FAITHAND VICTORY Church of God Servant



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The Christ of Prophecy

From the ancient days came springing Prophecies of Christ, the Lord; Through the ages came they ringing Consolation to afford.

Spake they of a promised Saviour Who would all our burdens bear, Giving all who seek His favour Crowns of victory to wear.

In their light we see the goodness Of our God divinely willed, And recorded in the Gospel We can see it all fulfilled.

"And Thou, Bethlehem-Judea, Small among the ranks are Ye, Yet from Thee shall come a Ruler Who shall set my people free."

In another place: "A virgin Shall conceive and bear a Son; Thou shalt call His name Immanuel: "God with us," "The Holy One,"

And when in the lowly manger Christ lay down His infant head, Shepherds heard the angels' message And to worship Him were led.

Truly just as it was written,
Every promise was fulfilled;
"For our sins the Lord was smitten,
By His stripes we now are healed."

"Death is swallowed up in triumph,"
"Sin no more!" we hear Him say—
"For I am the Resurrection,
Follow me, I am the Way!"

"Unto us a Son is given,
Unto us a Child is born!"
Is He yours? Have you received Him?
Does His grace your life adorn?

—Leslie Busbee

"He Goeth Before Them"

A man faced a hard assignment and he felt downcast. He went for a walk and turned down a lane by a hedgerow. As he looked around him, the earth looked beautiful and life seemed so sweet. How could he go back to that place which seemed so dreary. with all of its problems. Yet the call had come and he must face it. About that time, a shepherd lad came out into the lane ahead of him. He had about two dozen sheep he was leading. He stopped and watched him. He did not have dogs barking fiercely, trying to keep the sheep in line, but when one would stop and loiter, he would call it by name and it came right along. As he watched the shepherd lad gently lead his sheep out over the hill and out of his life, he seemed to hear a voice speaking to him, and to him alone, "And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them . . ." (John 10:4). How comforting it was to know that Jesus would go before him.

Dear ones, is your life one of confinement, and the sameness of its routine causes you to become weary? Lift up your eyes and see Jesus each day going before you. Your life will take on a new glow. Has duty called you to face a hard situation? Remember that Jesus "goeth before" you. Are there pressures from various sources that caused you to draw back from what God called you to do? Remember, "He goeth before" you. Jesus stands between you and those things that touch your life. Has a loved one been taken and there are adjustments to make? Look up and see Jesus. See Him going before you. Trust Him, have faith in Him, and know that when you get to that next problem, He will be there. When the tears fall, lift up your head, dry your tears and know in your heart that Jesus is there to comfort you.

The women hurried along early one morning to the tomb of Jesus to take care of His body, after the customs of that day. As they went along, they thought of the big stone at His sepulchre, and said one to the other, "Who will roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?" But even this

thought did not cause them to stop. They hurried on. When they arrived, God had already been there. The stone was rolled away. An angel was there to give them a message. Are there stones in your life that need to be rolled away? Go right on and remember, "When he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them." Jesus will be there when you arrive.

Notice that He says, "When he putteth forth his own sheep." We want to be sure that we are walking in this life according to the will of God. Be sure that God is leading and that He has put us there. Noah did not have a rudder to his ark. God put him forth. He had only an upper window to look through and that was up to God. He could not look at the storm, nor see the distresses around him. God safely brought his boat through it all and anchored it upon a mountain. Oh, dear ones, when God puts us forth, we can come through with victory. We must have faith to abandon our will to God's will and He will see us through.

The next thought is that we are "His own sheep." We want to be sure that we belong to the Lord and that our lives are clear before God. We know ourselves. We know our thoughts and our attitudes. Be honest with God and ourselves. Do we belong to Him and are we fully surrendered to Him? Then our faith can take it in that "He goeth before" us. Praise the Lord for that assurance! It takes away the dread and the fear. It takes a way the dreariness and brightens our way.

Now the rest of the verse says, "And the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." Thank God, we are submissive to His will and obey His commands. He leads and we follow. We know what He wants us to do and we are willing to do it and suffer, "if need be," for His name's sake. We know that He does all things well and that He is working out a purpose in our lives that will bring glory to His name and our eternal salvation. —Sis. A. Marie Miles

"Give Attendance to Reading"

The Apostle Paul's exhortation to Timothy was: "Till I come, give attendance to reading. . . ." 1 Tim. 4:13.

Not long ago, a remark was reported to me. A dear one said, "Books or writings are just man's words." Since some feel that this is true, they are not concerned about reading much of anything. How mistaken they are to think God is not in the written word! God can anoint for a writing just as much as He can for speaking. In Exodus 34:27, God told Moses, "Write thou these words: for after the tenor [the general tendency or drift of anything, especially talk or writing---Webster's Dic.] of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel." God gave commandment to many of His prophets to "write." If they had not written, we would be deprived of much of the Word of God today. The Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos was told to "Write what thou seest in a book,"

What was the advantage of writing? The things they saw or understood have been preserved for us. Aren't we glad they wrote? Think of all the things (instruction, exhortation, doctrine, etc.) we would have missed had the apostles and prophets not written! We could not read these things if they had not first been written.

Sometimes, much more good can be received from reading a message that has been printed than from a spoken message. During preaching sometimes our attention wanders or is diverted, or the sound is blotted out by noise in the building. Words spoken cannot be picked up again (unless recorded), so we miss a part of the message, and it could be the most important part to us. If we have a written message, or a book inspired by God, we can return again and again to the message and digest it fully.

One thing I have learned is that if a message is truly inspired of God, it will remain good and practical year after year, even for generations. Are not the writings of the pioneer ministers of the church just as good now as they were in the beginning? God's messages do not go out of date! Just recently, I picked up an old issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper (it happened to be the Nov., 1970, issue). The messages in it were timely for me, as I have just lost my husband. One of the things I noted was that "grieving is selfish." Sister Miles' message "Comfort One Another," was an encouragement to me, just as good as if it had been written personally to me, but it was written almost a year before I needed it. Other messages in the issue were good and timely for me, and if they had never been written, I never could have read them and received help.

Some tell me they can't read, or don't like to read. I understand that it is harder for some to read than for others. However, I believe you can acquire a taste for reading. I know a very dear one who didn't like to read when I first knew him, but he has acquired a taste for reading, and he reads lots of good things now. Some have not read much, so they do not know what they are missing. Some have been sent good books which they leave lying on the shelf and are not receiving the good there is in those books. Their understanding is not enlightened, and they are not edified or built up spiritually because they do not read.

If you feel you have poor understanding, you can pray for the Lord to help you to understand. The more you read, the more you will understand. Reading, if you do not like it, is similar to learning to like a good healthful food for which you have no taste. If you keep eating that food, you will learn to like it. If you keep reading, you will learn to like it, and you can learn much by reading. If you are isolated and without a preacher, you can read God-given messages and instructions, and grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a saint of God, I want to grow in understanding and grace. I want to advance in God's kingdom. I want to be fed on heavenly manna. If God is in the message, written or spoken, I will be helped. If He is not, then I go away from the table hungry and disappointed. May God help us to "give attendance to reading" and be led of the Spirit.

—Thelma Sprague

Are You Prepared to Meet God?

God's Word tells us that it is appointed unto man once to die. Yes, you and I have an appointment with death. Death is saying to every last one of us, "Ready or not, here I come!" We know not the day nor the hour, but we do know that sooner or later it will come, and it may come much sooner than we think. Therefore, should we not become concerned and ask ourselves this all-important question, "Are we prepared to meet our appointment with the grim reaper?"

