

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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A Saviour Is Born Unto You!

I think of the wonderful story!
In Bethlehem Jesus was born;
He came to restore us to glory,
Our spirits with grace to adorn.

And it seems as I study and ponder,
A gladness awakes in my breast,
Its message becomes so much fonder
And brings to my spirit sweet rest.

'Tis true that the angels all hailed Him
The Saviour and Ruler of men,
And man in his darkness assailed Him
When came He to save them from sin.

What worth! What a treasure was given—
Unending, unchanging, and true;
The love of our Father in heaven:
"A Saviour is born unto you!"

What greater bestowance of treasure
To man in his trouble could be;
What richer and bountiful measure
Than grace in salvation so free?

To save us from all of our sorrow
And guilt of transgression and shame,
And hope for a brighter tomorrow
He gives us today in His name.

"O come," as the song says, "behold Him!"
Look up from your burdens and see,
In all of thy bosom enfold Him
And taste of His goodness so free.

Look not for Him now in the manger;
Seek not for His face in the throng;
He reigns now above all this danger
Triumphant o'er evil and wrong.

The song of the angels we cherish,
Its message we ever shall pen:
"All glory to God in the highest,
On earth peace, good will toward men!"

—Leslie Busbee

The Birth of Jesus

The decree of Caesar that all the citizens of the Roman Empire should be taxed sent every person to his own city. This taxing was really an enrollment or a registering of all the people, perhaps something on the order of a census. Joseph, the husband of Mary, was of the lineage of David, and, as he was living in Nazareth of Galilee at that time, it became necessary for him to make the long journey southward to Judea and the city of Bethlehem. It was here in this vicinity that David, the son of Jesse, made his start in life and proved the faithfulness of God. And it was of this city that the prophet spoke when he prophesied that "out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

It is very inspiring to visualize the setting of this wonderful account of the birth of Jesus, and just what it meant to those people. Mary was great with child, and a long trip of that sort was a very trying ordeal for her. But the decree had to be kept regardless. "While they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered." It is not known just how long they were there in Bethlehem. But we do know that "there was no room for them in the inn." But there was a purpose in this. It was the will of God that the baby Jesus should be identified in a special manner. Thus, it was that He was born, and Mary, His mother, "wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger." I am sure that it was not pleasant to the flesh for these dear ones. But consider the value of that holy Child that was born unto them!

To the shepherds in the nearby fields watching their flocks "by night" came the angel of the Lord with this wonderful message, "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. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Try to imagine the feelings and the emotion in those lowly men's hearts as they saw and heard all of this! Try to

visualize in your mind the reality of the heavenly host praising God, and let what they said sink deep within your inmost being: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Truly, this was most wonderful to them and more so to us.

And then let us notice the reaction of these men to the heavenly vision. "Let us now go . . . and see!" "And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." What joy they felt in their souls as they beheld the holy Child lying in the manger, a sign to them that this was the long-awaited Messiah, the Saviour that God had promised! "And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered. . . ." How could they keep from telling what was so wonderful to them?

But now let us turn and look at Mary, the mother. She "kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart." Do you ever do this? Are you too busy with the cares and occupations of life that you have no time to be still and ponder on the good things that the Lord has sent us? Mary was in a blessed place and position, was she not? Although we do not worship her, we must confess that she was blessed above all women in this way. Oh, this is all so sacred and pure, so true and precious!

Now look once more at the shepherds. "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God." Oh, what joy was in their bosoms—ringing and swelling music and gladness never to be forgotten! We hear no more of these lowly shepherds, but I am sure that this night was sacred to them as long as they lived.

Despite the objection to the thought and celebration of Christmas and the disapproval of the saints with the way the world carries on at this time of year, let us not discredit the real and true meaning of the birth of Christ. There is no wrong in letting one's mind dwell on this thought on a special day, but rather there is much good. A vision of this from the Bible will inspire and bless the soul. It will remind and assure us that Jesus was born as a man-child to be the Saviour of us all. And the joy that was promised to all people can be ours also, as we worship and obey Him.

—Leslie Busbee

The Church Is An Organic Structure

When men charge us [the saints] with discarding all organization, they either knowingly or wilfully misrepresent us. As the Word teaches, so we teach. The church that Jesus purchased with His own blood, He also "built" (Matt. 16:18); that is, organized. "In whom [Christ] all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord." Eph. 2:21. These scriptures and many others clearly set forth the church of God as a symmetrical and perfectly organized structure. Of this fact there is no question; but with regard to who holds the prerogative of organizing the body, all do not so well agree.

The general teaching in sectarian theology is that God only saves and gathers men out of the world into

a general mass, and that it is the duty of ministers to form the material thus provided into organic form. We teach that God, who saves men into His church, also forms them in due order, and really organizes the church Himself. As to which position is correct, we will now appeal to the Word. A few texts will be sufficient to settle the question. The church, we have seen, is a building, a house; that is, an organic structure. Now it must be apparent to all that whoever is the architect and builder of a house organizes the same. But "He who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house." And "He that built all things is God." Heb. 3:3, 4. "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him." 1 Cor. 12:18. "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles," etc., verse 28. To furnish with organs, "built," "compact," "fitly framed together," and to "temper the body together," covers all that is included in the word organize. And, "All these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit." 1 Cor. 12:11. Yea, "It is the same God which worketh all in all." 1 Cor. 12:6. He then, through the Spirit, is the organizer of His own church.

—D. S. Warner

The "Frying Pan" Test

An angry woman with a sooty, greasy, frying pan ran out after a man of God with whom she sought to provoke a quarrel. This man was a relative of Hudson Taylor, the well-known missionary. Being a man of God, he did not threaten, nor revile her. Seeing that she was not getting any where, she rubbed the dirty frying pan vigorously on his light-colored overcoat. The sooty bottom of the frying pan and the greasy inside greatly soiled the man of God's overcoat. While she was rubbing the dirty frying pan on his overcoat, she was lashing out with her tongue many hateful, dirty words, accusing him falsely in every way she could think of. There were many looking on, and it was very amusing to them. However, James Taylor was able to pass the "frying pan" test. Turning around with a smile, he suggested that if it would make her feel any better she might smear the other side of his coat as well. This surprised the woman greatly. She became very confused and soon retired from the scene. This scene was not easily forgotten in the town and the account of it was often repeated. No wonder that the account has been passed down to us today.

