

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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When the Storms Are Raging

When the storms of life are raging,
And the dark clouds fill the sky,
And there seems to be no let up
As the billows moan and sigh.

Yes, your burdens may be heavy,
And your appetite be gone,
You may then continue fasting,
Waiting for the light of morn.

Do not then become discouraged,
And sink down in deep despair;
Just remember God in heaven
Doth still hear and answer prayer.

He still ruleth o'er the waters,
Stormy winds His voice obey.
Just be patient, Brother, Sister,
He will turn your night to day.

So by faith just drop the anchor,
Till the storm is overpast.
Christ will hear your faintest whisper,
And will send relief at last.

Though the burden may be heavy,
Tears of grief may dim your eyes,
Christ will never let you suffer
More than His grace supplies.

When the fierce, hot battle's over,
And the smoke has cleared away,
You can go your way rejoicing
For a calm and brighter day.

—Ulysses Phillips

An increase of faith will be preceded by a decrease of unbelief—the filling of the Spirit, by an emptying of self—an ascent to the plane of apostolic faith and power, by a descent into apostolic humility.

—J. W. Byers

Salvation—What Does It Mean?

O, reader, have you given attention to that which is contained in the word SALVATION? O, man, think of this; it concerns you more than all other objects taken together for which the whole world is in pursuit.

Salvation is worth a thousand times more than health of body; in comparison with which men consider money no object; and for the hope of regaining, they lavish gold and greenbacks as free as dirt.

Salvation is more to be desired than all the glory and pleasure that the highest honors of earth can yield. Yea, it places the soul upon a plane so elevated as to receive the admiration and adoration of heaven. "If any man serve me," saith the Lord, "him will my Father honor." (John 12:26). It places a man far above the highest object of earthly ambition. It gives him a kingdom greater than Alexander or Napoleon ever swayed scepter over. "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Even the "kingdom of heaven." "They which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness, shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." (Romans 5:17). And this glorious reign is not located in some future age; but John, writing to the seven churches in Asia, in the first century of Christian grace, declared that Jesus Christ, who is the faithful Witness, the Prince of the kings of the earth, Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, hath also "made us kings and priests unto God and his Father." (Rev. 1:5, 6). As again seen in this beautiful book of symbols, at the very opening of the plan of redemption the blood-washed celebrated the praises of God with a "new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:9, 10). And Peter calls God's church "a royal priesthood," i. e., a priesthood of kings.

All who live in sin are slaves to their own lusts, and are not able to govern themselves. But salvation

makes us kings in rule over our own selves; over our passions, appetites and desires. "And he that ruleth his spirit" is greater "than he that taketh a city." Proverbs 16:32. Salvation also places us in kingly triumph over all the elements of this world; over sin, fashion, and popular sentiments; and over the devil himself, who claims to be the ruler of earth; a master of the situation of life, with a peace that nothing disturbs; and a joyful faith in God which sees all things working together for our good, and contributing to our happiness.

Salvation is greater riches than all the gold, silver and valuable treasures of this earth summed up together. A treasure that never faileth; a wealth so great that to the happy possessor everything of earth is, in comparison, reduced to dust and dirt. O, "the unsearchable riches of Christ!" Ephesians 3:8. "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9. How rich? "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." Rev. 21:7. "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32. Yea, hath given. "For all things are yours. Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come, all are yours." 1 Corinthians 3:21a, 22.

So teaches the Word of God, and so bear witness all who have tested His wonderful claims. Reader, look back over that long line of holy martyrs, who, in the possession of this great treasure, gloried in tribulations, and shouted for joy amid the flames, disdaining life, with all it could offer, when tendered to them as a compensation for their hope in Christ; and there behold the eternal and incalculable value of salvation. If, then, such unbounded wealth, such innumerable blessings, and such infinite bliss and happiness are all treasured up in salvation, who can afford to be indifferent to the gracious treasure? But again we ask, What does it mean?

Salvation Means Deliverance

The entrance of sin into our world has brought in its train indescribable wretchedness. Guilt and remorse sting the conscience and fill the soul with shame. Sinful habits form the links of an iron chain which binds the life in utter despair. A chain of bondage which defies all human strength. Burning lusts are set on fire from hell, all clamoring for unholy indulgence, the gratification of which is followed only by greater misery. Restless and unnatural desires deprive the soul of peace; and the half-awakened fears of death and judgment hang dark and gloomy over the life. Hope dies, and with it, manhood and womanhood give up their struggle, and surrender the life to dark melancholy or open shame. Reader, salvation means deliverance from all these elements of woe and misery. And should even this picture fall short of the deep shades of your case, salvation yet means complete deliverance from the strongest chains of habit, the lowest depths of sin,

the deepest hell of intemperance and debauchery. Deliverance from darkness into light, from the power of Satan unto God. From the woes of a guilty conscience into peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; from remorse into the joys of pardon; from the thralldom of sin into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. O how wonderful! wonderful!! deliverance by the almighty arm of Him whose name is Wonderful!

And when all this blessedness is reached by the divine miracle of regeneration, if the new-born soul continues to "desire the sincere milk of the Word, and grow thereby," he will soon come to the privilege of another great and glorious epoch in divine grace:—the entire sanctification of his nature; the utter destruction of all inward bent to evil, and the restoration of the "divine nature." 2 Peter 1:4. Perfect deliverance from the "body of sin," into the "image of God," and His perfected love are for you.

Beloved, this is not an overdrawn picture, nor a tale of human fancy. Nay, it is the very substance of the sure Word of 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 Corinthians 5:21.

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:25.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." 1 Timothy 1:15.

And "where sin abounded grace did much more abound." Romans 5:20.

Here saving grace is placed over against all sin. And even in hearts and lives where "sin abounded," grace, the saving mercy of God, much more abounds. Though your sins tower up like dark mountains unto heaven, grace towers far above. Though they be as deep as hell, the grace of God with omnipotent arm reaches unto you. Though great wickedness spreads over all your past life, grace super-abounds to save you. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:18.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. "And the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7. To meet your wants as a great sinner, God has sent to you "a Savior and a great one." Isa. 19:20. Though your soul is cursed by "your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins," (Amos 5:12) you may "make thy supplication to the Almighty." Job 8:5. Though your lusts and wickedness rise like mighty billows and threaten to sweep you quickly down to hell, "The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea." Psalms 93:4.

"And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." Hebrews 5:9.

"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Hebrews 9:13, 14.

Reader, be assured that the writer is one, and he is personally acquainted with thousands of others, who, though our case has been as dark and hopeless as yours, have, by the grace of God, come to a happy realization of those precious scriptures. Therefore, full salvation is not only true in the Word, but also in fact. And if you are willing and obedient, it will prove true in your case. —D. S. Warner

Where Dweldest Thou?

"Where dwellest thou?" John 1:38, 39. "Come and see." Oh, that men knew where to find Him; for He "dwelleth not in temples made with hands." Acts 7:48; 17:24. See that cathedral or eminent building called a "church"? He doesn't dwell there, my child; you won't find Him there.

"And God said, Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created He them." Genesis 1:26. "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." Revelation 4:11. From eternity there was a principle and a desire in the great heart of God to have a dwelling place for His love. He created Adam and Eve, but they failed to keep the command of God and were driven out of their dwelling place. Genesis 3:24.