After death comes the judgment. (Heb. 9:27). Here, again, is an appointment that every one of us is required to keep. Unless our sins have all been washed away by the precious blood of the Lamb, we will hear the saddest of words, "Depart from me, ye workers of iniquity, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." Dear reader, give heed to these solemn facts. Be sure that the Lord Jesus is reigning in your heart and then you will have no fear of Him as your judge.

After you have enjoyed the pleasures of the world to the full and have all the things that the world can give, just what have you gained? Nothing at all. All earthly things must pass away. How true are the words of the Master, "What shall it profit a man, though he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Riches are so uncertain. Sometimes they just seem to take wings, as it were, and fly away. We are rich today but poor tomorrow. But not so, if we have Jesus in our heart. We are rich today and richer tomorrow. Yes, every day can find us richer in the blessings of the Lord, and as we go on our journey, it gets sweeter with each passing day. You can have all this world's goods, but just let me have Jesus in my heart and I will let the rest of the world go by. I look for a new world where God is the light and there is no need of the sun. I am bound for heaven where the streets are all paved with pure gold, figuratively speaking; where there are no tears, no sorrow, no pain or suffering; where there is nothing but glory, joy and rejoicing forevermore. Dear one, are you a new person inside? If not, you have no home up there in the new world.

I want you all to know that this new home can be yours if you will just pay the price, and everyone can pay the price He asks. He asks nothing of you but what is for your own good. He only asks you to quit the sin business and serve Him with all your heart. He will make a new creature out of you and give you joy unspeakable and full of glory. He will put a new song in your heart and the praises of God in your mouth so that you can say with David of old, "I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise

shall continually be in my mouth." Now, be honest with me. Wouldn't you rather serve the Lord Jesus, your very best Friend, who loved you so much that He willingly gave His life to keep you out of hell, than to serve the devil, the enemy of your soul who is doing his utmost to drag you down to hell where he can torment you forever? Won't you come today and sign up with the dear Lord Jesus forever and let Him make you a new creature in Christ Jesus ready for the new home?

My friend, what has the world to offer you that is worth more than the joy, for which Jesus suffered and died to bring, to the soul that will leave all and come walk with Him? In the new way, it may sometimes seem dark outside, but inside the joy of heaven will flood your soul. Do you have that supreme joy? If you do not, you really don't know what it is to live. Jesus gave His all for your salvation. Why cannot you give your all for Him?

-Wallace Lantrip

Who May Have Sanctification?

"For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Acts 2:39.

The penitent sinner can not, from the very nature of the case, comprehend the need and the nature of sanctification. He is too much absorbed with the feeling of his own guilt and the need of forgiveness, to comprehend his need of cleansing from native depravity. It is after an acquaintance with God and a more intimate acquaintance with his own moral nature and with the plan of redemption that he feels the need of a "more abundant life" (John 10:10), comprehends the nature and the existence of depravity and longs for the complete infilling of the divine Spirit.

It was after the disciples at Ephesus had believed that they were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13).

Again, the Holy Spirit is given to the obedient. (Acts 5:32). The disobedient need justification; the obedient may be sanctified. God gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask (Luke 11:9-13). It is probable that the miraculous descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost found the disciples in prayer. (Compare Acts 1:14 and Acts 2:1.)

To sum up, then, it is the justified believer, whose sins have been forgiven, the soul who has become acquainted with divine things, the obedient who ask and believe, that may be sanctified. —D. O. Teasley

"No man is worthy of heavenly comfort, unless he has diligently exercised himself in holy contrition. If you desire to be truly contrite in heart, enter into your secret chamber and shut out the tumults of the world."

"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, and we omit an issue that month to attend campmeetings) 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.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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 Office Phone 282-1479 Home Phone 282-2262

EDITORIALS

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THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS in the precious name of the Holy Child Jesus who perfected the divine plan and offered to all mankind redemption from the bondage of sin. May your days be bright and happy with a personal experience of the essence of the good news announced so many centuries ago by the angel of the Lord to the shepherds of Judea: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

As this last issue for the year of 1971 goes to press, we are thankful to the Lord and our faithful readers for the hundreds of new names already received through the special subscription offer, to whom we will be mailing this gospel paper for the first three months of the year of 1972. By the time you receive this December copy you may have a few days remaining before the expiration date of this special offer on Dec. 8 to send in more names-10 for \$1.00. With your special effort at this time, we anticipate having several thousand new readers beginning with the January issue. PLEASE rush in all the names possible by December 8, and the Lord will bless you for your sincere concern in spreading the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, our risen Saviour and reigning King of kings and Lord of lords.

Let us agree in prayer that the Spirit of God will cause the forthcoming issues of gospel messages to penetrate the heart of every reader and glean out of darkness many precious souls. The Spirit accompanying the Word is effectual in convicting the lost of their need of the Saviour and pointing them to the foot of the cross of Christ where they can find deliverance from sin and the joy and peace of salvation.

Bro. Mart Samons began a revival meeting on Nov. 8 at Coffeyville, Kansas. The Word of truth is going forth for the edification of the church and conviction of the sinners.

Bro. Willie Murphey, leaving Guthrie on Saturday, Nov. 6, drove to Miami, Fla., where he boarded an airliner to Quito, Ecuador, in South America, arriving there on Nov. 10. His main concern is to survey the mission field in that area and the possibilities of doing mission work. Pray that the Lord will bless and prosper his efforts in that new field and give him a safe return trip. Lord willing, he will be home by the first of December.

Sister Katherine Williams, minister from Oklahoma City, left on Nov. 9 to meet with the saints in Durham, N. C., who are in the process of building a new chapel at that location. Several pounds of tracts, papers and books were sent with her for free distribution. Pray the Lord to give her strength

and courage to spread the gospel by the spoken and printed word.

The book, "The Christian Church: Its Rise and Progress," by H. M. Riggle, which has been out of print for a long time, is now in the process of reproduction. Consisting of 488 pages in a cloth binding, the volume is expected to be available by Dec. 15. The price on this limited edition is \$4.00 each, postpaid. Send in your order now, and it will be filled as soon as the books are ready.

A revival meeting began on November 12 at the Church of God Chapel in Green Pastures, Okla. where Bro. Herman Kelly is the pastor. The Lord is supplying ministerial help. The chapel is on the corner of N. E. 57th and Denver Streets.

Plan to attend the Oklahoma State Assembly meeting here at Guthrie, Okla. from Dec. 24 to Jan. 2, 1972 during the Christmas holidays. This will be the largest mid-winter gathering of God's people in the central area of the United States. A more complete notice appears on another page of this issue.

Lord willing, Wife and this writer plan to attend the Assembly meeting on the General Southern campground at Hammond, La., during Thanksgiving week, Nov. 21 to 28. We expect to see relatives and friends, and to enjoy the presence and anointing of the Lord on the services as well as the fellowship of the saints assembled on the old campground.

These are times when the saints should diligently seek and find every means of grace available in order to fortify themselves in this great battle against spiritual wickedness which has enveloped mankind. Right upon us is the battle of Armageddon-that final life and death struggle between right and wrong. and truth and error. The forces of evil are combining to encompass the camp of the saints. The great red dragon-Communism-is uniting with all the false religious systems against the Church that Jesus Christ built on the solid rock of eternal truth. But the gates of hell cannot prevail against her divine munition. Thank God for the Church triumphant. According to Rev. 20:8, 9, we are assured that when Gog and Magog-the combination of all atheistic and false religious systems-begin to close in around the camp of the saints for the death blow, that fire will come "down from God out of heaven, and devour them." Let us be diligent to watch and pray, and remain within the impregnable walls of salvation.