Would you be able to pass the "frying pan" test as James Taylor did? Just how can we be prepared for just such times? Those things that come upon us suddenly are sometimes our greatest tests. If we hear something of disrepute about ourselves and later we face the one who had spread the untruth, we have had time to pray and get plenty of grace on hand, so we can have the right kind of attitude to face them; but those sudden things that come are things that might bring us trouble if we do not keep prayed up all the time. No wonder we have the instruction in the Bible to "pray without ceasing." That would

mean we are to continually feel our dependence upon God and at all times look to Him for that "sufficient grace." When we are prayed up, God will verify His promise which says, "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." Isaiah 59:19b. Also, we are told that "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord." Isaiah 54:17.

So, dear fellow-traveler, we can know that if we will continually look to God with faith for Him to keep us in the hour of trial, we, too, can pass the "frying pan" test. How can we have such peace? The Bible tells us. "Thou [God] wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3.

Christ is our example. "... Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps; who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth; who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." First Peter 2:21-23. Jesus remained calm and patiently endured under severe trial. We are bidden to follow in His footsteps.

But how quickly at times we are ready to defend ourselves against any accusation! Why is this? We are not living as close to the Lord as we should. But how thankful we are that the Holy Spirit is faithful to check us. When we are checked and see our need, we should then learn our lesson and look more closely to our Example. We should keep our minds stayed upon the Lord and continually be in an attitude of prayer. Remember, the devil is ever ready to be there at that time of trial to cast us down, but there is a way out for us. By the grace of God we can pass the "frying pan" test. And when we do, it encourages us to love and serve our God. We learn that God's ways are best and this gives us that inner peace that no man can take away from us.

—Sister Marie Miles

A Serious Message to Young People

Young people and children, please take notice! I am pressed to write you to stir up your minds in regard to your duty and responsibility to your parents. I trust that every one of you will be encouraged, blessed, and inspired to give heed to the Word of the Lord in what He Himself has to say to you. I know that God does talk to children. He talked to little Samuel. He talked to little David. He talked to Jeremiah, and He will, and is, talking to you. You are required, obligated and commanded to give heed, and to obey what He says.

In Exodus 20:12, He says plainly, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Eph. 6:2, "Honour thy father and mother (which is

the first commandment with promise), that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." In Matt. 15:3-6, Jesus, in conversation with the Pharisees, asked, "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; and honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition."

I am sure that God is not pleased with the manner of conduct of many young people and children today—by the way they frown and talk back to their parents. No, God is not pleased. Now God in His great love and mercy to the youth has added a precious promise to this commandment to further induce you to live in obedience to His law—the promise of long life and well-being. Yet wickedness, sin, evil doing, and disobedience are increasing in the land in these last days. Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:1, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come: for men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy." Dear young people, God is not pleased with the spirit of disobedience manifested in the lives and conduct of so many youngsters today.

Oh, how great is the love of God to all of us today! His mercy is manifest on every hand, and also His judgments. To my own knowledge, there are many young people in their graves today directly on account of being disobedient to their parents. I will mention one or two cases. One of our neighbors, a young boy, ran away from home, got in company with some more boys, and went boat riding. The boat capsized. Frank did not know how to swim. All the other boys swam to land, but Frank was drowned. I was at his funeral. In another case, a girl named Rosa slipped off from home, and went to a town in Kansas. At a party she got in a fight with some other young people, and was stabbed to death. A telegram was sent to her father, asking what should be done with the body. It was sent home for burial. I was also at this funeral. I could tell of several more cases, but will not take the time and space for now.

My prayer is that at least some of you who read this solemn message may, by giving heed to the same, have a few more years added to your lives. God's promises are true and will not fail. May God bless you now, and may we, by His miraculous love and grace, meet face to face on that Golden Shore, is my desire and prayer.

Yours in His name, —Ulysses Phillips

Crises reveal character: when we are put to the test we reveal exactly the hidden resources of our character. —Sel.

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

"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.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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EDITORIALS

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS in the precious name of the Holy Child Jesus, of whom Zacharias prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he swore to our father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." Luke 1:68-75. May God's presence abide with you now and always.

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As this last issue for the year of 1973 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 1974. 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, who reigns as 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 receive the joy and peace of salvation.

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Bro. Mark Spinks, a young minister from Shreveport, La., expressed his burden from the Lord to help us in the gospel publishing work. Accordingly, on Tuesday, Oct. 23, he arrived here at the office and has been helping in various phases of printing and publishing the gospel. His consecration and zeal for the work of the Lord is appreciated, and we pray the Lord to bless and reward his efforts in this literature ministry.

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In September, 1972, more than a year ago, Sister Bonnie Matthews, a young minister of Los Angeles, Calif., responded to the call of God, gave up her school teaching job in Los Angeles, volunteered her services, and came here to help in the publication of the

gospel by the printed page. Her Christian conduct and consecrated services unto the Lord have certainly been appreciated, and He has blessed her accordingly.

Lord willing, Sis. Bonnie Matthews will be united in marriage with Bro. Jackie Riley of Goulds, Fla., on Dec. 28, 1973, 5:30 p. m., at the Church of God chapel in Guthrie, Okla., with Bro. Lewis Williams officiating. This event will be on the last Friday of the annual Oklahoma Assembly meeting here at Guthrie. You are cordially invited to attend this ten-day meeting which begins on Dec. 21, and witness the marriage of this couple on Dec. 28.

The workers at the Lord's Printshop wish for them a long and happy life in the service of the Lord, and pray God's blessings upon this holy union.

Sister Hazel Clark, pastor at Akron, Ohio, reports that "the Word of God was most precious" when Bro. and Sister Mart Samons held a six-day meeting there which closed on October 28.