In Exodus 25:1-9, God gave another plan where He could be with His people. "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them." (verse 8). Although the children of Israel murmured and rebelled and were punished and chastised many times for their ill behavior, Moses was faithful and finished the house according to God's plan. "... So Moses finished the work. Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle." Exodus 40:33b-35. God was pleased and filled it with the glory of His presence because Moses had followed the plan God gave him in the mount. God continued to bear with them and to lead them to Canaan as He had promised their fathers.

Through David's labors, but under Solomon's reign, we read, "But now the Lord my God hath given me rest on every side, so that there is neither

adversary nor evil occurrent, and, behold, I purpose to build a house unto the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord spake unto David my father." 1 Kings 5:4, 5. So they built the house and dedicated it and rejoiced. 1 Kings 8:63. "The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while." Isaiah 63:18. In Isaiah, chapters 65 and 66, we read of the final rejection of the Jews and the calling of the Gentiles.

"But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying." Isaiah 65:18, 19. Here is a prophecy of the change from law to grace, from literal to the spiritual, from the old Jerusalem to the new. "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God." Hebrews 7:19. God was still desiring to bring about a plan for man's deliverance and "gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Hence, the Lamb of God came seeking that which was lost. Andrew saw Him and asked, "Where dwellest Thou?" Andrew and Peter opened up their hearts and Christ came into their hearts and took up His abode there. He had found a place of rest for His love. The temples made with hands had ceased to hold the object of His love. He found the place for which His great heart longed from eternity. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God?" 1 Corinthians 3:16a. "The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Cor. 3:17b. "Ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." 2 Corinthians 6:16. "He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." 1 John 4:16. "We will come unto him and make our abode with him." John 14:23. "Whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence, and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end." Hebrews 3:6.

From the dawning of eternity's morning, God had longed for a home, a place of rest. O thou redeemed child of God, thou hast been born of Him. Thou art His rest. In thee He dwells and His soul is satisfied. 1 John 4:4. In thee He has won triumph over all His foes. He has set up His throne in your heart; your soul is His victory. The gates of hell shall not prevail against it, for thou art His habitation through the Spirit. "What! know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.

What a wonderful plan of deliverance! "And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." John 1:5. The light, rest and peace have been here since Pentecost, but precious souls fail to comprehend it. They continue to join

(Continued on Page Nine)

"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.

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

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

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EDITORIALS

GREETINGS and best wishes to all our readers, which include several thousand new recipients of this paper made possible through gift subscriptions from their friends. May this new year of 1973 bring you many temporal and spiritual blessings.

Remember that "the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." 2 Chronicles 16:9.

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We are pleased to report to those readers who so faithfully co-operated in mailing us the special three month's subscriptions that a number of the new readers have already written expressing their appreciation for their first copy. Some have subscribed for a year or three years. Be encouraged to know that your labors of love are bearing fruit. If you sow the gospel seed "beside all waters," surely some will germinate and grow. We will never know in this world what is the final yield.

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The 66th annual Oklahoma State Assembly meeting held here at Guthrie during the Christmas holidays was very profitable in the salvation of souls and the edification of the church. In answer to prayer the Lord cleared up the roads and gave good weather for the most part, and the meeting was well attended from many states. The Holy Spirit anointed for the preaching of the Word, accompanied by conviction, and a number of souls found peace with God at the altar. Seven followed the Lord in the ordinance of water baptism. About 25 ministers were present from this state and other states. Messages of Bible truth went forth to establish the saints and enable them to discern and avoid the snares of the devil in these perilous times. During the meeting, the spirit of love and harmony prevailed for the advancement of the cause of Christ. We are thankful for all who attended these services, and want you to remember that you have a hearty welcome to come again.

During the meeting some saints and saints' relatives departed this life. Among them were Bro. O. C. Porter's brother of Ponca City, Okla., Brother Lloyd Wilson of Okeene, Okla., Sister Willa J. Williams of Hennessey, Okla., and Bro. Murphy Allen's father in Missouri. May God comfort the sorrowing relatives in a special way.

Bro. Lloyd and Sister Cassie Wilson had attended several days of the Guthrie meeting, including Christmas day, driving back and forth from their farm home near Okeene. On the morning after Christmas, apparently feeling as well as ever, he went out to his grain bin and loaded his pickup truck with wheat, using a scoop shovel. Evidently the exertion at his age of 77 years was too much for his system, and he suffered an attack of some kind. However, he made it to the back door of their home, and Sister Cassie helped him into the house. He expressed a desire

to trust in God all the way, and the Lord saw best to take him Home in a very short time. Of course, it was a shock to Sister Cassie, as well as to all of us who talked to him the day before here at the meeting. Yet we sorrow not as those who have no hope. There's coming a grand reunion day!

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The poem in the January issue entitled, "Come to Mount Zion," was written by Bro. Israel Smalling of Jamaica, W. Indies. However, his name was inadvertently left off at the end of the poem. We are sorry for this error.

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Since divine revelation and nature teach (1 Cor. 11:14) that it is a shame for a man to have long hair, it has become our solemn obligation before God to drop the false traditions of men which show Jesus or His disciples with long hair. Light has come and we must walk in it in order to keep clear with God. The counterfeit long hair pictures of Jesus surely do encourage the present long hair "hippie movement" with its unholy practices. Some say it is a fad that will soon pass away, and this writer surely hopes it will. But back of this practice is an evil spirit. Long hair on men is a symbol of rebellion against divine and civil authority, against God and country. Surely, the "saints in light" should not condone this evil spirit of rebellion and compromise with the devil in any manner.

Write to this office for the FREE tract, "Did Jesus Wear Long Hair?" We will furnish as many as you can pass out to the reading public.

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Bro. Murphy Allen of Senath, Mo. has been led of the Lord to take the pastorate of the Church at Springfield, Mo. May the Lord bless and prosper the labors of Brother and Sister Allen in this field. Their new mailing address is 718 N. Kansas, Springfield, Missouri 65802.

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Bro. Randall Flynn, our new printer-pressman co-worker from Louisiana, is fitting very well into the gospel publishing work. His vision and concern to spread the gospel light is certainly appreciated, and the Lord will not forget his work of faith and labor of love for precious souls. At present, he is reprinting the 512-page church hymnal, "Evening Light Songs," which is presently out of stock, and we hope to have it available by April 1st.

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Half Century in Service to Christ and His Church . . .

Next month, the March issue of the "Faith and Victory" will mark the 50th anniversary of the birth of this gospel paper which is dedicated to the service of Christ and His church. In March, 1923, my father, Fred Pruitt, and associates published the first issue here at Guthrie, Oklahoma, at the Faith Publishing House printing plant which was then located at 611 West Mansur Avenue. Over the years, God has preserved His work amid opposition and spiritual storms, and constantly increased the production of

gospel literature. All praise and honor is due unto Him alone. After we have done all that He has called us to do, then we consider ourselves "unprofitable servants."

Many consecrated co-workers have come and gone from the Lord's Printshop in the past fifty years. Former members of the "Faith and Victory" family and readers of long standing are still living in all parts of the country. If you would like to add a few words of comment to this March anniversary issue, please get it to us by February 15.

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More of those excellent out-of-print books of vital truth written by the pioneer ministers of the Church of God Reformation will be reprinted and added to our book stock as time, means, and help permit. Publication dates will appear in future issues.

