soon, but want to thank all the dear saints for the many birthday cards and gifts as there were too many for me to answer individually. Thank you, dear ones; it was so sweet of you to remember me. We are one and so very precious to each other. I'm so glad to be one of God's family. May God bless you, one and all.

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

Minn.—Dear saints at the Printshop: Greetings of Christian love in Jesus' holy name. It has been some time since I had written to you. I praise the Lord that He raised me up from the sickness that I had—double pneumonia. I am perfectly well again and I give God the glory. I get around good and wish to pass out some more tracts, so I am sending . . . for tracts and . . . to be used as the Lord leads. May God bless and keep you faithful in the work for the Lord. Great are His tender mercies. May He keep His hand of love over all of you until He comes.

—Bro. Andrew Senti

Ohio—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am so glad for the good news and for the "Faith and Victory" paper. My mother took it years ago, and I have been receiving it since 1942.

The article in the (May) paper about the unhappy marriage was answered very well. My marriage was similar. I saw it when it was too late. Folks would say, "I wouldn't live with him." But I said, "My vow is not to be broken." I loved him and considered my children. I taught them the Bible and forgave him. Every one of my children are Christians. We have lived here in this same house 56 years. My husband does not seem to believe in God. I am glad that I trusted God and that I had a praying mother and father. My son is a preacher now and talks to his dad about prayer. I'm so glad I obeyed God and didn't listen to Satan. "Except a grain of wheat fall to the ground and die it abideth alone." I have forgotten self.

—Name Withheld

o

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer



Mich.—Dear Sister Marie and Bro. Lawrence, greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus: We are still living for the Lord and striving so we can live in that beautiful City above some day.

The Lord has really blessed us lately. He healed our oldest son Randy of a wart on his big toe. Thank the Lord!

We were in an auto accident last Sunday night on our way to church services. It was raining and the pavement was really slick. My husband couldn't stop in time for a car that was stopped, waiting for another car to make a left-hand turn. No one was hurt seriously. The two people in the other car had whiplash. We were shaken and bruised, but nothing too bad. We realize it could have been a lot worse. Sometimes we wonder for what reason these things happen.

James had to have a hearing, speech, and vision test so he could start to school this next fall. He didn't pass the hearing test too well. He had a cold at the time, so we have to have his ears checked next month. We think they will advise us to have his tonsils and adenoids out. Pray for him that this condition will clear up.

We are sending an order for tracts. Enclosed is a money order to cover the cost. The remainder is for an offering.

Please pray for us that we will stay true to our blessed Lord. We need the Lord to help us to be better examples before others and before our children so we can train them as the Lord would have us do. We remember you in prayer every day.

Christian love, —Bro. and Sister Milford Parsons

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

Ill.—Dear Sister Miles and Sister Pruitt: It has been quite a long time since I received your good letters. I do thank you for your letters and encouraging words. God bless you all there!

At times I do not feel well. I have either a bone-spur or arthritis in my right heel. It is very painful at times. I would like for you to remember me in prayer. God knows my every need and I am fully trusting Him all the way. I have put my hand to the plow and dare not look back. I have no desire to take medicine nor trust in the arm of flesh. I know God is able to heal ALL our diseases and if He sees best not to heal me, then He has a purpose and I want His will to be done in me. I am ready to go when He is ready for me. Death is not a terrible thing to those who are ready. It is only terrible

for those who are not. I thank God for His wonderful salvation that has made me ready to go anytime. How good it has been to serve Him all these years! I'm glad I can say it pays to be a Christian. I cannot find words to express my thanksgiving and praise for His saving and keeping me! My life has been worth while instead of being a wasted life. I love God most of all, above all, and before all other things. He is my life and the light of my life. I would not want to live without Him.

I enjoy the paper with the letters and testimonies. I'm thankful for the good reading that comes from the Lord's Print Shop. . . .

Little Bunnie's eye still crosses every bad at times. Please remember it in your prayers. So many have made remarks about it and that they thought Linda should have it operated on. How much we want to see it healed to the glory of God and to quiet the gainsayers. . . .