Word was received of the passing of Sis. Murtice Hurst on Nov. 1, 1971 at the Sunset Guest Home in Pacoima, Calif., at the age of 77 years. Sis. Hurst had served the Lord many years. From the information we have, all of her surviving relatives were cousins, one of whom is Bro. Archie Souder of Okla-

homa City. The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Ostis Wilson at Pacoima, and the graveside service at Shawnee, Okla., was conducted by Bro. Eddie Wilson.

We are still looking to the Lord to call and send consecrated co-laborers to help in the publication of the gospel which is so urgently needed worldwide. The demand for pure gospel literature is so great that it should challenge every child of God to ask, "Lord, what will you have me to do?" Let us open our spiritual eyes and get a vision of the vast multitude of perishing souls at stake. Surely the Lord has a servant (or servants) who will hear the call, and usually it is one who is already very busy. The gospel light must go forth, "and who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?"

We express our real thanks and appreciation to all those who have prayed for and co-operated with us, financially and otherwise, in printing and mailing out the "white-winged" silent gospel messengers around the world. Let us continue to be "workers together" with the Lord in this soul-saving rescue operation, for we "shall reap if we faint not."

-Lawrence Pruitt

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OBITUARY

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Richard Allen Johnson was born in Mt. Vernon, Ga., on Oct. 11, 1897 to William Edward and Mary Ann Johnson. He departed this life at Pittsburgh, Pa. on Oct. 3, 1971 at the age of 73 years, 11 months and 22 days.

He was united in marriage to Mary Ricks on Sept. 10, 1918 in Mt. Vernon, Ga. Then in April of 1924 they moved to Pittsburgh, Pa. They were not blessed with children of their own, but reared a niece, Patsy McLeod, from infancy, caring for her as their very own child.

Bro, Johnson was converted at an early age. Yet a voidness in his soul and a dissatisfied experience led him in search of something that would satisfy, though he was a member of and a Sunday school teacher in the Trumpet movement for years. In the year of 1966 he and his wife came to Akron, Ohio to the campmeeting and heard the gospel go forth in its purity. At once they fled the ruins of Babylon, and took their stand with the church (Matt. 16:18), the one and only one that Christ died for and built—that spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22). He embraced the truth of God's Word by salvation, and consecrated himself wholly to the Lord through sanctification. He worked faithfully for the Lord and attended regularly with the congregation of the Church of God Evening Light Saints at Akron, Ohio.

During his long illness he repeated the words of the song: "I shall wear that bright crown God has offered to me when my life shall have come to a close. Oh, how happy I'll be when my spirit is free, over there in such blissful repose." He saw angels coming for him. He was wanting to go, and above all, he was ready to go with them.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his beloved wife, Mary; their niece, Patsy; two brothers, Theodore of Pittsburgh, Pa., Irving of Detroit, Mich.; two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Coker of Pittsburgh, Pa., Mrs. Gertrude Dallas of Miami, Fla.; cousins, nephews, nieces, many saints

and friends.

5.00

The funeral services were conducted at Spriggs-Watson Funeral Home in Pittsburgh, Pa., and also at Smalley's Funeral Home in Vidalia, Ga. by Sister Hazel A. Clark. Scripture reading, 23rd Psalm, and text, Rev. 21:7. Interment was in the cemetery at Vidalia. Ga.

INSPIRING SERVICES AT MYRTLE, MO.

Our gospel singing here at Myrtle, Mo. on Saturday night, November 6, was very good from the first to the last song. It seemed that the Lord anointed and blessed all the way through. There was a good attendance from several states.

On the following Sunday of all-day services, Bro. Ira Stover brought us a good message in the morning, and Bro. Mart Samons preached a good message in the afternoon. We certainly did appreciate everyone who came, and it seemed that all received a blessing to their hearts. We feel that the preaching of the Word will help us to walk a little closer to the Lord.

The next all-day meeting in this area will be at Senath, Mo. on Sunday, December 5, 1971.

May the good Lord bless you all. -Bro. A. J. Sorrell

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 65th annual Oklahoma State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, at Guthrie, Okla. on Dec. 24 to Jan. 2, 1972 inclusive, during the Christmas holidays. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of U. S. A.

The chapel is located on the corner of 6th Street and West Warner Avenue. The dining hall and dormitories are located in the same block for your convenience. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met as usual by free-will offerings.

We are praying and expecting the Lord to send in Spirit-filled ministers to preach the Word with heaven's anointing. All hungry souls seeking light or spiritual help, come, and God will meet you here. If you are sick in body, come and be healed by faith in the Great Physician. Saints, come praying with a burden for the unsaved and for all who need help in soul and body. These are perilous times, and we need to be about our Father's business, doing what we can for lost souls.

Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, Route 5, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual California State Assembly meeting of the Church of God at Pacoima, Calif. will be held, Lord willing, December 24, 1971 through Jan. 2, 1972.

We are looking to the Lord to send Spirit-filled ministers and workers. All who can, please come—all will be welcome. There will be three services daily, plus children's and young people's meetings. Meals and sleeping accommodations are provided on the grounds. The needs of the meeting will be met by the free-will offering plan.

For further information contact Bro. Robert Sherman, phone 213—899-2022, or Bro. F. E. Doolittle, phone 213—896-2005 at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California 91331.

—Bro. F. E. Doolittle, Pastor

"All the saints passed through many temptations and tribulations, and profited thereby. And they that could not bear temptations became reprobate, and fell away."

Special Offer—Ten names for three months for \$1.00

Prayer Requests

"Pray for deliverance from a terrible smoking habit I have been bound with for years. Unless one has smoked he cannot understand how hard it is for some people to stay delivered."

—A reader

Pray for several who recently have been saved and need to make wrongs right. They need grace from God to face those whom they have wronged.

La.—"I think of Sister White in my prayers almost every day, also Sis. McFarling. . . . The Lord has wonderfully helped me. . . . I haven't had that severe pain and aching. . . . I can't walk on my foot. I am waiting on the Lord to give complete victory. I still covet the prayers of the dear saints."

—Sis. Effie Miller

Nigeria, Africa—"Please pray much for my son. He has been ill with mental trouble. Pray for his complete recovery and for his salvation." —B. Ben Taylor

Okla.—Remember in prayer Bro. and Sister Lloyd Eck's daughter, who is twelve years old. She has a growth near her collar bone which seems to be very serious. She has made her own decision to trust the Lord for her healing.

Texas—Let us be agreed with Sis. Edith Wall for her complete healing. She is encouraged about it.

Penn.—Remember Sis. Aldinger in prayer. She has been having some trouble with her heart.

Okla.—Pray for Sis. Minnie White. Her breathing has been worse. She is still trusting in the Lord as she has for many years. We thank God for her love for Him. She is a dear, sweet Sister in the Lord and has been so faithful in coming to services.

Idaho—Remember Sister Ruby Marken's mother in prayer. She had a stroke and needs healing. She is asking for prayer.

Okla.—Sister Anna Mason, who is Sis. Betty Smith's mother, was in an auto accident and seriously injured. Remember her in prayer.

W. Va.—"I am a real sick person. My spine, nerves and head hurt me."—Sis. Bertha Roberts

Okla.—Still remember my brother, Lawrence Pruitt, in prayer. He is still expecting healing. He will be 60 years old on November 15th. We thank God for his labors for God in the printing of the gospel. We are thankful that there is but little suffering with his affliction, though it is serious and he does need healing. Keep praying for him until victory comes.