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All of the workers at this gospel publishing plant and office are sacrificing time and talents, accepting a nominal allowance for living expenses, to advance the cause of Christ in the salvation of precious souls, but they are happy to have a part in paying "the debt that we owe"—the debt of the gospel light—to the unsaved world. They are laying up their treasures in heaven, along with all of you who are so faithfully sending your offerings and ordering gospel literature to help pay the cost of paper, postage and operating expenses. It is a pleasure to be "workers together" with the Lord in His great cause. Let us "watch and pray always" that we may see the end of this Christian race with victory.

—Lawrence Pruitt

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FAITH PUB. HOUSE, Box 518, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

OBITUARIES

Sister Lillian (Neal) Bahm was born on May 26, 1890. She passed from this life on Nov. 27, 1972, at the age of 82 years.

Her husband, Bro. Ed Bahm, preceded her in death. They were united in marriage in 1909. They leave ten children, five sons and five daughters.

Sister Bahm was a devoted wife and mother. She lived near Husser, La. and worshiped with the saints at the Oak Grove congregation near Lorranger, La.

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. M. F. Williamson in the Thomas Funeral Home chapel at Hammond, La. Main text of Scripture: Prov. 31:10-29. Interment was in the Neal family cemetery near Husser, La.

Waldo Emerson Burke, son of Henry Thomas Burke and Melissa Birdella (Burns) Burke, was born June 19, 1888, near Norwood, Mo. He departed this life on December 14, 1972, at his home in Mansfield, Mo., at the age of 84 years, five months, and 25 days.

He was married to Martha Anna Woody on April 3, 1909, and to this union four children were born: one son, Waldo, of Phoenix, Ariz.; three daughters, Dorothy Gregory of Gary, Indiana, Natalie Allen of Senath, Mo., and Elzonia who preceded him in her babyhood. His wife also preceded him in death in 1947.

He was united in marriage on February 7, 1949, to Sofronia Butler who survives him. One brother, Thomas L. Burke, of Norwood, Mo. also survives him, as well as ten grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren. One grandchild and one great-grandchild preceded him. He had many nephews and nieces to mourn his passing.

He professed faith in Christ a number of years ago. He will be greatly missed by those who knew him.

Memorial services were conducted at Mansfield, Mo., in the Bergman-Miller Chapel, Bro. Kenneth Probst officiating. Interment was at Oregon, Mo., with graveside rites conducted by Bro. James Broker.

Sister Willa Jane Williams was born in the State of Mississippi on March 31, 1891. She was the oldest of nine children born to Phillip and Nancy Nicholson. At the age of twelve she moved to Oklahoma with her family following the death of her mother. In 1908 she married James A. Williams, and to this union were born two children.

When quite young, she was converted and thereby born into the Church of God and lived a faithful Christian life until she departed this earth on December 23, 1972, at the age of 81. She was preceded in death by her husband.

She is survived by her two children, Velma Tutt of Wichita, Kansas, and Everett Williams of Los Angeles, California; three sisters, Mrs. Rilla Wadley, Geary, Oklahoma, Mrs. Elizabeth Hankins, Hartshorne, Oklahoma, and Mrs. Frances Bryant of Los Angeles, California; three brothers, Charles S., Kansas City, Mo., Joseph, of New York City, and Delbert of Los Angeles; 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, also many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the Church of God chapel in Hennessey, Okla. by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Sister Katherine Williams and Brother Ira Stover. Interment was in the Morrison Cemetery, Hennessey, Okla.

Willa Jane's book is finished,
And what a successful one;
With pages filled with love and joy,
Recording the work she has done.

Because of her faithful life to God
The angels have borne her away,
To rest from her toiling and labors,
And wait for her crown and her pay.

Lloyd C. Wilson was born February 18, 1895, and departed this life December 26, 1972, at the age of 77 years, ten months and eight days. He was born in Kansas and moved to Oklahoma with his parents, living in the Longdale community and moving to his farm home southeast of Okeene where he had lived the past 54 years.

He was united in marriage to Della B. Seneker on November 18, 1919. To this union were born three sons and six daughters. His wife preceded him in death on April 15, 1963. On November 8, 1964, he was united in marriage to Cassie Irvin.

Brother Lloyd Wilson was an active member of the Church of God. His interest in the Lord's work led to a deepening down in spiritual things. His love for God and family was manifested by his life.

Survivors are his wife, Cassie, of the home; three sons, Arland and Eldon of Okeene, Okla., and Llewellyn of Omaha, Neb.; six daughters, Mrs. Kenneth (Wilma)

Fielder of Reno, Nev., Mrs. Leroy (Glenda) Morris of Taloga, Okla., Mrs. Dan (Edith) Francis and Mrs. Walt (Rose) Kocher, both of Oklahoma City, Okla., Mrs. Hoyt (Velda) McEachern and Mrs. William (Georgia) Felder, both of Okeene, Okla., one step-daughter, Mrs. William (Viola) Weir, Stark City, Mo.; 40 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was one of 12 children, survived by two brothers, Roy of Delta, Colo., and Clifford of Fairview, Okla., two sisters, Ethel Jordan of Boise, Idaho, and Bertha Young of Visalia, California, and many saints and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the First Christian Church in Okeene, Okla. by Bro. Willie C. Murphey, assisted by Bro. Ira Stover, Bro. Sam Abbott, and Pastor Mike McVey. Interment was in the Parvin Cemetery, Okeene, Oklahoma.

Loving Memories

Your gentle face and patient smile,
With sadness we recall.
You had a kindly word for each,
And died beloved by all.

The voice is mute and stilled the heart,
That loved as well and true;
Ah, bitter was the trial to part
From one so good as you.

You are not forgotten, loved one,
Nor will you ever be;
As long as life and memory last,
We will remember thee.

We miss you now, our hearts are sore;
As time goes by we'll miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face—
No one can fill your vacant place.

—Selected by his wife, Cassie

Card of Thanks

We want to thank all the dear saints, loved ones, and friends for their love shown us during our recent sorrow and heartache. May God bless each one!

—Sister Cassie, and the Lloyd Wilson family

Jimmie (Evans) Williams was born to Ola and John Evans on March 19, 1913, in McLennan County, Waco, Texas, and departed this life January 18, 1973.

While a child, her family moved to Dover, Oklahoma, where she later met and married Lewis Williams on November 12, 1933. There were no children born to this union. In 1950, Lewis and Jimmie moved to Wichita, Kansas where they resided at the time of her death.

In 1937, she got saved and was born into the Church of God. She was a true believer with much faith and served God devoutly with a pure heart until the end.

Her survivors are: her husband, Lewis; two brothers, Melvin Evans of Portland, Oregon and Charlie Evans of Phoenix, Arizona; two sisters, Mrs. Anna Penson, Phoenix, Ariz. and Cody Evans of Oklahoma City, Okla., a host of nieces, nephews and many friends.

The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Woodrow Warren, assisted by Bro. Manles Gaines and Bro. Herman Kelly, at the Church of God chapel in Wichita, Kansas. Interment was in the Highland Cemetery, Wichita.

Yes, the Old Ship of Zion has landed
Another Pilgrim on yonder shore;
For Heavenly Love came to the rescue,
And on her tests she made a passing score.

Yes, Jimmie has been promoted
To the highest Place she can go;
For she had settled the account with her Maker
A long, long time ago.

(Editor's note: In December, Sister Williams suffered some light strokes. Then in January she had a massive stroke from which she did not recover, and the Lord called her Home. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Bro. Williams, the relatives, and the Wichita congregation in their bereavement. May God ever comfort their hearts.)