We are still mailing tracts. How I pray for God to use them some way to awaken lost souls. Oh! that the seed may fall on good ground somewhere. I know some falls on stony ground, some by the wayside, and some is choked by cares of this life and the deceitfulness of riches. How very few honest hearts there seem to be! It is our part as the children of God to sow and to water the seed, but God Himself must give the increase! I wonder at times if the saints are praying fervently enough for lost souls. It seems there are so many things to take up our time and press us down until we forget what it means for a soul to be forever lost! How we need to be stirred and revived. May the Lord help us to be faithful until death.

It was two years ago this month that I threw away my medicine and took God as my great Physician. I had heart trouble and high blood pressure. I had been taking blood pressure medicine and heart tablets for at least four years and had been to three different doctors. I was getting worse, unable to do my work as I needed help to get the hard things done. I just seemed to drag, slower and slower, and felt worse and worse. I kept reading testimonies and books, especially, "Secret of Salvation," and other good things. Finally, I just decided I would go all the way. I decided that if God did not heal me I would die trusting Him anyway. I wrote to you for prayer and I told others of my decision. We all fasted and prayed. I often got up in the night to pray as my heart would be beating so fast I could not sleep. I would slip out of bed, not wanting to awaken my husband, and go to our little pantry to wrestle with God. One night in May about 2 o'clock in the morning as I prayed and remembered God's promises, especially 2 Cor. 1:20—"Yea" (yes, I will), "and amen," (so let it be!) I felt the Lord touch my body twice (on the "yea" and the "amen"). It was like an electric shock (not unpleasant), that went through my veins from the top of my head down into my limbs.

After that I began to improve, though I had to fight symptoms. I found I could do many things I had not been able to do for so long! I canned over 100 quarts of green beans and other things, too. I did my washing at home on an old wringer-type machine, having to carry some of the water to fill and empty the tubs. I could sweep and mop without getting heart pains. Others could see the change in me, too. Oh, how I thank God for what He did for me! But just as it is when we get saved, the devil is there to try to cause us to doubt and lose our salvation or to get us to give up, so it was I had a continual battle at times. When I got to the Monark Springs (Neosho), Mo. campmeeting I had you and others to anoint and pray for me as I had not been anointed before then.

While we were there Bro. Curtis Williams was miraculously healed and I could feel the glory of God as he

shouted and leaped after the Lord touched him. Oh, it is good to know God is still the same today!

In September of that year I took kidney infection and suffered severely and was deathly sick for ten days. God healed me of that affliction through the prayers of the saints. The same winter I had the flu and severe colds, but each time God healed me. He has not failed me, although I surely have to take my healings by faith. I have not again experienced the touch I had in the pantry that night. I am not a baby in Christ. I believe God wants me to be strong in faith and to take Him at His Word and believe His promises and stand on them. I know His promises are true! I thank Him for His precious Word. I want to live by it and die trusting God all the way. Do pray that I may indeed be faithful unto death. I want to be completely sold out for God and measured fully to all His Word. I do need your prayers, always.

I am enclosing an offering for the printing work. I see the value of the printed gospel more and more. May God bless you all in His work.

With lots of love,

—Thelma Sprague

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

Ky.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Marie and all the dear saints: Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. I am glad that I can report victory in my soul and God's wonderful blessings upon us both. I am also happy to say that my husband Wilbur who has been so afflicted with an ulcer and over-acid stomach is improving fast. He feels sure that the ulcer is completely healed, also he doesn't have as much acid as he had been having. He is now able to do his farm work, although it goes slow with him as he is still weak and tires easily. His appetite is returning and he is getting a little stronger each day. We want to thank all the dear saints who have been so earnestly praying for him and desire you to continue to pray that he will soon be completely well and strong.

Pray that we both will keep in the center of God's will at all times. Our heart's main desire and determination is to make heaven our future home. We are traveling fast toward eternity, but God has promised to be with us to the end if we will but live close to Him and walk in the light as He sheds it upon our pathway. Praise His dear name!