La.—Bro. Dale and Sis. Dora Doolittle, both, need a divine touch of healing from the Lord. They are fully trusting the Lord and are still fighting the good fight of faith.

Earnest prayers will bring results. The other day in my praying for someone it came to me, how in Bible times we read again and again about the earnestness of those who besought Jesus. I, in my praying, became more in earnest and, with beseeching prayer, prayed unto the Lord. God did hear and answered. He healed the dear sister. I think of Elijah of old and how on Mount Carmel he "cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees." His fervent prayer prevailed, even though the discouraging reports of his servant were against him. He was not disappointed. God had spoken His word that there would be an "abundance of rain." (Today, God has spoken in His word.) The heavens showed no sign of it, but it must come. "Go again seven times" and look, was the command to the

servant. As he returned the seventh time, there was a little speck in the heavens to show that God had heard the prophet. That was enough. The rain came, and the importunity of Elijah was rewarded. So pray and keep praying with faith. God will answer.

-Sis. A. Marie Miles

Foreign Field Reports

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Nov. 1)—Beloved Bro. Pruitt: Many praises to God who supplied for me one more chance in this world to greet you all through Christ, the Apostle and High Priest of our profession.

Thank you very much for your good letter dated Oct. 9, 1971. The enclosures were noted with much gratitude. Praise the Lord for His measureless and innumerable gifts and helps through His valuable saints abroad.

Last week, our brethren at Niranam assembled to have the Lord's supper with feet-washing. Two weeks before, myself and Bro. J. Cherian separated time to visit the family of Bro. P. Mathew and the church at Avoor. On Sunday, Oct. 10, all believers there assembled in a narrow room and we had a very good and blessed fellowship on that day. I talked on Isaiah 33:15-17 to strengthen the church. . . .

Yes, I got a very good and favourable reply from Bro. K. Sudersana Rao in Andhra State. He wrote that they are very much interested in the teachings of the Church of God and they do not hesitate to follow it. . . . He is a full time worker in His field. In his letter, he enclosed a couple of pictures taken at the time of a meeting held. He invited me to visit the small group in that area. This time is inconvenient for me to visit Andhra but I wish to go there later. In my reply, I wrote inviting him to attend our convention at Karikkom. May the Lord open the way to start a work there in the name of the Church of God.

God willing, we plan to conduct our general convention at Karikkom on Dec. 29 to Jan. 2, 1972. Your prayers are requested.

Please give my warm and loving greetings to all in

the Printshop and all saints there.

Your younger brother in Christ, -John Varghese

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Southeast State, Nigeria (Oct. 25)—Dear Brother Pruitt, co-workers at the Printshop and saints abroad: We greet you all in the name of our Lord and King who died for us all that we may live a free and happy life. We believe He is now in heaven, preparing a place for the righteous where there will be no pain, thirst or hunger forevermore. Let us all seek diligently so that we may inherit that heavenly Kingdom.

We thank God and you for the encouraging letter of October 9 and the contents. We assure you of our sincerity and truthfulness in handling the fund, and it is hoped we will inform you very shortly of the procedure. Sister B. U. Etuk gives thanks for your kind gesture and she prays for you all.

Thank you for the explanation that you printed and dispatched packages of the two titles of tracts just trans-

lated at this office.

We are holding this year's annual convention for four days from Thursday to Sunday (9th to 12th of December, 1971), Lord willing, at this main station. You will need to send us a message (written or tape recorded).

About a representative from the Church there to come to our midst, it is really pitiful that this country closed her door to Bro. Hammond's entry. . . .

This leaves us very happy in the Lord, despite the fight of Satan. Praise the Lord!

We won't fail to pray for you. Therefore, do the same for us.

Yours in the precious Name,

-B. E. Udoka

OJOS NEGROS. MEXICO MISSION REPORT

Greetings one and all: Having left the mission work with a native worker to carry on here in Ojos Negros until the return of Sister Carrie Sheppard, I felt free to take my vacation, so I left a few days after our campmeeting here in July. The Lord had witnessed to me a few days before, that I was free to leave.

I returned just about three weeks ago and found the work steadily progressing. As I needed to drive alone in my pickup truck for my return to the field, I welcomed the Lord's answer to prayer that the George Hammonds would follow me to my door in their van camper vehicle. The day following our arrival, we went to Ensenada and bought materials for two additional rooms inside the church building. The Lord had burdened me all summer for Sister Carrie to have a private room in which she could pray, as this is her part and burden for the work, and He wonderfully supplied. (We never need to voice our problems to anyone but the Lord.) How we do thank Him! In two days the double walls for one room and the single walls for the other were up, ceilings in, and the one was bedded and taped ready for paint. He doubly answered my prayer when He sent the Hammonds along behind me, for they were the ones He had made capable of helping us in the building of the room, along with Bro. Miguel Gaspar. How we do praise His name! We now have a storage room in which to put all the things we had heretofore kept along the side of the chapel walls.

We don't say there are no problems here. They are many and varied, but we do believe that God is able to work them all out for the salvation of more souls in Ojos Negros. We must look to Jesus rather than things, for in looking according to the flesh, it would seem that all is hopeless, but we know that God is working and our part is to be faithful to people's souls.

We feel this year, so far, that the Lord would have us continue having our regular Sunday meeting with all the congregation, meet in two separate groups for Bible study, then go one day a week to La Huerta, the Indian Reservation ten miles from here, for meeting. When we last visited La Huerta four days ago we prayed with a sick man who, they tell us, is 112 years of age. We were told that he had been having dreams of heaven and was always disappointed when he awakened and found he was still in his own bed. Pray for him and for us that we will have the wisdom of God in dealing with each precious soul.

Yours for more souls in Mexico, -Sister Opal Kelly, Apartado Postal No. 525, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico

"If you will stand fast as you ought, and grow in grace, esteem yourself as an exile and a stranger upon earth (1 Peter 2:11). You must be made a fool for Christ's sake (1 Cor. 4:10), if you desire to lead a Christian life."

From The Mail Box . . .

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Sister Miles: Greetings of love in the precious name of our dear Saviour. I am praising God for His great mercy and love wherewith He loved us, sending forth His Son who condemned sin in the flesh, thereby enabling us to be partakers of His divine nature.

Please notice the order of tracts, and accept the offering to be used to God's glory. I would like for part of it to go to Nigeria to the brethren there.

With love and prayers, I am yours in Him,
—Sister Bonnie Matthews

—Sister Bonnie Matthew

Ohio—Greetings of love in Jesus' name: God surely blessed us with a wonderful revival while Bro. and Sis. Ira Stover were here at Dayton, Ohio the last of October. The Lord gave him some soul-stirring messages for us all. Some sought help at the altar, and one young man boldly walked out to the altar and sought the Lord until He came and rained righteousness in his soul. He came up praising the Lord. You may be sure there was rejoicing in the camp. He had never been saved, neither his wife. She says she wants to be saved.

The attendance was very good throughout the meeting. Some folks were here from Ky. and Ind., and several backsliders who had not been to service for months. Help us pray they will find the Lord before it's too late, for indeed the time is short in which to labor and pray.

We thank the Lord for His blessings to us. Your, and His, unworthy servants,

-Bro. Sam and Sister Armilda Abbott

Fla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: Greetings from Florida. Though you don't often hear from me, I think of you often, and you, and your work there, are in my mind. I remember you often in my prayers.