Note of Thanks

We express our deep appreciation to all the saints and friends for their love, care, cards, letters, phone calls, telegrams, food, and offerings during the illness and passing of our loved one. May the Lord bless and reward each one. —Bro. Lewis Williams and relatives

GOLDEN SUNSET OF LIFE

The beautiful golden sunset reminds one of life's greatest Day. It shows one that time is passing swiftly and surely away. Yes, out from its golden beauty we see and admire its rays. How wonderful! Life's ebbings will soon bring our closing days, forgetting all the sorrows and heartaches, and looking at the grandness and bliss of that heavenly assurance of eternal rest.

All glory to Jesus, our Lord, our Savior and King,
A great Home-coming to forever with Him reign.
Thus is life's golden sunset with that peace—all is well;
Then in glorious rapture forever with our Lord to dwell.

—By Jessie Holloman, deceased May 7, 1970

FREE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

We found a box of books, (94 pages, paperbound) entitled "True Stories for Children," in our storage room that was printed in July, 1962. We will mail you one FREE for sending 25c for postage and handling. Just ONE to a person as long as they last. Order today!

WHERE DWELLEST THOU?

(Continued from Page Three)

temples made with hands and reject the call of God to their souls. It is now as in Luke 19:41, "And when he [Jesus] was come near, he beheld the city; and wept over it, saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, and shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee, and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation." Hence the question, "Where dwellest thou?"

False prophets are daubing many with untempered mortar, and taking them into temples made by men which will never profit them.

—William A. McCoy

WEEK-END MEETING AT DOVER, OKLA.

"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." 2 Cor. 9:15. Praise the Lord!

We are very thankful how God's presence was with us in the Dover, Okla. meeting. It was only a week-end meeting, but, oh, how the dear Lord did work in it! The singing was precious, anointed of the Holy Spirit, and so was the Word of God preached with power. The altar service was good. A number sought spiritual help. A young man and his wife were saved. Thank the Lord! We thank the Lord for the ministerial help which He sent us.

Christian love,

—Sister Katherine Williams

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

We, at Pacoima, are thankful to the Lord for how He blessed us in our Assembly meeting held during Christmas week. From the beginning to the last benediction, it was most precious.

When the meeting started, many were sick with the flu, including some entire families, but God miraculously broke the powers of the flu and most of the sick ones were able to attend the remainder of the meeting.

One man in his early forties had been faithful to help on the campground on work days. We saw prayer answered, as this man was saved during the meeting and has a good decision to follow the Lord until death. Others were saved, and sanctified, and many claimed their healing in this meeting.

The only out-of-state minister in attendance was Bro. Charles Chandler, a young minister from Oklahoma City, Okla., who brought forth an outstanding message. His main thought was that when we see these perplexing things happening and sin abounding on every hand, that we are to know this is the "sound of marching," that the enemy is working hard to encompass the camp of the saints, and this helps us to know our redemption draweth nigh.

The Lord also richly blessed in anointing several young ministers from the local congregation who brought forth some very soul-stirring messages.

Approximately 57 sisters and 31 brothers, in obedience to God's Word, took part in the feet-washing ordinance and the Lord's supper. It was precious.

A few of the residents and workers at the Rest Home were ill, but the Lord has blessed, and they are all up and around again.

Knowing that we cannot exist on past blessings, we are praying for God to continue to help us all to draw nearer to Him, and for God to give us another Holy Ghost-filled meeting this summer. The dates for the California State campmeeting at Pacoima will be August 24 through September 2, 1973, Lord willing.

—Anneta Luehring, secretary

ALL-DAY SERVICE DROPPED FOR THE WINTER

Ohio—Dear ones scattered abroad, greetings in Jesus' dear name: This leaves us both still pressing our way Homeward. This is a climbing way, we have found it so.

As we look over the past, we can see how God's wide arms of mercy have held us. We feel encouraged to know we have put forth a great effort to do our best for the cause of Christ in the earth, and to be all the help to others that we could be. God has no idlers in His vine-

yard. There's something for everyone to do, old and young. If we don't keep busy in God's service, the devil has a job for everyone, and the first thing we know, we may be busy for him. So let us keep busy for Jesus, and be ready to say, "Lord, here am I, send me." Pray for us, as we mean to go to heaven whatever the cost may be.

We feel it best to discontinue the all-day services on the second Sunday of each month here in Dayton, Ohio until April on account of uncertain weather conditions.

—Bro. William and Sister Evelyn McCoy
5252 Wadsworth Rd., Dayton, Ohio 45414

WINTER REVIVAL AT BAKERSFIELD, CAL.

The Bakersfield, California winter revival meeting will be held, Lord willing, February 9 to Feb. 18, 1973.

All are cordially invited. We request your prayers. For further information, contact Z. E. Francisco, 305 South Owens Street, phone 323-0747, or Robert Mays, 245 "N" St., phone 325-2730. The chapel is located at 1802 Virginia Avenue, phone 322-9314.

HOME MISSION WORK

Dear saints scattered abroad: We feel burdened to remind you of the need of the missionary work here in America. Often times, when we hear a good soul-stirring message, my thoughts are, that the world should hear these truths. Perhaps they, too, would be saved, but how are we going to get the message out there? Can we selfishly enjoy the truth while there are millions who may never have seen a life of Christ lived before them? One day I was thinking of the coming of the Lord being so nigh at hand, and many being lost. I was going to town, and several times that day the opportunity opened up where I could say, "Surely, the coming of the Lord is at hand." Some looked startled. No question in my mind but what they gave me the quick once-over, too. Many today are taking the name of Jesus in vain.

We are thankful we have consecrated ministers who are willing to labor through winter and summer, and who are willing to labor with the tent. Hard labor is involved, both spiritually and physically. We, as the church, need to uphold them with our prayers and means.

There is a need for new metal chairs for the tent evangelistic work. We have \$50.00 toward that fund. We would like to buy 100 of them. We can purchase them at around \$3.50 to \$4.00 each in lots of 100. I hope they haven't gone higher, as prices are climbing. If you desire to contribute to this cause, send your offerings to the undersigned who is the treasurer of the National Missionary Fund. May the Lord bless each of you in your labors of love.

Yours in His service, —Ralph and Inez Beisly

Mail directly to Bro. Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kansas 67337.

We can not bring up our children for the world and yet claim they will be saved. But we can by faith claim them for God, then bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Tell them they belong to God, and lead them in the things that pertain to godliness.

—Jennie M. Byers

Prayer Requests



Canada—"I have . . . asthma and sinus trouble. . . I believe that God made us and knows all about us. Please, also remember my wife in prayer as she is bothered with headaches. (Also remember two brothers who need healing.)"

—Mr. and Mrs. J. Sneft

N. Mex.—"I have some unspoken requests I want the saints to pray about."

—Bro. E. B. Weir

Ky.—"I have been battling a case of walking pneumonia for three weeks. I am not able to read or write much. . . . Pray for my restoration to health."

—Sister Alpha Baldridge, in Rest Home

Okla.—"I am a diabetic and the mother of eleven children. My baby is only two years old. I surely need to be healed to be able to properly take care of my family and my teenagers in these evil days. . . . I need special wisdom in dealing with them. I want to instill the truth in their hearts."

—Sister Lucille Johnson

La.—Remember dear Sister Juanita Williamson in prayer. She is fighting the good fight of faith. God is abundantly able to heal her. Let us fight this battle with her against doubts, fears, and anything that might be hindering. She is truly a child of God.