I just want to tell of a recent coincidence. I have for some long time been searching for my book, "How John Became a Man," which I used to have years ago, but failed to find it. I wanted to let some of our young grandchildren read it. I've wondered why it hadn't been reprinted, as many of the other old books have been. It is such a good book for children and young people.

I just finished reading a book we have had on hands for many years as I just recently came across it. It is entitled, "Steps Heavenward," and has proved such a wonderful blessing to me. It is good for young and old, especially ones like myself who have been tormented so much with doubts, accusations, lack of feelings, etc., which hinder one's faith in claiming a clear experience with the dear Lord. I thought as I was reading this book how nice it would be if the printing office there would reprint it. I even thought of writing Sister Marie to ask her if it would be possible to have it reprinted there if I would send my book to her. Now the coincidence is just yesterday I received our May issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper and in reading it I found on page five where you now say you have both of those books in stock and ready for sale. Did this just happen, or did God work it out this way?

I will enclose an order for some of those books. May the dear Lord continue to bless you in the work there in the print shop. You truly are doing a wonderful work.

A Sister in Christ,

—Mrs. Wilbur Jarvis

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am thankful this morning for Jesus and His great love to us and to all who will love, trust, and live for Him. God has truly blessed us this winter and spring. My husband is gradually regaining his strength after several weeks of illness. I am thankful to our God for this.

I thank you for your good letter of last winter and thank you for sending the Bible Lessons. . . . I will enclose my offering for the Lord's work at the Print Shop in Jesus' name. I am glad we can each one have a small part in sending out those special copies for the three months during the winter. I pray they have been a blessing to each one.

Sister Torrance isn't a bit well any more. Please remember her in prayer. We are thankful for the prayers of the saints everywhere.

This world is in such a turmoil with riots and war breaking out everywhere. We know some day, and it may be very soon, when Jesus comes there will be no more wars.

May God richly bless you each one at the shop and encourage your hearts in His work there. May God bless His people everywhere.

Please continue to remember us in prayer.

Your Sister in Christ, —Sister Lena Bowman

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

Ga.—Dear Sister Anna Marie, the helpers in the Print Shop, and the saints of God everywhere, greetings to you in the lovely name of Jesus: Sister Marie, I am writing that the good Lord, through prayer, has healed that severe ailment I had in my side. I am giving Him all the glory and praise. I'd never had such a feeling in my body before, but thank God, He healed it, and not the arm of flesh. I am so glad that I am a living witness to God's healing, and I tell it unashamed. God is a healer.

My little grandson's rupture doesn't seem to bother him at all. . . . The Lord touched him, but it is not completely healed. My daughter and I don't doubt God. We believe, if it is His will, He will give complete healing in His own time. . . . I am praising God for His wondrous works.

Please keep us before the Lord as we do all of you. Love and prayers,

—Sister P. R. Bowers

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

Ky.—Dear Sister Marie, we send greetings in the most precious name of Jesus: We are thankful to be saved today and on this good way. It seems there are so many turning away from it. It just makes me want to walk more carefully before my Lord so as not to grieve Him and get turned aside.

I surely wish we could come to the Guthrie campmeeting, . . . but I'm afraid we won't make it again this year. The tent meeting will start in Junction City, Ky., June 1.

Do pray that the Lord will send forth laborers and much good will be accomplished and precious souls delivered from sin and bondage in the tent meetings.

Pray for us. Christian love, —Sister Curtis Williams
Clearfield, Ky. 40313

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

Fla.—Dear Sister Marie and the staff of workers at the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of love in the name of our dear Lord who watches over us day and night. Surely we appreciate His goodness to us all down through the years. We do thank and praise Him for His guidance and protection from the great danger we passed through while in sin and error. We have much to be thankful for. He delivered us from behind Babylonian walls and placed us in Mt. Zion, put a new song in our mouth and established our goings. Praise His great name!