Good reports have come of the Assembly meeting (Nov. 2 to 11), at Jefferson, Oregon, where Bro. O. B. Wilson is the pastor. Out-of-state ministers were: Brothers Ira Stover, C. C. Carver, Gene Harmon, and H. P. Huskey.

Bro. Curtis Williams, evangelist from Kentucky, held a revival meeting at Enid, Okla., from November 1 to 7. The Lord anointed the messages of truth, and the Church was edified and strengthened through the preached Word for the daily battles which arise in these perilous times.

From Enid, Bro. Williams went to Anthony, Kansas, for a few services which, no doubt, were a real blessing to those in attendance.

At this writing (Nov. 12), Bro. and Sister Albert Eck and Bro. Kenneth Probst are holding a meeting here at Guthrie. The preached Word is heart-searching and instructive. Our heart says "Amen" to the blessed Bible truth which fortifies us for the battles we face in this Christian warfare.

Plan to attend the Oklahoma State Assembly meeting here at Guthrie, Okla., from December 21 to Dec. 30, 1973, during the Christmas holidays. Everyone is cordially invited. 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.

Congratulations to Brother Ira and Sister Ruby (Trimble) Stover of Tulsa, Okla., on their coming 50th wedding anniversary which will be an event of Dec. 9, 1973, Lord willing. They were married in her parents' home in Oklahoma City, Okla., on Dec. 9, 1923. Bro. Stover was a young minister at that time, and they have spent these 50 years together in the service of the Lord.

In observance of their 50th anniversary, a reception is planned for them on Saturday, Dec. 22, 1973,

between 1:30 and 5:30 p. m. at the Highland Hall in Guthrie, Okla. You are invited to come. Those who desire to send a card or letter for this occasion may address it to them in care of this office. Their home address is: 6304 South 97th Ave. West, Tulsa, Okla. 74107.

On Nov. 9, Sister Armilda Abbott wrote from Holly Hill, S. C., that Brother Abbott and the local brethren were building a new kitchen and dining room on the church campground.

Pray for Bro. and Sister Miguel Gaspar, of Baja Cfa., Mexico, in their bereavement as a result of the death of their 12-year-old daughter in a tragic accident when a bank of sand covered her where she was playing with their other children.

Beware of the occult revival that is sweeping the world. Devil-worshipping cults and Satanic rock music are increasing, and they foster more sin, crimes and degradation.

This writer and his wife, Maybelle (Miles) Pruitt, will observe, Lord willing, their 40th wedding anniversary on Nov. 18, 1973. In 1933, during the Great Depression, we were married, both at the age of 22, near Neosho, Mo., in my wife's parents' home which was directly south across the creek from the National campground at Monark Springs. Our heavenly Father has truly verified all His gracious promises to us, and we are indeed thankful for His loving care through the years. God blessed us with two sons, Byron and Harvey, who now have homes and families of their own. We have three grandchildren.

Lord willing, we expect to be in Hammond, La., on our 40th anniversary, Nov. 18, which is the first day of the annual Assembly meeting on the General Southern campground.

As this year of 1973 comes to a close (and it has gone so swiftly), we want to express again our sincere 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

THE ONLY SAFE GUIDE

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go forth and put your hand into the hand of God, and He shall be better than a light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night, and He led me toward the hills and the breaking of the day. —Selected

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

OBITUARY



Tilman Thomas Mason, Sr., one of 14 children, was born to John Henry and Eliza Mason on August 3, 1892, in Fayetteville, Arkansas. In later years, he moved with his parents to Red Bird, Okla. Bro. Mason departed this life on July 20, 1973, at his home in Bristow, Okla.

Brother Mason was united in holy matrimony to Miss Lula G. Parker on March 14, 1915. To this union were born ten children—four children preceded him in death. His wife also preceded him in death.

Brother Mason was saved in the Church of God and baptized in the early spring of 1972, at Wichita, Kansas. He was a devoted husband and father—a friendly and kind-hearted person. His home was always open to the saints, friends and loved ones. He seemed to find joy in visiting the sick and helping others. He will be greatly missed for his deeds of kindness, love and hospitality expressed to others.

He leaves to cherish his memory: two sons, Clifford, of Bristow, Okla., and Tilman, Jr., of Wichita, Kansas; four daughters, Henryetta Crawford, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Viola Williams, and Ernestine Gates, of Wichita, Kansas, and Bernice Jackson, of Bristow, Okla.; one sister, Nettie Broadway, Omaha, Neb.; thirty-one grandchildren, thirty-two great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

"We watched you slowly fade away;
We tried so hard to make you stay,
But God was watching from above,
And took you Home to share His love."

The funeral service was conducted at Bristow, Okla., by Brother Lewis Williams, and the burial was also at Bristow.

MEETING REPORT SEVENTY YEARS AGO

Simpson, La., (Dec. 2)—Dear saints of God: Again I can report victory in my soul over all the power of sin and darkness. To God be all the praise! My last report was written last July from the Hammond campmeeting. Through June, July, and August, I was permitted to be away from home but very little on the account of sickness in my home, from which God alone delivered us. On August 28th, I was permitted to attend the Simpson campmeeting. At this campmeeting, Bro. George Coplin and J. A. Knight joined me in the Lord's work. Since that time we have been holding meetings from place to place. The Lord has been using Bro. Coplin and Bro. Knight in His work, as Bro. Knight is a gospel singer. Our next meeting was at Kentwood, La., where the Lord gave us a very precious meeting. From Kentwood, we went to Hutson, Miss., where the Lord was with us again. From Hutson, we went to the Shepard schoolhouse in Kemper Co., Miss. The saints were greatly benefited and a few souls were saved. We then came to Emmet, Miss., where we held an assembly meeting from Oct. 23rd to Nov. 1st.

At this place God freely manifested His power in saving souls and healing the sick. The Lord truly made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. From Emmet, we came back to my home and held three meetings. We also held three days' meeting at Welcome, La., twelve miles east of my home. From Welcome, we came back home, where we spent one week working with our hands.