I am sending ten names and one dollar for the same, with an offering for your free literature fund, or whereever it is needed most.

I have fairly good health, just growing older and coming nearer to my journey's end. What matters most is that I want my life to tell for Jesus.

I trust, Bro. Pruitt, you have been completely healed. Get the big "IF" out of the way, for it is our Father's will that His children be healed. He has touched my body so many times when I needed Him. All praise to His Holy Name!

I enjoy your good paper, "Faith and Victory," and wouldn't want to be without it. I rejoiced to read that Sis. Marie's body had been touched and healed. I am rejoicing to know that God has more power than the devil. The devil would like to kill all of God's true saints, but our Father will only permit the devil to go so far.

Remember me when you pray that I will be humble and pliable in His hands.

In His great love, —Sister Minnie Reichelderfer

Oregon—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of Christian love in the name of our dear Saviour: May God bless all you dear workers there who are laboring in the office to help spread this glorious gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation to all who believeth.

I have finally found a peaceful haven here in Jefferson, this little "lighthouse" in the Northwest. It seemed, after my husband died, that I could not find rest from my loneliness, but wandered here and there. The Lord

finally caused me to realize that I had to turn and face the issue squarely and settle down. So, my frail bark drifted into this harbor and I have dropped anchor. I have been happy here, and have found peace and security. The saints have been so good to me. . . .

On Friday night, Oct. 29, as we were in Bible study here at the chapel, smoke started coming through the boards around the stove. It appeared that the stove had become too hot and burned a hole in a board under the stove. The fire department came and went under the building and wet it down. Bro. Clifford Smith got his electric saw and sawed through the floor to be sure the fire was out. Bro. Benson came the next day and repaired it, putting asbestos under the stove for insulation. We all were so thankful that we were there to catch it in time, as it could have smouldered and burned the chapel. How good our heavenly Father is to us!

Sister Emma Busch has been able to attend meeting again after a long period of suffering and being out of services. Many prayers had gone up for her, and even fasting. Thanks be to God, He took the burning sensation out of her limbs and she is able to walk again. . . .

I'm enclosing an offering to be used as you see fit.

Christian love to all,

—Sister Grace Jones

W. Va—Dear Sis. Marie and Bro. Lawrence: Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. I trust you are enjoying the blessings of the Lord. I know you are busy in the gospel work which is needed so much, but if we are faithful, there will be a crown awaiting at the end of the race, when we may hear Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: enter thou into the joys of the Lord."

May the Lord supply every need—temporal, physical and spiritual, so that the gospel be not hindered.

Enclosed is a little offering to help in spreading the gospel.

Christian love and prayers, —Olive Keene

A TALK WITH JESUS

While talking with my Saviour
One bright and sunny day,
He told me of my heavenly Home
So very far away.

He spoke of crystal fountains
In the city of precious stone;
Where the water of life runs freely,
Flowing out from God's great throne.

He said there will be no crying, No sorrow, grief, nor pain; When I enter that great city With Jesus ever there to reign.

For He is my Lord and Master, And the Keeper of my soul; On that great and final morning His glory I will behold.

I do not want to stumble,
So I walk the narrow way;
Though my burdens may be heavy,
I'll be rewarded some glad day.

-Lola F. Lugo

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer



Okla.—Greetings of Christian love to all in the name of Jesus who is a present help in every time of need. He has not promised His people that there will be no burdens, troubles, sicknesses, and problems; but His promises to help us in those times are exceeding great and precious. One precious promise is: "The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you." The conditions to His promises are not hard to meet if we are willing.

We truly thank Him for His presence with us and His help to us since we were involved in the car wreck Aug. 3. Had it not been for His Everlasting Arms underneath us, I would not be able to write this testimony.

We were first taken to the Sikeston, Mo. hospital, then because of a bad skull fracture, I was sent to a hospital in Memphis for an operation, which the saints prevented at a time when I was unconscious and unable to answer for myself. While in the intensive-care ward in Memphis, I would gain consciousness for a short time enough to hear something the doctors and nurses were saying. At one of these times I heard a doctor make a statement about the condition of my head which probably would have been quite depressing if it had not been for the presence of the Lord. In that semiconscious condition, the Spirit of the Lord brought this assurance to my heart: "It will be all right." His voice caused the doctor's voice to have no weight.

The hospital was built with wings in the shape of a U. When my eyes would permit me to look out of my window, I would enjoy the beautiful flowers that I could see in the windows of other patients in the other wing. It had not entered my mind that I had no flowers in my room until near the end of my week's stay there. Someone made a remark: "You need some flowers." Immediately, the Lord caused me to see a vision of the different saints who had visited me. He said, "These are the flowers I sent you." They were living flowers with a heavenly fragrance. Praise the Lord! My husband had come from Guthrie to Memphis to be with me. We knew no one there, the closest saints lived at Senath, Mo., ninety miles away, but someone came to see us every day. One couple on their honeymoon took time to visit us; some saints going to and from the Myrtle campmeeting would visit us, and some drove from the campmeeting for the sole purpose of visiting us. It was all very encouraging. A song which some of them sang was a special blessing. Since I have been saved, that song has been a very special favorite, entitled: "He Is So Precious to Me." I have often sung it when worshiping the Lord alone, but haven't said much about it in public because it is not often sung among the saints. When I heard them sing it there as I lay on my bed, I began to weep with joyful emotion. I am sure it was no accident that they chose to sing that song. I had sung it to the Lord when I was well; now He was singing it back to me when I was in need.

After I came home, the Lord and His people continued to show their love in different ways: prayers, visits, phone calls, cards, letters, flowers, offerings, etc. I want to thank all of you for every kindness. Physical improvement came fast at first. Now it is slower and not so noticeable; but I have not forsaken the Lord, so I know He has not forsaken me.

It surely pays to keep a clear record because we never know how quickly we may need the Lord to come to our rescue. Along with accounts given of wrecks, we often hear where the occupants had been prior to the wreck (taverns, night clubs, dances, etc.) and what they had in their possession at the time of the wreck (tobacco, beer, whiskey, dope, wild companions, etc.). An account given of our whereabouts before the wreck would include the Monark Springs Campmeeting and a visit to my aged mother, and would exclude any place where we could not take the Lord with us. If our car, purses, and pockets were searched after the wreck (and they probably were) Bibles, song books, etc. were found, but nothing of which a child of God would be ashamed.

Keeping Heaven in view, —Geneva Ray

Calif.—Dear Saints: I promised God that if He would heal my injured back, I would testify of it through the "Faith and Victory" paper. Praise God, on Oct. 11, 1971, I was healed and felt the prayers of the saints all that day. I wish to thank each one of you for praying for me. I have received letters from Louisiana and Oklahoma that saints were praying, and many prayers went up in our Pacoima, Calif. congregation. God is wonderfully blessing me spiritually, too. The saints are the best friends I have. Keep praying for me. . . .

Tears freely flow when I read in the paper about needed consecrated workers at the Lord's Printshop. . . . Christian love, —Amelia Smith

0-0-0-0-0-0-0

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I would like to give a testimony of healing that God has done for my husband.