We want to thank all the saints for joining us in praying down a revival from heaven. We had a wonderful meeting in Goulds, Fla. We appreciate the blessings of the Lord in saving lost souls, healing sick bodies, sanctifying believers, and edifying the saints through the gospel which was so clearly brought forth through the ministers He chose to send to Florida. . . . The effects of the meeting are still being felt in Goulds. Souls are still being saved. Thank the Lord! About a week ago a young man, whose wife just got saved this year, gave his heart to the Lord. "The Lord has done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Psa. 126:3. Now pray with us and for us that the Lord will set up a work here in Ft. Lauderdale to His own glory.

May God continue to bless the truth as it goes forth from the print shop and may He greatly bless your labors in His service is my prayer for you.

Yours in Christian service, —Sister M. B. Savage

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

Kansas—Greetings in the name of the Lord: I want to send in a testimony for God. The Lord surely blessed me quite some time ago and I promised the Lord to send in my testimony for Him. I was having trouble with my heart. I called my pastor and his wife, Bro. and Sister Lewis Williams, and asked them to pray, and the Lord really came to my rescue then and there. I give God all the praise.

A small offering is enclosed to be used where you feel it is needed. Pray much for me to reach deeper depths in God.

—Sister B. J. Gracey

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

Ky.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, and workers, greetings in Jesus' dear name: We are so thankful we can report victory in our souls and we are encouraged to press on to Glory. We are living in discouraging times with so much sin and evil on every hand. We thank God He can give us peace and contentment through it all.

I would like to have seen you dear ones while you were back this way, but I feel the Lord was in my being at Grubbs, Ark., for their all-day meeting. The Lord blessed us with a good meeting there. It seemed the messages were just what I needed to help me press on. The fellowship was sweet and I could feel the sweet Spirit of God dealing with precious souls. It was my first time there, but I want to go back again, Lord willing.

Sister Marie, I want to tell you folks how the Lord is working here. My heart is full of praise to the Lord. My husband [Mart Samons] left home two weeks ago last Sunday to hold meetings. That morning, before he left, he went to build a fire at the meeting house and the stove smoked terribly. Soot was all over the place. . . . The smoke was so bad he had to leave the doors open to air the place out. The weather was real cool. I was supposed to pick up a new family that had been coming to meeting. It was embarrassing for me as I thought they were probably used to something nicer. They had just moved here from New York to take care of her mother.

We got our services started, any way. Shortly Bro. and Sister Curtis Williams and family and Bro. and Sister Sam Abbott came. The Lord inspired Bro. Curtis to preach a real good message to us. All the service was good. Mart had to leave soon after dinner as he wanted to get to Decatur, Ill. that night. That evening we went back to services and the old stove was really smoking. It was a real trial to me. I feel the Lord permitted it to help us to get stirred in our souls. When it came time for prayer requests, I got up and told the folks I felt like our number one burden should be to get us a better place of worship. I told them that each of us made sure

our own houses were presentable and I felt like the house of worship should be more important to us than our own homes. I told them I had a nice home in Ohio, but I had to be willing to give it up and move here to please the Lord. We know the Lord sent us here and I feel like we ought to do everything we possibly can to reach every soul we can. After all, that is our obligation before God. If we don't do what we know the Lord wants us to do we're not going to make it anyway. The old meeting house is hard to keep warm and looks bad on the outside. . . . I believe everyone felt the same way I did. It seemed we all were stirred. . . .

A couple of the brethren went to see about some lots the next week end. They found a man who had some lots and when Bro. Wilson asked him to price the lots to him and if we could reach it we would buy them, he told Bro. John that he would give us a clear deed for four lots and wouldn't charge us a dime for them. He said if we didn't need all of it we could sell some of it and put the money on the building of the chapel. . . . On Thursday night at prayer meeting a brother handed me a hundred dollars and told me to start a savings account the next day. A Sister gave me a hundred, also. In all, I have \$230 in savings in just a little over a week. A Brother also wrote and offered to come and help build it. So you see, the Lord has really been working. . . .