Nov. 15th, we came to New Orleans and spent four days with the church in this city. At this place, we were privileged to meet three of the brethren from White Castle, La., among whom was Bro. Andrew Brown, whose calling to the ministry was recognized by the laying on of hands of the presbytery, thus ordaining him. See 1 Tim. 3:1-7; 4:14; Titus 1:5. We recommend him to all the saints as a New Testament minister. May God bless him and use him to His glory is my prayer. From New Orleans, we came to Campbell Creek, where we held meeting from Nov. 20-29. Some good was accomplished at this place. We came here to Simpson, La., last night and commenced meeting in Jesus' name. Let all the saints pray for the Lord's work here in the South. There is room for more true gospel workers here. The Lord willing, I will return home Dec. 8th. Bros. Coplin and Knight, very likely, will remain here in these parts for a short while, and then join me again in the Lord's work in Mississippi.

Your Brother in the One Body of Christ, saved by two works of grace, —F. M. Williamson, Hammond, La.

(Report published in the "Gospel Trumpet," dated December 17, 1903. Bro. Frank Williamson, a pioneer minister of the Church of God, has descendants and relatives in that area who still stand for the Bible truth that he taught and practiced.—Editor)

GREEN PASTURES, OKLA. MEETING REPORT

The Lord showered Green Pastures, Okla., 57th and Denver Streets, with another glorious revival on Oct. 5 to 14. The messages were so rich, instructive and convicting. Several young people were saved. Others, young and old, sought for spiritual help. We desire your earnest prayers that they will keep encouraged.

Out-of-state ministers attending were: Bros. Eugene Fields, Mackey Francisco, and Sister Velma Smith from California; Bro. Henry Effinger from Alabama, and Bro. Lewis Williams from Kansas. The prayers, attendance, and support of all the saints were surely appreciated. Bro. Herman Kelly is the pastor. —Icelye Tillman, Sec'y.

WICHITA, KANSAS MEETING REPORT

Our fall meeting (Oct. 26 to Nov. 4), at Wichita, Kansas, was a glorious one, and we thank and praise our God! The Holy Spirit guided, directed, convicted, and convinced. There was much altar work with many saints seeking deeper depths, greater understanding and an increase in faith. Some also sought for sanctification. We are also glad to report that more than a dozen sinners repented of their sins and found peace. There was much rejoicing because these dear ones yielded. Some were backsliders returning home to Zion, and we trust they will remain faithful. Let us all pray earnestly that they will hold fast to this great salvation and grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The preached Word was anointed and delivered with such love and conviction. A sweet spirit prevailed in the meeting, and humility was quite evident. We are thank-

ful for each and every saint who came from far and near to be with us in the battle. We had a total of 12 ministers from other places who attended at one time or another and nine of them brought forth messages. We thank the Lord for each one of them. We give God the glory for a victorious meeting. Brother Lewis Williams is the pastor.
—Submitted by Shirley Knight

Prayer Requests

Texas—"Mother [Sister Jewell Whitley] is still down. She has lost over 100 pounds this year, but God is merciful. Her severe suffering is not as much as it has been in the past. We would love to see her healed—up and walking around again."
—Sister Anecia Dutton

Oklahoma—"We need your prayers. . . . Wife isn't doing very well; she says she stays so dizzy and her stomach gives her trouble."
—Alvan F. Foster

Calif—"Please pray for me. I have an earnest request for myself."
—Amelia Smith

Miss—"I have an afflicted foot that has a place on it that does not heal as it should. . . . I need help for my body. . . . Remember my wife. She is not well."
—Harold Griffin

Mo—"Sister Edith Robinson's granddaughter, Robin, . . . has a serious affliction. The Lord has helped her wonderfully, but still needs prayer. . . . She fell out of a car going about 60 miles per hour. She was really cut and scratched up. . . . She healed up quickly, which was unusual. They said to let the saints know how they appreciated their prayers."
—Sister Evodna Marler

We have a number of requests from parents who want prayer for their teen-age children who need God. The devil is working overtime these last days to entrap the young people. We need to pray much for the saints' children that they will have a love for the truths of God's Word and resist the enemy of their souls. Some young people have also written for prayer. Their burdens are real and many of them are heavy. Do pray for them. They have some very important decisions to make that will affect their whole life. We deeply appreciate those young people who are living for God in this world where there are many pulling for them to partake of the things in the world.
—Sister Marie Miles

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 67th annual Oklahoma State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, at Guthrie, Okla., on Dec. 21 to Dec. 30, 1973, 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 the 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 2, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual California Assembly meeting of the Church of God, located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California, will convene, Lord willing, December 21, and continue through December 30, 1973. A most hearty welcome is extended to each one. We are looking to God to send Spirit-filled ministers of His choosing.

Pray much for this meeting that there will be another harvesting of souls as God so graciously granted to us in our campmeeting.

For further information, contact Bro. Robert Sherman, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA., phone 213-899-2022; or Bro. James Pierro, 11316 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima, CA., phone 213-896-7771.
—Anneta Luehring, Sec.

Foreign Field Reports

LETTER FROM BAJA CFA., MEXICO

Baja Cfa., Mexico (Oct. 26)—Bro. Pruitt: May the peace of God be in your heart and in all hearts, is my prayer to God every day for all the saints. . . .

My brother, God has called us to work in His building, the church, and it is something marvelous to one being as ignorant as I am. He called me by His divine grace and entrusted me to work in His building just as He has entrusted you and many other brethren who have been called of God. . . .

My brother, I am much encouraged in my soul. God has blessed me much in these days. . . . I still need much prayer, for the burden of my heart is for souls, and I want to work only for God and souls. . . .

I thank you for the offering you sent. All of your offerings are used in the work of God, and all are used with wisdom. May God bless all of you in soul and body. Greet every one for me.
—Tomas Mendoza

LETTER FROM INTERIOR MEXICO MISSION

Michoacan, Mexico (Nov. 4)—My beloved brethren: We answer your letter dated Oct. 18. Greetings from all the brethren here who are praying much. For my part, I give thanks for all the blessings that we have received. I thank the Lord that He protects us in the midst of much tribulation.