Okla.—Sharon Beisly needs healing to her body. She has had a touch from the Lord, and the sickness that she has is much better, but she still needs a complete healing. This is a great burden to her family, and also to us.

Va.—"Pray for me. . . . I want that peace. . . . I don't know how to get it."

Kansas—"Pray for me. . . . I have gone a long time without a blessing from God, but I am still holding on. . . . I need healing to my body."

There are many requests from those who desire prayer for the salvation of their loved ones. We must keep praying and holding on. The devil has souls bound and they must desire to be delivered, but God knows how to cause them to desire it. If they still refuse, then they will face that at the Judgment. So be encouraged to pray on.

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 2. When the soul prospereth, faith is increased. Importunity increases our faith. When faith is increased, it helps us to walk by faith and not by sight nor feelings. Faith causes us to thank God for that thing which He has promised. In olden days in the Bible times the Israelites went into battle singing even if the odds were greatly against them. Jordan River was flooding, but God told them to cross over. When they stepped into the water carrying the Ark of the Covenant, the waters parted. May the Lord help us to move by faith.

—Sister Marie Miles

MISSION TRIP TO INTERIOR MEXICO

Okla.—Dear saints abroad: Greetings in the precious name of our Savior. I feel that I should report the blessings of the Lord in being able to make a trip recently into interior Mexico which was delayed last summer. When I started my first trip last spring through the West, I asked the Lord for a sign of what He wanted me to do or go, and one morning about ten o'clock while I was driving through New Mexico, He showed me a

large two-edged sword in the sky, reaching from the mid-portion of the sky to a point on the horizon over Old Mexico. I took it to mean the "Word of God" which He wants to go to Old Mexico. The following morning approximately the same hour He showed me a large bird like the swept-back wings of a huge jet plane with the beak in approximately the same spot as the tip of the sword had been.

I felt assured that He was telling me of His desire to get His Word to these people who have been loosed somewhat from the bonds of Catholicism in that they are given the freedom to read the Bible now, which the church before mostly prohibited. I made the mistake last summer of believing that I could do God's will my way, for which I had to receive correction. Through this experience of the accident in Baja, Mexico, I knew that He was showing me by the bird that He has promised to shelter us under His Wings! This He certainly did.

On Christmas day, Bros. Bobby Huskey, Tom Melot, and I started on the 1600 miles to Uruapan, Mexico, where Bro. Irineo Rama works for the Lord, and also to visit the ranchos near Valle de Santiago. I started out with much misgiving and wishing I didn't have to make the trip. The devil immediately presented a weakening tire to my attention, and I said to myself, if we can't make it across the border, then it will be all right if we turn back. We were able to pick up a used tire for a spare on the way. We arrived at Eagle Pass, Texas on Monday night and visited the Petersen family there whom God called from Minnesota to distribute Bibles and tracts to the Mexican people. We had prayer with them, sang a song, and left for the border. We found out at the border that I had to have my title to the car, as I had only a registration which had to have a notarized statement with it, so we went looking for a notary which couldn't be found that night. Bro. Tommy said, "Let us go back to the border. They have to let us through." With slight persuasion they let us across even with the title of the van in my wife's name. So I knew the Lord wanted us to go on.

We stopped to see Bro. Tomas Mendoza's brother in Piedras Negras. We had prayer and some songs with them and went on, driving straight through to Valle de Santiago where Bro. Tommy got a hotel room and stayed there while Bro. Bobby and I went on down to Uruapan to see Bro. Irineo. He took us to visit some of the folks there, and also to see Bro. Juan and Bro. Francisco in a village about 17 miles from Uruapan. Bro. Francisco is the young man whose father tried to kill him with an axe, but the Lord prevented it. He said, "It is a miracle of God that you have come." They wanted us to come back that night and have a meeting, so we went back to Irineo's home and returned to the village that night with 16 people in the van. It was quite cool in the yard where we met, but we expounded the Word for a couple of hours to the brethren.

Bro. Irineo has a good-sized chapel under construction with the walls up on a lot near his home. He has a small saw rigged up which he belts up to his motorcycle for power. Electric motors are very high there. He desires to build another building on the same lot with a shop on the first floor and living quarters on the second for the boys who can work there. He has two boys now staying with him and helping him make bricks. Also, two nieces stay with him. He desires to have a training shop there where he can get more of these boys from the Indian village to learn a trade. There is a lot next

to the chapel that Bro. Irineo can get for \$240.00, which could be used for raising food for the boys. There are many parents who desire to get their boys, (8-14 years) away from the sinful influence of the town.

The following day, Bro. Irineo and another brother went with us up to Valle de Santiago to visit the ranchos. We traveled about 17 miles over a rough and dusty road to the Rancho Canas. The people were very receptive and listened intently. The devil again showed his hand in a drunken man who came into the center of the meeting and sat almost in front of Bro. Bobby as we expounded the parable of the sower. Then when Bro. Irineo began to speak, this man stood squarely in front of him. I recognized then that he was being used of the devil, as the men began to move out, so I called on the Lord to get him out. Bro. Irineo then began to confront this man with his condition, and a man came and got him by the hand and led him off. We had a very good meeting then. When we asked if any would like to be remembered in prayer, about 25 hands went up. They showed a very deep interest. One man invited us to park our van in his yard for the night, so we moved about a block to his house and Bro. Bobby and Bro. Irineo continued to show them the Scriptures by the lights on the van until about 10:00 p. m. We had another meeting the next evening after the men came home from work.

The Lord surely showed me how ripe the time is for harvesting these dear souls. We saw many signs of the diminishing influence of the Catholic church and many buildings being closed. There is another evil arising to take its place unless the Word of God is applied. I saw big displays of Communist books and propaganda on the streets of one of these towns. They are ready to step into the void that is being created.

The Lord was with us all the way and brought us home before the ice and snow arrived later in Oklahoma. We did have to drive about 1,000 miles without the generator working so we could travel only in day time. But the Lord brought us safely to Guthrie on January 2, at 11:30 p. m.

Pray that the Lord will call willing workers for this vineyard. Lord willing, I hope to go back to help Bro. Irineo this spring in whatever I can do.

Your humble servant, —Bro. George Hammond

OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO REPORT

Ojos Negros (Jan. 4)—Dear Sister Marie and all: Greetings in the precious name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. I've been busy, busy, since my return to the field. I felt in the midst of all the giving, the most important thing was to get the Christmas story into every home in the village and valley that I possibly could. I got up with that thought in mind on Friday morning before Christmas and the Lord helped me to get 300 copies made that morning on the mimeograph, then attach a Christmas front page to them and by that afternoon all were ready. Thank the Lord!

We were happy to have Sister Emma Dilley and husband, Sis. Roberta Hightower, and Bro. James Huskey here earlier in the week. The men did some finishing up of work that needed to be done at the mission and the ladies made cloth bags for each family set of gifts to be given out. I appreciate each one's help. May the Lord bless each one who had any part in making these people's Christmas a happier one. From Saturday on, Bro. Juan's family and I were on the go continually,

giving out the Christmas story, making personal visits in the homes, going and getting the people for service, taking them home, distributing their gifts, taking them carolling, especially to the homes of the aged and to those who were not able to come out to service. The Lord blessed in the Sunday and Christmas-day meeting as well. Some of us went each day and taught a Bible lesson in at least one home.