Our tent meeting here at Junction City will start the first day of June and go through the eighth. Then I guess Bro. Curtis Williams will head for Texas with the tent. . . . I do feel that this tent meeting will be profitable here, as there seems to be new interest.

Do pray that the Lord will work everything out for our good and to the glory of God.

Christian love, —Sister Verna Samons

222 N. First St., Danville, Ky. 40422

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' dear name: We are still saved, sanctified, and satisfied with Jesus. Praise His holy name! Surely His goodness and mercy have been extended to this sinful dark world. Our flood is about dried up. We praise God for sparing our lives. Many lost their lives. Our town of Alpaugh was spared. There were many prayers going up in our behalf, and God in His mercy turned the water away from us into many acres of farm land which is still under water. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! I can't praise Him enough for what He is to me. I can't express the joy that fills my soul when I remember I am His and He is mine. Oh, what a glorious thought! The people in this town who were saved from the flood, many of them religious leaders, are going on in the same sinful way, and even cursing because their crops failed. Instead, they should humble down and give their hearts to God and let Him work out their problems. No wonder God said that they that forget Him shall be turned into hell. Yet He is merciful, waiting and giving them chance after chance to get saved. Still they go on trampling the mercies of a loving Saviour underfoot. They are counting the blood of our blessed Redeemer a foul thing, crucifying our Lord afresh and putting Him to an open shame. Many are turning away from the One who saved them. They hold man's person in esteem for praise and honor, greedy of gain, puffed up, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God, truce breakers, unholy, and division makers. We are told to mark that one who would cause division and have no fellowship with him. Amen. . . .

I am striving to make heaven my home. We are all workers together in His vineyard. Please pray for the

work in Allensworth. We are very few in number but we love the Lord and are striving to do His will to all we know and understand. We see eye to eye with God's blood-washed ministers of the old-time truth. We are looking for more light, but not new light. We don't believe in removing the old landmarks.

Yours in Christ, —Sister Dazella Bell Taylor

QUESTION: Micah 4th chapter says that nations shall not learn war any more, and people shall beat their swords into plowshares. From whence comes so much war?

ANSWER: Ancient Israel lived and operated under a literal law. It had no all-cleansing fountain of blood to purge its sins and no Holy Ghost to lead it aright; it had only a law of works that pointed down to and reached toward the perfect sacrifice. Since literal manifestation was all they knew, God came down with His power and defended them in literal battle because they were His chosen people. He had selected them because they were the least of all the nations that He might manifest Himself through them to all the world. He taught them how to war and time after time they marched to victory under His direct instruction and command. But keep this thought in mind: basically the battle was right struggling against wrong, an enlightened people against heathenism, worshipers of the one true God opposing the followers of idols and false gods. This is the conflict the prophet had reference to in his prophecy. Carnal nations who either did not know or else had rejected God would go right on warring and fighting for this is the automatic result of greed and hatred and jealousy, etc., all of which flourish outside the grace of God.

The prophet looked to the time when Christ would come and with His coming he saw a radical change. The issues were the same, right against wrong, but the battlefield would and did change and the implements changed, also. Instead of the literal battlefield where soldiers would sling stones first, then draw near and stand toe to toe in mortal combat with sword and spear, the battlefield became men's hearts. Instead of sword and spear to destroy, Christ used the plowshare to break up the fallow ground of men's hearts, so that they could become mellow and through humility cry out for mercy and be saved. "Behold the ax is laid unto the root of the tree," the sin nature, the cause of the literal conflict was now to be removed and rest assured that every where that cause is eliminated, conflict will cease whether it be in an individual heart or in a nation as a whole. We who are saved are still in the battle of right against wrong, but "we wrestle not against flesh and blood [literal battle], but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places [men's hearts]." May God help us to be able to discern the battle. —C. W. Wilson

Pray, America!

"If . . . people . . . shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and heal their land." 2 Chron. 7:14.

The trouble with the people of America is that they have left prayer out of their everyday lives. I remember when I was a little boy I used to sit by my mother every night before bedtime and listen to her read out of the Bible or Bible Storybook and then have prayer. She read very interesting stories. I

listened with undivided attention. I looked forward to the time when Mother would read to us. I learned a lot. I knew the books of the Bible. I knew about every story that was told from the Bible.