On Sept. 16th my husband got the chicken pox from our children. The first day he broke out with them I thought he just had a rash, so he went on to work. During the day my son broke out and got sick, and I found out he had chicken pox, so when my husband came home I told him what I thought he had. In order for him to know whether to go back to work, we had the doctor check him. He said it was a light case of chicken pox, and that he could go to work. He went back to work for a week. Then one night he came home complaining of feeling sick at his stomach. About dinner time he came in and lay down on the living room rug. I took his temperature. He went to the bathroom, and coming back from the bathroom he almost passed out trying to get to the couch. His right side was hurting him very badly. My husband's mother was here and she believes in doctors. She told me to get the car. My husband started turning green and blue. He looked dead. Everything happened so fast. My brother-in-law got the car and put my husband in it. I wanted to go, as they were taking him to the doctor. I got in the car and started praying the dear Lord to please help him. My husband's brother was driving 90 miles an hour during the trip to town, but by the time we got to the doctor's house the pain had let up and my husband was able to walk into the doctor's house. He checked him and said it wasn't acute appendicitis yet, but to keep an eye on him through the night, and he wanted him in the hospital in the morning to run blood tests. I asked Husband if he wanted the test run. He said, no, that he was trust-When we got home, he almost passed out again, and broke out in a cold sweat, and suffered through the night. I kept calling Bro. and Sis. Pat Huskey for prayer and they would pray. Bro. Huskey wanted to come over about one o'clock in the morning, but my husband said, no. Finally, at 3:30 in the morning, my

husband wanted Bro. Huskey to come and anoint him and pray. He came, and we prayed, and God gave him a touch. He slept through the night, but started suffering very badly through the day. We kept trusting God. His mother cried and wanted me to take him to a doctor. I told her, "That isn't what he wants: he is trusting God." At four o'clock in the afternoon that day, Bro. and Sis. Huskey came over again. My husband had a high fever. Bro. and Sis. Huskey anointed him and we all prayed. While we were praying, my husband began sweating. The fever had broken. Praise the Lord! The pain started subsiding. God healed him. How we praise God for it!

What had happened was that he went to the mountains and it snowed while he was there. He slept outside on the ground after (or while) he still had the chicken pox, but he didn't know it. The chicken pox went in on him and the infection went to the appendix. Please continue to pray for him. He is weak, but gaining strength.

I desire the saints to pray for our baby. He is seven months old and has weak eyes with an infection in his right eye. He has had it since he was born. We are trusting God and would appreciate all the saints' prayers for him. They say that prolonged infection can cause damage to the eyes, but I know God knows all about it and everything that comes to us is for a purpose, so please pray, if it be God's will, that He will heal his eyes.

Christian love, —Bro. K. C. and Candice Rich

Calif.—Dear Saints: I hope you are fine. I am in very good shape lately. The Lord reached down and took the soreness out of my left kidney and from my stomach in September. He did it one morning just after I got up. . . . I have to keep resisting certain attacks, so remember me in prayer.

With much love to all God's dear ones,

-Bro. Guy Littrell

Tenn.—Dear ones in Christ: I am thanking the Lord for full and free salvation. He saved my soul from the guilt of sin, sanctified my nature and healed my body of an awful pain, all the same day. Praise His holy name!

I went to the McMillian family reunion this summer in June, which was held in Neosho, Mo. While there, I was privileged to attend two services in the Church of God chapel. My brother, Vada, preached in both services. I do praise and thank God for such dedicated and consecrated Christians as both Vada and Austin.

In the Sunday morning service, I sat with tears of conviction in my eyes all through the service and felt that if I should go toward the altar, I would be shouting the praises of God even before I reached it. However, I rebelled against the Spirit, and left the services, still in a backslidden state. I was hoping to go back to the services that night, but, to my surprise, the Holy Spirit didn't deal with me through this service, as He had that morning. This worried me very much and I began to wonder if the Holy Spirit had left, never to deal with me again. All this time, everyone was thinking I still professed to be saved. I had been saved previously but never had told any one except my immediate family, that I had gone back on God again.

Monday morning came and time for us to leave Missouri for our homeward journey. I was still the same lost person. On our way home, we all got to talking about God, discussing the Bible and singing, and I felt His Spirit deal with me again. So I began to tell them (my two sisters, Melia and Leara, who were riding in the back seat with me) of my lost condition, but could hardly talk for the tears of conviction. Praise the good Lord, when I began to confess my lost condition, faith came sweeping in and I was gloriously saved right there in the car, between Memphis, Tenn. and Winfield, Ala. Praise the Lord! We did have a real meeting of singing and praising God the rest of the way.

I knew I must not stop there, but must go on to a deeper, standing grace with God, as I had made a start many times before just to find myself right back

in sin within a very short time.

An awful pain and soreness developed in my right side before we got to Winfield, and it kept getting worse. After we arrived at my sister's house in Winfield and they all busied themselves in the kitchen, I slipped out into the bedroom and lay down, calling on God for healing and for the blessing of sanctification. I finally got up after everyone had gone home except Melia, Leara, and myself. I asked them to sing two or three songs, which they did. Then I tried to sing, but could not for the tears, but in a broken voice I began just to read the words. I would read and then stop and pray awhile. All at once, the burden lifted and I felt God's Spirit fill my whole being. Such a calm came over me. I felt at that same moment He had healed my body, too. However, the pain didn't leave at once, and didn't completely leave until I reached my home in Tenn., which was Tuesday night, but I never doubted my healing. . . .

A member of the Church or family of God by virtue of the new birth,

—Mrs. L. C. Rogers

Calif.—Greetings to all the workers at the Lord's Printshop and all who read my testimony:

As I was thinking of writing and telling what the Lord has done for me, the words of this song came to me: "O tell what He's done for you, of His love so kind and true; O tell what He's done for you, others may need Him, too."

First I wish to tell you how wonderfully the Lord has blessed me through the years of my blindness which will be 22 years in January, 1972. He gave me courage and helped me to do my own sewing over this period of time. He has helped me to make six dresses besides remodeling some. He taught me to play the piano by ear, and to type my letters, which I learned to do after losing my sight. Then how happy I was when He helped me to read and write the Braille system, for then I could read my Bible after two years of not being able to read it myself. For this, I truly thank the dear Lord. Others were good to read to me, but it was better when I could read it for myself.

Besides this, the Lord healed me of many afflictions and broken arms. One time He healed an injured hip when I was not able to walk on it for three weeks. I had a walker and could get around in it, but the morning of the third week, as I was about to sit down in the walker, a voice from heaven said to walk right on, and I did, and have been walking ever since for six or more years. Oh, the Lord is so good to those who trust Him. He is just the same yesterday, today and forever. Praise His name!

We read in the Bible, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous," and if this were all of that Scripture, life would be a dark picture, but praise the dear Lord, it goes on to say, "but the Lord delivereth them out of them all." This is my testimony, that He has proved this promise to be true to me.

I was taken sick the 12th of February, 1971, with a terrible suffering in my head. I could not raise myself off the bed, neither could I lie down again without help. This lingered for almost three months, but slowly began to improve until I was able to wait on myself. Praise the Lord for delivering me! Also, I had been having gas attacks which at times would choke and smother me, but the Lord delivered me from this at the same time.

Then I was up and waiting on myself and hurt my back. I was laid up for two weeks, but, praise the Lord, He was ready to deliver me from that affliction. Then He came to my rescue and delivered me from what seemed to be a stroke. Then I had another spell with my head and the devil said to me, "Another three months in bed," but I resisted him. I called in the saints to pray for me, and He touched me again and delivered me. Praise the Lord! He is so good to His trusting children and I am so glad I am one of them and He taught me to trust Him.

After this, I had pain in the lower part of my ribs which caused me much suffering. I waited three and one-half days, but not in vain, for He again came to my rescue and delivered me. So I can truly say again that many are the afflictions of the righteous, but I can also say He delivereth them out of them all.