The Lord has blessed us to have a paved road to Ensenada which, until now, has been at times almost impassable. The Lord made it possible today for me to rent a post office box of my own in Ensenada, so from now on, as far as I know, my address will be, Apartado Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico. Remember, though, that anything besides a letter should still be sent to P. O. Box 2860, San Ysidro, Calif. 92073. Keep holding us all up in prayer.

Christian love,

—Sister Opal Kelly

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Southeast Nigeria (Jan. 4)—Dear Bro. Lawrence: To you and all the dear saints in the Lord's Printshop, and everywhere, I say Happy New Year in Jesus' dear name: The Annual National campmeeting at Asana main mission in December came and went with untold blessings from on high. But yet my heart is burdened for the teeming millions of other precious souls who are still wallowing in ignorance and superstition, and are still bowing down to gods made with their own hands. This is indeed a real burden on my heart. The devil is fast at work every day, but for sure the victory is ours for the asking since Jesus Christ is living and is interceding for us every moment. Praise God! This year I appeal to all saints abroad to go down upon their knees with me for the salvation of these precious souls of our Heavenly Father in Nigeria and the world over.

Bro. Lawrence, this is a problem that I have to bring to your notice for a solution in Jesus' name. My insurance and license for 1972 are expiring on my motorcycle on January 31. . . . I am now supervising the work at the main mission and ten mission outstations in Opofo district. This, of course, entails much traveling here and there. To catch up the time and business, I have to go on my motorcycle.

The gospel work in Nigeria is really on the go, and the Lord is blessing. . . . It would be good if you could come over to Nigeria at least 90 days to encourage and direct us.

I am extremely grateful to the Father who in His tender love and mercy spared our lives until 1973. Let's thank Him together. Pray for us as we do for you.

In His love and service, —Pastor Jackson U. Etuk

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Dec. 19)—My dearly beloved Bro. Pruitt and other saints: Again it is our privilege to send our New Year's greetings to you, your beloved wife, Sister Marie Miles, Bro. Carver, and all other fellow believers and saints in America in the precious name of Jesus. We once again set up our Ebenezer stone and launch out in the new year of 1973 with fresh vigor, increased faith, great hopes and joy in the Lord who is our strength. We are looking unto Jesus, the Captain of our salvation and the Author and Finisher of our faith. As Paul says, "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." We are doing our best to hold high the banner of the gospel and at the same time to stand strongly against modernism and the ecumenical movement, because the Word of God clearly teaches separation from "Babylon," apostasy, and not to give heed to Jewish fables. We hope the year of 1973 will be a great blessing to you, to us, and to all.

Thank you very much for your good letter, and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude. Praise the Lord!

I am writing this letter a little earlier wishing to inform you about our general convention at Karikkom which is decided, God willing, to start January 17, 1973, and continue five days. This is the seventh convention [campmeeting] that we will have conducted in front of Bethel chapel after its construction. As you know, many have seen Christ every year through this meeting so it is a real blessing to this province. Every year we were in receipt of your valuable prayers and help for its expenses, as the erection of a pandal (flat roof), accommodations for five days for the saints coming from distant places, food, etc. Moreover, we wish to print and publish a small song book of 40 songs in the Malayalam tongue which are selected to sing in the meeting this year. I have collected the songs and gave them to the printer last week. . . .

Last Sunday I was at Avoor. All believers assembled in a small hut for service. In the service they all prayed for the saints in America who helped us with the fund to purchase a small site for the chapel at Avoor. Our hearts were overflowing with gladness and gratitude because our Heavenly Father inspired the hearts of the saints in America to donate for the urgent needs in India. . . . I invite your attention again to the bad condition of Avoor without a small chapel in which to worship. Let us unite in prayer for it.

The Psalmist said, "For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling." (Psa. 116:8). Yes, without failing I earnestly pray for the complete healing of your illness.

I trust there is progress in the fund for my trip to the U. S. A. I am waiting for His appointed time. Please pray for us as we do for you. My wife also sends her loving greetings to you, your wife, and to all at the Faith Publishing House.

Your younger Brother in Christ, —John Varghese

From The Mail Box . . .

Illinois—Dear ones in Christ: I am enclosing \$1.00 for my subscription to the "Faith and Victory" paper. . . .

Thank God, at the age of 26 I was delivered from Catholicism. I see the light of God, not a member of any human church organization—out of Babylon completely. I am 78 years old. According to nature I don't have very much more time in this world. I am packed up, and ready to go when the roll is called up yonder. May the good Lord keep you safe and sound until Jesus comes.

—Anna Farkas

South Carolina—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all of the workers at the Printshop: Thank the Lord for how He kept me through the year of 1972 with victory in my soul. Now we are going into another New Year praying and trusting that God will keep me standing firm upon the Word with victory in my soul over the devil

and all of his evil works. By the help of God I want to keep spreading the gospel until Jesus comes for His saints.

May God bless you and the saints in that work.

—Eddie Driggers

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

Ky.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Maybelle: We send greetings in Jesus' dear name, the name above all names. I trust you are all well, and encouraged to press on for the crown that lies at the end of the way.

I trust the Lord blessed in the assembly meeting. We surely missed being there. We just could not come. There are so many places wanting us to come. There are two or three places we need to go right away, also a couple of new places where the door is open.

Sister Jarvis called and said her brother passed away this morning. Remember her in prayer. Also, we have some very special requests concerning the work of the Lord.

Give our love to all the saints. Continue to pray for us. We are holding on for you. May the Lord bless you in the work you are doing for Him.

We still have a clear vision of the true way and want to always keep it.

Christian love, —Bro. and Sister Mart Samons
Gen. Delivery, Junction City, Ky. 40440

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

Oregon—Dear saints: Just a note to let you know I appreciate the "Faith and Victory" each month. It keeps me informed of the saints and the meetings. The Lord has blessed us so much. I depend fully on Him for my healing and salvation each day. The Lord has given us so much to be thankful for that some of my neighbors call me "lucky," but I know that it is from God and not just luck. . . .

I hope this year will hold many blessings for all of you workers.

With Christian love, —Sister Lucille Trimble

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

California—Dear Sister Miles, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I trust all the saints there at the work shop are well.

We are doing all right here except for colds, and arthritis. My mother (Sister Hattie Burnett) is suffering with muscle spasms. My greatest sorrow is the lost condition of our loved ones, and all the saints' lost children.

We are saved and enjoying the blessings of the Lord with no other desire but to do God's will and to praise His great name.

Enclosed you will find a love offering from me and my mother. May the Lord bless the work there and abroad. I would like for you to take out enough money for the paper, "Faith and Victory" and the Sunday school Bible lessons.

We desire an interest in your prayers. We do always remember you and the dear ones there at the Publishing House.

Yours in Christ, —Sister Irene Perkins

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

Illinois—Dear ones: Great is the faithfulness of our God. Hitherto He has helped us, and we can rest assured He will continue to do so if we keep submitted to Him.

I trust this will be a good year in getting the gospel to places and people who have ready minds and hearts to receive it. May the Lord supply the means and workers that this can be accomplished. Enclosed is a check to

be used in the work. I trust the Lord is blessing each one there who are laborers with Him.

We need your prayers that we may do His will, and hold to the truth. We are waiting and expecting victory over physical conditions.

As ever,

—The Andrew Reineking

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

Miss.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: I have just received and read the January issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper, and enjoyed it so very much. I don't know who had it sent to me, but I thank the Lord that someone thought of me.