Thanks to you for your prayers and sincere efforts to support this gospel work here. I am certain that all my brethren have a burden for the souls here who suffer tremendous misery in sin. Pray for us.

Your Brother,

—Irineo Rama

MISSION LETTER FROM INDIA

S. India (Oct. 21)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings to you and the Church in America in the lovely name of Jesus Christ who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.

Thank you very much for your good letter dated October 2, 1973, and the enclosures were noted with overflowing gratitude. Many thanks for your earnest prayers

and concern for the urgent needs of the Church in India. Our Lord who knew all about the extremities of the widow of Zarephath and supplied her needs at the time of severe famine is still living. In the same manner He is caring for the Church in India day by day in these days of severe famine. Thousands of praises to Him!

The work of Satan is going forward with great speed in these times of war and distress of nations. Beloved, we are not called to a life of ease, but to a life of commitment. On the Christian path, we often meet storms and rough weather. Certainly these are times to prove our trust in the Lord. He has said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but he of good cheer; I have overcome the world." We have the promise that He is able to keep us from falling. (Jude 24). "The trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:7). These are words which make me happy, and in these days I cling more to Him at all costs. The Lord permits troubles and rough times in our lives to strengthen us. I pray God to give us the spirit of Job who said, "Though he slay me yet will I trust him." "I know my Redeemer liveth." Praise the Lord!

From December onward, Lord willing, we wish to conduct meetings at various places, such as Calicut, Niranam, Avoor and Thrikkannamangal, and a general meeting at Karikkom in the first week of January, 1974. More copies of tracts and some new tracts are to be printed to distribute at these meetings. These services are planned by faith—by looking to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith, and who is the source and treasurer of all. We surely expect the prayers of the dear saints in America. Our aim is the salvation of more perishing souls.

Whenever we assemble together, it is our practice to pray for the spiritual and physical blessing of the Church in America. . . . May the Lord safeguard all of us from sin and Satan until He comes again, is our prayer.

Your younger Brother in Christ, —John Varghese

NIGERIAN MISSIONS ARE BUILDING PERMANENT CHAPELS

Bro. Brownson U. Udemé wrote on Nov. 1 that the new permanent chapel at Ukpom, Nigeria (pictured in the October issue of this paper) is not completely finished. Besides the need for doors, windows and a veranda, the building is not floored nor ceiled. This congregation, and several other mission stations which have started to build permanent chapels, are not financially able to complete their places of worship. Let us ask the Lord what He would have us to do to help our brethren in the Church of God in Nigeria to complete these worthy projects.

—Editor

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Southeast State, Nigeria (Nov. 3)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, workers in the Printshop, and saints scattered everywhere: Greetings of love to you and all in the wonderful name of our Lord of lords and great King of kings who came down from heaven to save us from the bondage of Satan. Let us rejoice that He accomplished the work and returned to heaven with the promise that He will come again and receive us unto Himself, that where He is there we will be also! What a wonderful promise to encourage us to be faithful to the end! He won't fail to fulfill this promise, for He has never failed.

Thanks immensely for your letter of Oct. 2, 1973, together with the contents. These were received in good

faith and the month's "Faith and Victory" paper is again good food to souls.

We are enjoying the blessings of the Lord and continuing to expand His work to reach many of the unreached while the Lord delays His second coming at which time the unrighteous will receive everlasting punishment. How sad they all will be!

Next month we will assemble here at the main mission station to observe our 12th annual campmeeting for four days (December 13-16, 1973). It is hoped that someone from there will come to attend this important meeting as we requested in our last letter in October. We know your representation will mean much to all and encouraging to souls. Our souls long for you.

Our prayers are ascending to the throne of grace for all of you and the work.

Yours in the Precious Bond,

—Ben E. Udoka

From The Mail Box . . .

Virginia—Enclosed is a small contribution to be used for the Lord as needed. I look forward to the "Faith and Victory" each month. I pray the Lord will bless everyone at the Publishing House in the wonderful work that you are doing. Please keep the paper coming to me.

A Sister in Christ,

—Mrs. W. J. Outland

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Maryland—Dear saints there and everywhere: Greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. This leaves me still encouraged to live for the dear Lord. Pray for me that I will always do those things that are pleasing to our heavenly Father.

I had the pleasure of attending Bro. Samons' tent meeting last June in Arbovale, W. Va. We had some wonderful services. Several souls were saved and a number helped spiritually, including myself.

Please pray for my unsaved relatives that they will see their need of salvation before it is too late. . . .

Pray for my healing, as I am not well in body, but I know the Lord can and will heal.

May God bless all the dear saints and keep the good work going, is my prayer.

Christian love,

—Sister Myrtle Warner

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

S. Carolina—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings of love to you and all of the saints at the Print Shop: I still love the truth, the blessed old Bible, salvation, and the One Family of God who are standing for the whole truth of the Bible. Praise the Lord!

I surely do enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. I received the roll of papers today. I am trying to help spread them into homes where people do not know the truth of the one Church of God.

I pray God's blessings upon the saints at the Print Shop who are sending the Word of God into all nations of the world. May God bless you in that work that it will go on until Jesus comes. I believe that the time is at hand, so I want to be doing something for Jesus when He comes. Pray much for me that God will ever keep me standing for the whole truth of God's Word until He comes for His saints. . . .

—Bro. Eddie Driggers

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and all the saints, greetings: This leaves us encouraged in the Lord. He has done so much for us. Michael was sick last night, and didn't sleep very much. He has a cold and coughs so much, but he has been better today. Bro. and Sister Murphy Allen were here for dinner today [Nov. 6] and prayed

for Michael. He has so much confidence in Bro. Allen. He believes he will be all right now. I trust he will be able to sleep well tonight.

We are enclosing a check for our Bible Lessons. We do appreciate the lessons. They are a real blessing to us.