I am writing this, hoping and trusting it will be an encouragement to someone.

Pray for me.

-Sister Flossie Atha

I JUST WANT TO SAY

The Lord has been so good to me For many, many years. He's helped me when in trouble And allayed my many fears. He's been my Guide and Counsellor-Has never failed me yet; His blessings have been wonderful-So many I forget. I thank Him for the future, The present, and the past; I know He'll lead me gently on, And safely Home at last. Because He's been so good to me, I wish to recommend To one and all, my Saviour, My Counsellor and Friend.

-Selected by Sister Katie Priem

"He who has true and perfect love seeks himself in nothing (Phil. 2:21; 1 Cor. 13:5), but only desires in all things the glory of God."

"Never be entirely idle; but either be reading, or writing, or praying, or meditating, or endeavoring something for the public good,"

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Dare to Be Different

I feel like writing a little for the encouragement of our mothers of young children. How careful we need to be in dressing our little girls.

It seems that our little boys are pretty well dressed. We love them, too, but our little girls, many times, are neglected along the line of dress. I feel (I also feel I have the mind of Christ) that our little girls' dresses should be long enough and full enough so when they sit down, they are able to cover their bare legs and knees. Prov. 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." I believe that teaching them how to dress would be a part of that training.

We can look around us in any direction today, and see children dressed half or two-thirds naked. They are permitted to dress this way while small, and when they grow older, they think nothing of it. They just go on wearing very little clothing, some less than others. Their consciences have become seared. They have no shame. Who is to blame? We have a great responsibility when we bring children into this world.

God created mankind to glorify Him, and He wants every one, old and young. It isn't His will that any should perish. You might ask what that has to do with dressing little girls. I would say that we need to teach them, and dress them in a way that would please God. He is the One to whom we are responsible for the way we raise them up in this world. They will see and hear many things that we rather they would not. If we will teach, train and pray with them over their problems, (which might seem like nothing to us, but are big to them), it will cause them to have the fear of the Lord. I believe it will also help our children to want to be more like Christ, when they understand how Christ suffered for one and all, and that He sees everything we do, and even knows the thoughts of our hearts. It will help them to love God, and want to please Him. It is a full time job to rear children right.

Now I'm not insinuating that the saints' children are dressing scantily, as I have made it sound. I know I was speaking of the world in part, but we must be careful or we will be following after the styles and fashions of this world, which is a great temptation to some. It is an abomination in the sight of God.

I would like to relate something that happened not long ago. A saint Sister, (we will refer to her as Sister C.), had gone to another town to attend a funeral of a relative. She arrived there before noon and was visiting with relatives who had gathered in. An elderly lady was there, who was a stranger to most of the family. Sis. C. had met her a few times when visiting the one who was then deceased. The elderly lady said to Sis. C., "You are the sweetest little woman I ever saw." Sis. C.'s cousin came running and asked what the lady had said. The lady repeated her statement and the cousin said, "You haven't seen me." The lady looked at her and said,

"You look like all the rest of us, you are modern; she is different," speaking of Sis. C. This makes me to know this world is looking for something different. They are tired of looking at all these fads, fashions, bare legs, wigs, etc. Will you dare to be different?

May God help every one to examine himself or herself in the fear of the Lord and see if we be in the faith. Maybe we are letting some little things slip in that we are not aware of. Let us search our own heart and ask God to help us to see ourselves as God sees us. May God help us to be different, to look different, and to dress different. May God bless every one, and especially our dear mothers. I know their job is great, but God "giveth more grace."

-Emma L. Dilley

Building Blocks of Faith

Faith is one of the most powerful elements in human life. The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is a "picture gallery" of the heroes of faith. It begins with a definition of faith. We always need a definition that we may know what we are talking about. Paul's definition is an accurate one when properly understood. "Now faith is the substance [ground or confidence, margin] of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." The American Standard Version renders it thus: "Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen." In the margin it reads, "Now faith is the giving substance to things hoped for, the test of things not seen."

This is a practical, rather than a definitive, picture of faith. Faith is accepting a thing as true and acting upon that thing as truth with all confidence. As it relates to God, it is taking God at His word. It is believing His promises. It is personal acceptance of His promises, relying on those promises, and making them the basis of the life. One phase of faith is confident trust: the other is confident action. We read of the "full assurance of faith." Such full assurance in the old time worthies resulted in great accomplishments. In the eleventh chapter of Hebrews, and elsewhere, we read of what was done through faith. We look upon those who accomplished such things as, in some way, superhuman. We are inclined to believe, as the doubters of this world believe, that the day of faith in religion has largely passed. In reality, that is not true. There are mighty works of faith being accomplished today. Faith is just as effective today as in any former age. There are people now who have faith, and the might of that faith is manifested in mighty deeds and accomplishments.

Many wonderful things are accomplished by faith today, though the world goes on its way in ignorance of them. Most people think there is little faith today. They overlook the fact that when these worthies of the eleventh chapter of Hebrews were living, the people did not consider their faith as amounting to very much. They were probably en-

tirely unaware of the great accomplishments of faith that were going on around them. In like manner, many people, in fact, most people, are ignorant of the wonderful accomplishments of faith that are so prevalent today.

When we read of the accomplishments of faith in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews, it is natural for us to say, "I am not like those; I cannot have faith such as they had." I am not so sure of that. They were only common folk with perhaps little more than average faith. . . . , but faith in us will produce real results just the same.

The day in which they lived was no more favorable for faith than today. In fact, there was not so much faith then as today. Christian knowledge and Christian experience have laid a broader ground for faith, a surer foundation than they had in former ages. Faith is just as mighty today and will accomplish as much as in the ancient day. Perhaps we shall not duplicate the things they did. That may not be necessary; or perhaps it would not serve any good purpose if we should do so. But faith is the gift of God and He is willing to impart it to each of us.

We already have much natural faith. The faith we have is the basis of our lives. Without faith, the business world could not operate. Home life would not be possible. Religion could not exist. Governments would be powerless. No great undertakings would ever be begun. Accomplishments, of whatever sort, are based on faith. No wonder we are urged in the Scriptures to "have faith in God."

Faith in God is believing Him. We can have no satisfactory relations with Him, except through faith. We are saved by faith; we are kept by faith. We are justified by faith. We stand by faith. We rejoice by faith. Assurance of immortality is a matter of faith. Faith is the victory that overcometh the world.

The apostles had faith. Jesus said to them, "Ye believe in God." Faith brings certainty. Without faith there can be no certainty. It brought certainty to Paul. He said, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

God is worthy to be believed. He cannot lie because His whole nature is truth and righteousness. He never changes. He never forgets His promises. He never turns away from those who trust Him. Therefore, have faith in God. We should hold the attitude toward the Word of God that was held by an old saint who was nearing the sunset of life. A minister quoted to her, "Lo, I am with you alway," and said, "What a blessed promise that is." "Ah," said she, "that is not a promise, it is just a fact."

God's promises are facts. They are actual facts, or potential facts. They are either facts to us, or may become facts to us by trusting them. The greatest fact in the lives of God's people is that they believe in God and they act upon that belief in a way that produces definite results in Christian

living—holiness of heart and life, and true happiness. In fact, there can be no other basis of true happiness save faith. It is the foundation of all. To believe in God as the New Testament pictures Him, and to accept Him as He is represented to be, and to submit to Him as such faith would lead us to do, is to be happy.