When I was in trouble I would tell Mother and we would pray. That was very comforting to know that God was there every time I needed Him.

I learned respect for others and their possessions. I would not think of going over and destroying their property.

I think that is the trouble with America today. Parents don't take enough time to teach their children the good things of God. They are too busy with their running around and doing the things they like to do, instead of guiding their children in the right direction.

Just today there was a family in our home who told us their 16-year-old boy had quit school and was running around with the wrong crowd. They said they scolded him about it and he ran away from home. They confessed they don't know what to do with him. Only now do they realize that it is too late to do much. They should have started years ago when he was little—with prayer.

These riots and disorders today are started by experts, and the rest just go along with the crowd. If the parents of these young people would have a family altar set up in their homes and teach their children respect for God and people of higher authority, there would not be this kind of situation. This country is forgetting God. Pray, America!! Pray!!

—C. B. Miles, Jr.

Let the Word of God Dwell in You

"Let the word of God dwell in you richly in all wisdom." Col. 3:16.

From the beginning, God designed and purposed that His Word should be the agent used to accomplish His will. In the first chapter of Genesis, we understand that the world and all things in it were spoken into being by the Word of God. God said, "Let there be light; and there was light." Everything that God willed to be, was so, in obedience to His Word and will.

In St. John 1:1-3 we read, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." Also in 1 John 1:1 we read, "That which was from the beginning, which we heard, which we have seen with our eyes which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life."

This great Word of God was made flesh, and in the flesh He fulfilled and accomplished the will of God.

Now God has left us many exceedingly great promises and commands. He has purposed that His Word should dwell in us. Col. 3:16. He has purposed that His Spirit should dwell in us. 1 Cor. 3:16. He has purposed that the Father should make His abode

in us. John 14:23. God has designed and purposed that His people, being filled with all the fulness of God, should accomplish His will on earth.

1 John 2:27 reads, "But the anointing which you have received of Him ABIDETH in you." The anointing of God, working together with the power of His Spirit and Word, efficiently produce the works of God and complete His will.

We see in the Word of God how His Word worked to complete His purpose. In the second chapter of John we see Lazarus was raised from the dead by the words of our Lord. Christ spoke, "Lazarus, come forth!" And it was so. "Loose him, and let him go!" And Lazarus was free from the bonds of death.

In Mark 4:37 the words of Christ calmed the waves and the wind. "Peace, be still."

Isa. 44:26 reads, "I am the Lord that confirmeth the word of His servant."

What a solemn thought that God has purposed to use this same powerful Word in us! What a responsibility! "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom." We must let (allow) the Word of Christ dwell in us.

How clear becomes the promise in John 14:12, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." This promise surely signifies that the works of the Lord shall be multiplied by the number of His faithful children.

Are you satisfied with the progress of God's work in the earth? If not, could it be that you are not letting the Word of Christ dwell in you to accomplish His will "in earth"?

In Luke 16:20 the Word tells us that the Lord was with His disciples working with them and confirming the Word with signs following. There are some very clear facts that we need to know and understand in order to see God confirming His Word with signs following. Satan would like to beguile us into a voluntary or false humility, which fails to obey God. In fact, Satan is a liar. This we must remember and defeat him by God's Word.

True humility is to acknowledge the omnipotence and greatness of God by believing His Word. To believe means to act upon it. We observe in God's kingdom that the most useful and most used are the most humble. They believe God enough to obey Him. To resist God shows pride. Submission is humility. To answer, "I cannot," to God is to deny His power. Let us not allow Satan to tempt us into a lazy, voluntary humility that does not require much diligence or effort.

"Let the Word of God dwell in you richly in all wisdom." Let God's Word accomplish His will in you. Let us see more of God confirming His Word in His people with signs following.

Let us see the works of Christ multiplied in the earth by means of His Word working in His people, accomplishing the will of God. —Virginia Wittenborn

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