We trust all there are well. We were happy to have some of the Guthrie saints at Myrtle, Mo., last Sunday. We had a good singing and all-day services.

—Sister Eula, Bro. Leslie Adams, and boys

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

Kansas—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus: We pray God will give you that extra strength and courage you need along life's way. God is so good to us. I feel so unworthy of God's goodness to me. I love Him for it.

I was glad to get your letter and the tracts. I certainly enjoy the "Faith and Victory."

Sometimes I wonder why God's children have such great suffering. Then I think that none of us have suffered as much as Jesus did for us. But if we will just keep true, heaven will be worth it all.

May the good Lord bless each one of you as you labor for Him.

—Sister Mamie Norcutt

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

Illinois—Greetings in Jesus' name to all who are working at the Lord's printshop: We are sending a small Thanksgiving offering as unto the Lord and for you to see that it is used where it is most needed.

I hope you, Bro. Lawrence and Sister Marie, are feeling better. We are both feeling fairly well even though we are both past eighty years of age.

May God bless you all for the work you are doing at the printshop, getting out the truth of the Word of our living God and Redeemer.

Best wishes from,

—Carl and Karen Gimse

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

Texas—Dear Sister Marie: We were so happy to hear you are able to be back in the office again. The Lord is so good to all of His trusting children. I think of how I suffered with arthritis so very bad about fifteen years ago, and how the Lord healed me of every bit of it, and also many other things down through the years. We have much to thank and praise Him for.

If only everyone could get hold of the power of God! It's so hard, it seems, for people to trust the unseen, and how much we do need that trust and confidence! We know each one will have to enter the unseen world and I do want to have confidence and not be afraid. I am thankful that I have tested and tried the promises in the Word of God and found them to be true.

I heard of the wonderful meeting and singing at Myrtle, Mo. I'm sure they all enjoyed the fellowship, but wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone could have a burden to go to some of the small places that Bro. Mart Samons mentioned in the last issue of the "Faith and Victory"? I feel a burden for the isolated few, scattered here and there, who are hungry for the truth. There are many lonely hearts who long to be with even one saint. May our hearts be stirred to move out more and leave our comfortable homes.

Christian love,

—Edith Wall

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

Ill.—Dear ones in Christ: You will note my new address. I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. I pray God to heal all your afflictions. . . .

Yours for the truth,

—Myrtle Nelson

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

Wisconsin—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers, greetings in Christian love: The Lord has surely been good

to us. I appreciate your prayers on my behalf. The Lord has cleared up the illness for which I phoned for prayer. Also, He has given me much relief from the trouble with my hip.

I feel the Lord would have me tarry here for several reasons. . . . The Lord has burdened me to try to help some young people here. Also, He has given me the opportunity to extend the study of the Spanish language which is very profitable.

The time slips away so rapidly. I surely want to serve the Lord by being of service to the saints in any way I can. I surely miss the fellowship of the saints.

Lord willing, I will be down for the assembly meeting at Christmas.

I pray that this finds all of you well and prospering in the Lord.

Love in Christ,

—Bro. George Hammond

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

Texas—Dear Sister Marie and co-workers: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am so happy to report that God is so good to me and has wonderfully healed my arm, but it was a battle. Now I have another battle, but God is blessing and I'm trusting Him to heal this, too. I desire the prayers of the saints.

I would like to have a tract on sanctification, as I don't understand it as I would like to. . . . Pray for me that I may be faithful and go all the way with Jesus. . . .

Yours for Christ,

—Mrs. Lessie Speed

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

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer



Ark.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of Christian love to you, the workers and saints abroad: I am happy to be saved and pressing onward and upward on the highway of holiness. Oh, yes, I learn more and more as I travel on this pilgrim way. I get so much joy and happiness as I go. I want more spiritual strength to go against the wiles of the devil when they appear. I solicit your prayers that I may be faithful to the end. . . .

I am praying for you that this work may prosper.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Cherry R. Alba

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

Mo.—Dear saints: This subscription expired some time ago and we surely have missed the paper, too. I'm sending a check. Use the remainder as needed, and send us the paper for three more years.

We are surely thankful for all God's blessings to us. It's just wonderful what God has done for Junior's dad [Bro. Audie Sorrell]. The doctor said, "You were supposed to be a dead man, and now you are going home." It is wonderful to know he can walk again, feed himself, have his right mind, laugh and enjoy others around him. He says he sees only the "bulk" of things. We are all praying that his sight will improve. Still remember him in prayer.

With love,

—Doris and Junior Sorrell

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

Calif.—Greetings to the saints: Thank the Lord for answering prayer in my behalf. On Tuesday, Oct. 23rd, on my 75th birthday, I went to a store with my husband to look at a stove. I took suddenly sick and it seemed I would pass out at any time. He took me home and put me to bed. I couldn't ask for prayer, but the Lord sent Sister Willa Oglesby by and she and Bro. and Sister Alvin Lucas prayed for me. I got relief, but I was so restless. I didn't know just what was going to happen, yet I had no fear. I had taken a spiritual inventory ahead of time

to see if there was anything between God and me so I could get it out of the way, but I found nothing in the way. Praise His holy name! I'm glad I can say of a truth that I am saved, sanctified, satisfied, and healed without a shadow of a doubt or fear. I am ready to meet my God who loves me, I know, because He is real down in my soul.

Yours in Christian love, —Sister Flora B. Davis

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

Fla.—Dear ones at the Printshop and other saints: I want to thank the saints for their prayers. I want to testify of God's wonderful blessings to me.

On Oct. 15th, I had an awful pain in the back of my head. I didn't know what the hurting was, but about 3 a. m. I got to sleep. The next morning when I got up I realized I had had a light stroke in the night. My mouth was drawn over sideways and my right eye would not close, which made it smart, burn, water, and be very uncomfortable. I couldn't hold water in my mouth or swallow very well. I didn't have any control of the muscles in my face, but thank the Lord, it was just in my face. We went to prayer about it. I wrote to several of the saints, and on Sunday I called Guthrie for prayer. I began to get better, and now you would never know I ever had anything the matter. We are so glad our Healer is the very best, and we do give Him all the glory.