I'm a widow 76 years old and my eyesight is failing, so I can read but a little while at a time. Please pray that the good Lord will restore my eyesight so I can read His precious Word, gospel books, tracts and papers.

I have several other prayer requests. I have a grandson that is deaf. It breaks our hearts to have to send him 90 miles away to a deaf school. I know there is nothing too hard for the Lord to heal. He is the same Lord that healed every one that came to Him when He walked the shores of Galilee. I have unsaved children. Please pray for them.

May God bless you, —Mrs. T. M. Ballinger

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

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie: I needed to send our new address, so I decided to take this opportune time to wish you and fellow workers well. We enjoy the paper, "Faith and Victory," so much and appreciate the sacrifices you have made to spread the gospel. May the Lord richly bless you and the workers there.

Christian love, —Dale, Linda and Christina Probst

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

Illinois—Dear ones in Christ: Greetings of love in the name of the one who died for us to deliver us from the clutches of Satan and this present evil world. . . . "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." I am one of God's humble children, and I am so thankful and happy in His love and mercy.

This check is for mission work in Mexico or other foreign missions as the Lord directs you.

Thanks so much for your prayers. May God supply all your needs and bless all your labors.

We need to pray for this lost world. God makes wars to cease, so the Bible says. Pray for my unsaved loved ones. Pray much for me. I am in my 82nd year and I am crippled besides. God is good, oh, so good to me!

Christian love, —Sister Bertha Gill

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: New Year's greetings to the dear saints. I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. . . .

I have been in and out of the hospital all of 1972. Bro. and Sister Herman Kelly prayed for me, and I thank all the saints for their prayers.

I am the late Henry F. Robinson's son. My father preached in Guthrie, Okla. in 1912, 1914 and 1915. Sister May Bell Williams is my sister. I want to go to the altar. I want the dear saints to pray for me, both soul and body. I have been hearing the gospel for over 65 years.

—John B. Robinson

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

Georgia—Dear Sister Marie, Brother Pruitt and the helpers in the printshop: Holy greetings in the name of the holy child, Jesus, who came into this world to save us from our sins. (Matt. 1:21). I thank our Lord and

Savior that I am able to report victory over sin and the devil. I am grateful to the Lord for bringing me through 1972 and letting me enter into the year of 1973. I thank the God of heaven for the many fiery trials and hard tests He brought me through last year and also the many problems He solved for me. I truly mean to worship Him in the beauty of holiness because He tells us in His Word that without holiness no man shall see the Lord. (Psa. 96:9; Heb. 12:14.)

We are still praying along with all of you for the complete healing of Bro. L. D. Pruitt, Bro. Allen, Sister Tinsley and others. Please keep my little grandson and me before the Lord. I am not feeling well in body, but I am fully trusting in the God of heaven for all of my healing and not the arm of flesh. I am anchored in Jesus. I am preparing my soul to be ready to go with Jesus when He comes for me.

I wish all of you a happy and prosperous New Year in the Lord. We have had a lovely early Christmas morning service in the Lord. Only a few met with us, but the Lord was there. —Sister P. R. Bowers

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

Illinois—Dear Sir: I surely do enjoy reading your paper, "Faith and Victory" each month. I look forward for it to come. I am praying for you dear ones every day. May the dear Lord bless all of you is my prayer. Remember me in your prayers.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Martha Oye

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

Ark.—Greetings to all the dear workers: May the Lord bless you dear laborers for your consecrated service in sending out the truth of God's precious Word. I do enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper, and pass it on.

A few thoughts came to me one night, and I am sending them to you. Read my name as the first letter of each line, and the words that follow: (Psalms 85:10)

Mercy and truth are met together;
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Salvation is God's great gift.

No, God is not dead, He is alive,

Eternal and forever.

Abundantly able to save and keep saved,
Demands obedience to His commandments.
A wonderful Saviour for all who will come to Him.
Most holy and gracious Thou art.

Saving to the uttermost all that will come to Him.

—Sister N. E. Adams

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, Sister Marie and all at the Lord's Printshop: We greet you in Jesus' name, hoping you a happy and prosperous New Year in 1973. We do very much appreciate you and Sister Marie. You mean so much to us. We feel that security in knowing that you as leaders in this capacity of God's work are real examples, and trustworthy, not easily tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine, but established and rooted and grounded in this precious truth of God's Word. . . .

Pray for us. I have been shut-in quite a lot lately. I had a fall, then after that I had an awful spell with sinus trouble and bronchial tubes. I can't stand much cool weather, but during this shut-in time I have been taught some precious lessons, and am enjoying reading more good books and praying, etc.

Please use this offering to the best advantage. I want to have a part in all of God's work. Heaven will be worth it all for our little sacrifices.

We will be remembering you in your afflictions, hoping you many more years in His service. Do pray for us as we pray for you.

—Bro. and Sister W. C. McMakin

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Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



Fla.—Dear saints and friends everywhere: Praise the Lord for His great goodness to the children of men! "What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear; what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!"

I want to say that in answer to the faithful prayers of the saints, the Lord has performed another miracle by extracting a tooth for me. It had been bothering me for quite some time in February of 1972. I was anointed and prayed for, concerning the discomfort it was causing me. The first of last week, it began aching very bad and it came to my mind, go to a dentist and have it extracted, but the still small voice whispered, "Wait on the Lord." I waited, so this morning when I got out of bed it was just hanging on by the skin seemingly. . . . Thank the Lord, after breakfast when I went to clean my teeth, it just came right out. I have been giving thanks and praises to our most high God!

I need your prayers that I prove true to Him. I surely want to make heaven.

Yours in the One Body,

—Sister Mattie Savage

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and workers: I am still saved and pressing on. The devil comes hard against us, but praise the Lord, Christ has got more power than he. I have lots to be thankful for, most of all, for salvation, that pearl of great price.

The world is so wicked. I don't see how it can stand much longer, as I believe it is close to the coming of the Lord, and I'm endeavoring to stay ready. All I can do is live to the glory of God, pray for myself, the saints, and the salvation of sinners, and give to His cause, but I want to be faithful in the least.

Pray for my brothers. They are in deep sin. My youngest brother is a hippie, taking dope, putting it in his arm with a needle. He is in jail in Missouri. My mother wrote that he may get 1 to 10 years.

I'm surely glad I'm saved. Praise God! Pray for me, as I will for you.

Your Brother in Christ,

—James Ingerly

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

Kentucky (Jan. 8)—Dear ones: We send greetings in the name of our dear Savior. We had a good trip home. We enjoyed the [Guthrie assembly] meeting and it was so good to see all the dear saints of God. . . .

The Lord healed my eye on the way home, probably when they prayed on fast day. I felt pretty miserable with that cold, but when I got up the next morning after stopping Thursday night, I didn't need the dark glasses and my eye was completely well. Praise to our God! Then by the time we got home my cold was much better. . . .

Thank you for sending the anointed handkerchief. The Lord had already healed my eye and the cold was about all gone, but I feel impressed to keep it and I want to do some praying and fasting about this growth on my body. I would like for God to heal it for His glory. He has done so much for me that sometimes I don't feel worthy to ask for more. . . .

Curtis' brother passed away on January 4. He took his mother and sister to the funeral, and I kept Dad who is so feeble. . . .

Christian love, —Sister Curtis Williams

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ark.—Dear Sister Marie and saints in every place: Greetings of Christian love. I do thank God in the mighty name of Jesus for His wonderful salvation which is everything to the born-again children of God. . . . I praise and thank the Lord that I am not ever lonesome. The Bible and the Holy Spirit are my company keepers.