One needful thing is that we believe in God as He reveals Himself to be. We must do this quite apart from any inner feelings we may have about Him or any fears we may have about Him. He is what He reveals Himself to be. If we feel He may be other than what He represents Himself to be, it is because we do not definitely believe that representation of Himself is true. We read God's promises and often we cannot feel that they mean just what they say, or that God will make them true to us. We fear and tremble when facing various things in life though God has promised to be with us and help us. He has promised us victory through Jesus Christ all along the Christian way. Yet how many times we shrink and tremble and walk in uncertainty.

Unbelief is the source of all this. Abraham believed God; therefore he did not stumble at God's promise. He took God at His word, then acted upon His word just as though there could be no such thing as questioning it. God's Word is true. His promises were meant to be fulfilled. They are "yea and amen" to everyone who believeth. God has no desire to avoid fulfilling that which He has promised to do. He is under no compulsion. He promised because He wanted to do the things He promised to do.

He will do what He has promised. Do you believe it? It is true, whether or not you believe it. You will get the benefit of it only by believing it. You can believe it. You have the power to believe it. All fears that God will not do what He has promised are foolish fears. If you will believe, God will do the rest. If you will trust, there will be no failure. If you will go ahead, in faith, doubting nothing, your way will be prepared for you. The victory will ever be yours. You will be able to stand in the evil day. Whatever comes cannot overwhelm you. Your strength will be equal to your need. "Have faith in God."

The Psalmist declared that he would not fear though war was made upon him. That was the language of faith. Faith gave him courage. It will give you courage. There is no telling what God will do for those who trust Him.

What will earthly governments do for their citizens? Here is an illustration: Great Britain sent ten thousand men on a long voyage by sea, then seven hundred miles over sun-scorched trails through the jungles of Africa to fight their way through an armed and brave enemy to rescue one man. That man had been arrested and imprisoned illegally and unjustly. His life was at stake. So Great Britain risked the lives of ten thousand men that he might be saved,

If an earthly government will do this to save one of its citizens, what will the government of heaven do to save one of its citizens who appeals to it? Jesus said twelve legions of angels were ready to assist Him and to defend Him; and we are told that "the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, to deliver them." "Have faith in God."

The life of faith is the most satisfactory of all lives. In fact, it is the only satisfactory life. Matthew Henry has said, "None live so easily, so pleasantly, as those who live by faith."

Children implicitly trust their parents. They believe they will be protected and cared for. They believe their needs will be supplied. They believe they have nothing to fear. They have the confidence expressed by the little boy who was threatened with injury by a larger boy. He said, as he looked the other squarely in the face, "No, you won't hurt me. My daddy won't let you." If we have the same confident trust in God, we can say, "God will not let you" to the things that are threatened. God will protect us. God will help us.

This is not imagination. It is a reality. We should cultivate an attitude of faith toward God; an expectancy that He will take care of us. This brings to us the confident assurance that we have nothing to fear. This, in turn, brings rest and peace. When we have learned to exercise such faith, we have learned the secret of the singing heart.

-C. W. Naylor

"Make Me to Live"

"In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amos came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die and not live." Isa. 38:1. Saddened by this decree from the man of God. Hezekiah pointed God to the life that he had lived. In answer to his prayer and tears the Lord added to his days fifteen years. After he was thus recovered from his sickness, Hezekiah wrote the deep sentiments of his heart concerning it all. In this writing he expressed the dismay of his heart of what the sentence of death had brought. It is this writing that we wish to especially notice, particularly verses 15-19. "What shall I say? He hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul. O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live. . . . The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth."

When Hezekiah humbled himself to utter from his heart submission to God and a purpose, as he put it, to "go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul," it was made known to him that such an attitude is the true essence of life. For he said, "By these things men live, and in all these things is the life of

my spirit." He had discovered in this experience what it really meant to live. There are many people in the world today that need to learn the same lesson. Life to them is an aimless passage of days and years consumed by a fruitless search for pleasure and gain. "She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." 1 Tim. 5:6. Such living is not living at all. Oh, that the fear of God might possess more men and women and make them to know the responsibility and true purpose of their life and existence!

Let us notice Paul's attitude toward life. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Phil 1:21. It was not that Hezekiah was unprepared to die as concerning his relationship with God. This was not the cause of his desire to live. But it was rather as Paul expresses himself in this chapter, "But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart [to die], and to be with Christ, which is far better: nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you. And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith." Phil. 1:22-25. Paul was ready to die, but realized that to continue to live in the flesh and labor in the will and service of Christ would mean more fruit for the Lord in his own heart as well as in the lives of others. Therefore he was willing and desirous, even as Hezekiah, to continue in the flesh and live. I am persuaded that Hezekiah had this same thought, for he said: "The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth." It was his desire to live and declare the way of the Lord to someone else.

The wise man admonished us thus: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." Eccl. 9:10. Applying this scripture to our thought we gather that life, and in our life time, is the time that God has allotted to us to prepare to meet Him, and merit fruit for our eternal account. We who are living are responsible creatures before our Creator. It is what we do with our life that determines whether we shall be entrusted with eternal life or not. Thus we should take heed to ourselves and live our lives unto God.

After refuting the darkness of the Sadducees concerning the resurrection of the dead, Jesus concluded with this statement: "For He is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto Him." Luke 20:38. Paul stated in 2 Cor. 5:15 that "they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them, and rose again." We do not truly live unless we live unto God. Every phase of our life should be fibers of holiness unto the Lord. To live to one's self is not life. Those who are going to be judged worthy of everlasting life in the resurrection are those who have faithfully lived for God in this world.

After Jesus had fasted forty days in the wilderness and was afterward an hungred, the tempter came to Him and said, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." But Jesus was to prove at this point that true life consisted not of the gratification of the bodily appetite. Thus His firm answer was: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matthew 4:1-4. Man can only truly live when he is abiding by the commandments of his Maker. Disobedience brought death. Obedience brings life. Through the grace which Christ wrought when He obeyed the will of the Father we can keep the commands of God also and live. "For in Him we live and move, and have our being." To be in Him we must be in harmony with His statutes. This relationship is possible through the grace and power of Christ, the Redeemer.

Jesus said in John 6:57, "As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so He that eateth me shall live by me." Christ is our Redeemer to bring us back to God, and the means of our salvation unto eternal life. He lived by the Father, that is, He possessed spiritual life and victory over sin and the devil through His faithfulness and obedience to God. God was in Him to this effect. Just as this was so, He proclaims that those who would eat Him would live by Him. There were some who wondered at this statement, but He clearly explained it later when He said, "It is the spirit that quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." John 6:63. To eat of Jesus is to obey His words and conform to His teaching and the standard of life and spirit that He set before us. To profess faith and hope of the benefits of Christ and at the same time to disregard His Word is vain. Luke 6:46 says: "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" You see, to disregard and go against Christ's Word is to go against Christ Himself. We cannot have Christ without embracing His doctrine.

Notice in conclusion Christ's commission for His disciples: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Here we see again that to have Christ's presence with us, we must observe and teach all the precepts of His doctrine. To depart from the standard of truth is to depart from the promise of His presence. Let us not be found guilty of this, but let us seek Him daily to be revealed to us through His Word. Thus we can truly live both now and forever; in this world, and in that which is to come.

—Leslie Busbee

"Trust not in your own knowledge (Jer. 9:23), nor the subtility of any living creature, but rather in the grace of God, who helps the humble, and humbles those that are self-presuming (1 Pet. 5:5)."

"How wise and happy is he who now labors to be in life as he wishes to be found at his death!"

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