—Marie Lindner

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

Illinois—Dear Brother Pruitt, greetings in our Lord Jesus Christ: I am sending a Thanksgiving offering for the Lord's work there. I hope everything there is going well.

I am requesting prayer, as neither of us is well in body and we need a touch of healing power. Pray also for our children. . . .

I want to thank God for reaching down His merciful hand to me twelve years ago this month and lifting me out of the depths of sin and starting me on the road to heaven. Praise His holy name! My only regret is that I gave far too much of my life to the devil. My advice to you who do not know the Lord is to call upon Him in repentance while you have time.

Your Brother in Christ, —William White

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

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus: It was good to get your letter.

I want to thank all the saints for their prayers in my behalf. I thank God for answering our prayers. I am feeling better now. I hope you are all well. What a wonderful God we serve!

May God bless all of you.

With Christian love, —Sister Mamie Butcher

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

Kansas—Dear Bro. Lawrence: This letter leaves us encouraged, and satisfied in Jesus. We do appreciate His many benefits that belong to His trusting children. Surely, it pays to trust in Him who has proved faithful in all generations. The Psalmist David said, "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the man that trusteth in him." Psalm 34:8.

We have experienced recently special blessings of healing in our family. Donnie's bronchial trouble had arisen again. Remembering the time six years ago when he had double pneumonia and was near death, we witnessed the Lord's hand was not short to send His healing power through his body. We prayed and trusted Him as before, and the Lord healed him again. LaVonda has had a severe stomach ailment for several weeks that seemed like ulcers. She was anointed and prayed for last Sun-

day night and claimed her healing. She went to school this morning encouraged. No wonder the prophets proclaimed, "His name shall be called Wonderful."

We do appreciate the paper and receive much encouragement from it. Do remember us as we do you folks and the work there.

Much Christian love,

—Bro. Donald and Sister Lois Sharp, and family

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

Ohio—Greetings to all: I thank the Lord that He had mercy on me, reached down and lifted me out of the deep, miry clay, and surely He settled my feet in the strait, narrow way. Jesus had mercy on me and delivered me from sin.

I am a 14-year-old boy who got saved on April 7, 1973, and I am enjoying all the blessings of salvation. Also, I thank God that He sanctified my nature.

As I go along to Glory, I have passed through many trials and temptations, but thank God, He kept me with victory.

May the Lord bless all of you, and may His peace and love be given in abundance.

Your Brother,

—Kevin Cornelius

"Reverend Is His Name"

Whose name is Reverend? It is striking that the word, "reverend," is found only once in the Bible, and that in reference to God. It appears in Psalm 111:9: "He sent redemption unto his people: He hath commanded his covenant forever: holy and reverend is his name." This verse clearly tells us that God's name is reverend and we never find any other name in the Scriptures called thus. How then can any mortal man, be he ever so godly and worthy of esteem, be given or take a title which is given only to God in His Word? Reverend is an attribute which belongs only to God. The word is never used in connection with any servant of God in the Old or New Testaments, and therefore this title should never be used by any servant of God today, or given by any one to any minister.

The Word of God surely teaches that Christ's servants and ministers should be esteemed and honored. 1 Thess. 5:12, 13 says: "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you: and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake." And 1 Timothy 5:17 exhorts that even "the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." But nowhere in the Bible is there even a hint given that they who labor thus should be called "Reverend," etc. Our esteem and honor is not to be shown by giving them a title that belongs only to God. This is irreverence of Him and certainly displeasing to the One to whom all honor and glory belong.

The words of C. H. Spurgeon are worthy of note in this connection: "There are a great many reverend, very reverend, and right reverend sinners in the world. For myself, I desire to be known henceforth simply as a servant of God, and I want my walk and conver-

sation to prove that I am His servant indeed. If I, the servant of God, am to be esteemed in any measure by my fellow-Christians, it shall not be because in front of my name an attribute stolen from God has been placed by an ordaining council."

God spoke of Moses in these words—"My servant Moses . . . is faithful in all mine house." (Numbers 12:7). What a great honor this is: to be called by God "my servant." So the apostles in prayer to God spoke of themselves as "Thy servants." (Acts 4:29). And in Phil. 1:1, Paul and Timotheus called themselves "the servants of Jesus Christ." Surely, this honor is enough.

The Lord said to His disciples: "Be not ye called Rabbi [Master or Teacher]: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant." (Matthew 23:8-11). Certainly these words are plain enough against all present-day ministerial titles.

Even way back in the days of Job, Elihu said: "Let me not, I pray you, accept any man's person, neither let me give flattering titles unto man. For I know not to give flattering titles: in so doing my Maker would soon take me away." (Job 32:21, 22). It is surely out of place for followers of the rejected and crucified Saviour to bear flattering titles. We are rather to expect to receive abusive titles from the world as did our Lord. "Doctor of Divinity" was never given as a title by the Holy Spirit to any man. The word "pastor" (with a small p), describes the nature of one of the gifts from the Lord and is not used as a title in the Scriptures.

Has the reader learned to give reverence and honor unto the Lord God? Do you know Him as the One who has "sent redemption unto his people" and who "hath commanded his covenant forever"? If you do not know God as the One who has sent His Son to be your Saviour and Redeemer, we would here lovingly direct your attention to His wonderful salvation for you in Christ Jesus, "Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world." (Galatians 1:4).

You need to be redeemed from your sins if you would go to heaven and be eternally blessed. God's Word says in 1 Peter 1:18, 19: "Knowing that ye were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers; but with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ." (Revised Version). This is the only way to be redeemed and saved. The blood of Christ is the only payment that will satisfy God about your sins. Will you accept it and Himself as yours?