Truly, I do enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. You will find enclosed . . . to be used where it is needed.

Please pray for me. I am afflicted in my body with numbness in my right limb.

Your Sister in Christ, —Cherry R. Alba

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

How Often Would I Have— Ye Would Not

"And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, and shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another: because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation." Luke 19:41-44.

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee: how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate; and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Luke 13:34, 35.

"How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded: but ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; when your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: for they hated knowledge, and . . . despised all my reproof. Therefore, shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely and shall be quiet from fear of evil." Proverbs 1:22-33.

"How often would I have—ye would not." What tragic words are these!—words spoken to a great city that had been wonderfully blessed of God, and had had opportunities that other cities had never known. "Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto you." God in His mercy, sending—Jerusalem in its wickedness, killing and stoning! Oh, how often God's message is not appreciated!

"And when he was come near." Do you not realize that the Lord comes near to every soul at some time in this life? He speaks, seeking to awaken every soul to the need of a better life, a life that can be found only when we truly know and serve God. Some realize their need, yet will not hearken, and yield themselves to His gentle call. There is not one soul lost that could not have been saved, if he would! God is not willing that any should perish, but that all would come to repentance! There will be no crying in eternity, "I never had a chance." God is as just as He is righteous.

"At least in this thy day." Even at this late date, after all the unrepentance of the past, after all of their past sins and procrastinations, in spite of the greatness of their past sins, yet, even now they could be saved! Jerusalem did not hearken. She was utterly destroyed, even as it was foretold. God, in His great mercy, unwilling that any should perish, returns again, and again, pleading, "Oh, why will you die?" Some, very near death's door (unaware) have mentioned that they needed to get right with God. It is God, in His mercy, speaking to hearts, but they waited too long. Was it God's fault that they perished?

God's Word clearly warns that one can refuse, but one must pay the penalty! Oh, what a solemn warning it is! "Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; but ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I will also laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh." Again it speaks in another place, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked, whatsoever a man [or woman] soweth, that shall he also reap." Oh, the reaping some have had because they refused when God called! Do you not know that God calls to save us from much sorrow, if only we would give heed?

I think of a beautiful girl in her teens, at the most promising time of her life. God is calling. She stands under conviction at a meeting. There is a "boy-friend." Will she lose him if she gets saved and becomes a Christian? She fears she will; she chooses to put off her salvation "for a season." What did this choice bring? Not the happiness she had hoped for; not the kind of joy she expected (and could have known, if she had "sought first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness"). What did it bring? A forced marriage to an immature husband who wasn't ready to accept the responsibilities of marriage. It brought a rebellion against the circumstances she had chosen instead of God. This rebellion she sometimes took out on her little children,

being impatient, irritated by being "tied-down," hindered by their care. Some times at night, looking at their sweet, sleeping faces, she would be overwhelmed with the knowledge that she wasn't a good mother. Yet she continues on in her sin. What will her choice yet cost her? Each day lived in rebellion will take its toll! "God is not mocked." She does not see that God could and would yet save her from much sorrow, or that His way is best, even after she has perverted her way and lost some precious experiences she could have known. "But now they are hid from thine eyes." How Satan (the god of this world) blinds precious souls to the truth, lest they repent and be converted! "You'll lose something if you get saved." All one can lose is a lot of trouble and sorrow, for it is sin that robs one of everything good.

"How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity?" It is not possible to know the goodness of God until you have tasted and seen for yourself. Dear saved ones may try to tell it to you, but you cannot know until you have been "born-again." The "peace of God which passeth understanding" is worth more than all earth's pleasures! The multitude of sins that you will never commit because the Lord has saved you is another benefit! Sometimes, as I see the sins that are raging all around me, the broken homes, broken hearts, neglected children, (who are often the ones most sinned against!); when I see the drinking, (that brings only ruin and sorrow), or see the ones "dope" has ruined, I have been constrained to say, "There, but for the grace of God, go I." Oh, the terrible, awful power of sin!! It will drag you down, ruin, and destroy every good thing in your life! Only by fleeing to God can you escape!

"Therefore, shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple [foolish] shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them." There was a certain man who had a brilliant mind. In his youth, and many times thereafter, God called to him. This young man was likeable, gifted, and could have been a power in the hands of God. He did not choose "the fear of the Lord." He wanted to be rich, "looked-up-to" in this world. He spurned God's humble way, not being willing to pay the price for salvation and deliverance from sin. He did, in time, make a very high religious profession, but arguing with the Scriptures, refused the truth they brought to him. Because he "received not a love for the truth," he was sent "a strong delusion, that he should believe a lie." The brilliant mind is warped, the personality selfish. He is shunned by many. He has let a material fortune slip through his grasp. The greatest treasure, the "pearl of great price," he has never possessed. What a foolish man! He is even now reaping the result of his choice, "filled with his own devices." More terrible reaping will follow in eternity where he will not be able to escape from the conscience that will torment him forever. In this world, he has blamed others for his sins. This man's talents, given to God, would have made him a great blessing in the kingdom of God.

There is an aging mother. A semi-invalid, she sits alone much of the time. God has called to this mother many, many times. There have been many prayers offered for her salvation. The humble way was too much for her pride. She always thought of herself as "good." She will be quick to tell that she hates no one, that she doesn't ever get "mad." She doesn't see the murder she has done through gossip, for she cannot but tell abroad all that she hears and knows. The strife that her "surmisings" have caused, the hurt feelings, the bitterness that is in her own heart, she so blindly forgets and refuses to admit that any of it is her fault. She has "covered" her sins, refusing to admit that she is a sinner in the broad sense of that word. Her own ways are "right in her own eyes," but her ways are the "ways of death." She is so miserable, unhappy and discontented. How different her life would be if she had real salvation, and had "the joy unspeakable, the peace that passeth understanding!" Instead, she is "filled with her own devices."

The aged father had in time past trembled in the knowledge of his need of God, but is unwilling to give up the fleeting pleasures of the world. (His pleasures are the ball-games, pool-halls, television shows.) He has been a whore-monger and delighted himself in iniquity. God has been good to him, and kept him in good health through his almost four-score years, but the time will come when he must die—for "it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." What will he do then? In hell there will be none of the things he has lusted after. He will be tormented without these things. God would not that this man's life should end as it will, for "Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners." God called, but His reproof and counsel was not heeded. Although God's hand was outstretched, it was spurned. The man would have none of God! Oh, who can describe the future that lies before this man? He is "filled with his own devices."

Let us consider the last portion of the scripture in our text. "But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil." "Dwell safely,"—be protected, kept safe from harm and evil. Oh, he may be persecuted, afflicted, ("many are the afflictions of the righteous"), but there will not be one thing touch him that does not work for his good! He will be kept from the power of sin. "Sin will have no dominion over him." Satan cannot touch the soul that is sealed by the Holy Spirit of God. He is safe, unless he yields to temptation.

"Quiet from fear." There will be no terror at the thought of death, for the sting of death is sin, and his sins are gone, washed away by the blood of the Lamb! It is sin that causes the fear and terror that paralyzes so many when a storm cloud arises, or a "storm alert" is out. God keeps His children quiet from fear of evil. Now, who would not want to "harken unto me"? "Blessed is the man whose God is the Lord."

—A concerned reader

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