If you come as a sinner to God and trust in Christ's shed blood for your redemption, you will then know the blessings of His covenant which He hath commanded forever. We are told of these covenant blessings in Heb. 10:16: "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord,

I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them: and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

Then when you are redeemed by the blood of Christ and know your sins are forgiven, you will praise the Lord for His great salvation and proclaim, "Holy and reverend is HIS name." Yes, He alone is worthy of all honor, reverence, praise, and glory. He is a "jealous God" and His glory He will not give to another. (Deut. 5:9; Isaiah 42:8). —R. K. C.

A Warning To the Holy Remnant

God has always worked through and with His people. In the very beginning, God created man in order that He might have intelligent beings to commune with. The beloved Apostle John wrote, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." If this holy man of God rejoiced to know that his children walked in truth, how much more do you suppose that the God of heaven rejoices to know that His children walk in truth! Their hearts are open to His every wish, gladly obeying Him in all things.

Yet the Prophet Isaiah, after writing of the tender mercies of God toward an ever-rebellious people, cried out, "The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while: our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary." Isa. 63:18.

Every reformation that has been ordained by God has run well for a time, but after numbers and more convenient things increased, their love seemed to wax cold and worldliness crept in, causing their downfall. And the sad result was just another sect in Babylon.

Bro. C. E. Orr wrote years ago, "Satan is doing what he can to bring the world into this movement." Dear ones, Satan is not dead. He is doing his best to cause the downfall of the holy remnant. We must not fail, for there are but a few days until time shall be no more. If we fail, hundreds will be lost. If we follow the same road that other movements followed, do you think that we shall fare better than they?

The greater portion of the "evening light" Reformation went down over what they termed "little, no-harm" things. Brethren, we must preach and practice the same truth that brought this reformation to where it was in Bro. Warner's day. Bro. C. E. Orr in his article, "Not A New Movement," makes this statement about the work of Bro. D. S. Warner, "His teaching, both preaching and writing, abounded in denunciation of worldliness in dress."

Dear ones, in the early days of this great work that brought many out into the glorious truth of these last days, those who would not measure up to the high standard as taught by the ministry were not allowed to hold responsible positions among the saints. Today some are calling the same truths that were taught by the early reformers of the "evening light" just "traditions," while ignoring them and teaching others to do so. Brethren, we should cry out and spare not.

It is an abomination in the sight of God and His true saints when ministers and gospel workers, such as Sunday school teachers and superintendents, lift up bare arms while singing the songs of Zion.

God's wrath is poured out upon every fallen movement. The wrath of God brings everlasting woe upon all those who leave the fountain of living waters and hew out cisterns, "broken cisterns that can hold no water." The early reformers who broke with Rome ran well for a short time, but they soon fell and turned God's judgments into "wormwood." We should profit by observing the pitfalls into which every God-called people have fallen, from the beginning until this remnant of the "evening light" truth, and boldly take our stand for God's truth, defying men and devils.

In the eleventh chapter of Revelation we have an account of the "two witnesses" coming into great power and authority, "and they stood upon their feet," bringing wonderful blessings upon all that obeyed the "Word" and the "Spirit" as the anointed messages fell from the lips of God-called men and women. But sad to say, a compromise was soon to hit. The thirteenth verse reads, "And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand; and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven."

"The same hour"—the same hour in which the two witnesses "stood upon their feet." This is the hour of judgment—a period of time to judge Babylon. The messenger angels of chapter 14 represent the "evening light" ministers. One of these angels cried out, "Fear God and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come." The following angel cried out, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen."

The "earthquake" signifies the fall of the greater portion of the "evening light" saints, known as the Gospel Trumpet people. But praise God, there was a remnant! "The remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven." To be affrighted is to have the fear of God at heart. Those who exercise the fear of God, give Him glory.

Holy remnant, we should fear God and give Him glory. And we will, if we love Him above everything else. We must cry out against all phases of sin. "It's the little foxes that spoil the vine." If we do not stand together with godly fear in our hearts, we shall become just another compromise movement.

The dictionary definition for compromise: "Settle a dispute by agreeing that each will give up a part of what he demands." Also, compromise is anything halfway between two different things. A half truth and a half lie is a compromise. To leave the strait and narrow way, taking a side road, is to compromise.

Worldliness: Following after the fads and fashions of the world to the extent that one displeases God in his ways and actions. A dictionary definition: of or pertaining to this world; not heaven. Or caring much for the pleasures and interests of this world.

If we follow the Lord at a distance, we will not fear and love Him as we should. And we will become easy prey for the enemy. The truth that will keep

us in the narrow way must be held before us at all times. When the minister fails to preach on a given line, it is soon noticed that his followers let down and begin to compromise on that line of truth.

Someone has well said: "Everyone loves that most without him, which is most suitable to that within him." The "undress" is a picture of the heart.

Dear ones, ever seek more and more of Christ. If one is complete in Him, he will love this truth just as it was preached in the early days of this precious "evening light."

—H. P. Huskey

Why Some People Do Not Get Healed

"And Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Mark 9:23.

We find the father bringing a demon-possessed son to Jesus, realizing that Jesus was the only source for his help. So we hear this father saying to Jesus after giving a description of the case, "If thou canst do anything for us, have compassion on us, and help us."

You will notice that this man came to the right place for help, yet his approach was wrong to receive anything from God. Jesus signified this by His answer to the father of this demon-possessed son. The father's approach was as follows: "If thou canst do anything." This question mark prevented Jesus from doing anything, yet Jesus was willing. This "if" of the father closed up the only source through which our Lord works—namely, faith.

Jesus' answer solved the problem: "If thou canst believe." A petition with an "if" in it is not a petition of faith. Jesus plainly told him, if he would believe. I can hear someone say, "That does not fit my case, because I always have said that I believed that Jesus could do anything." Yet you ask that man the question, "Do you believe the Word of God?" He will answer you, "Yes, of course I do," but with a look as if he almost thought it to be an insult to ask him this question. Then you ask him, "How much of the Bible do you believe?" He will answer, "All of it, to be sure." Then if you believe it all, you must believe James 5:14, 15: "Is there any sick among you? Let them call for the elders of the church, let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up."

Then the question comes to this same sick person, "Do you believe that if we obey this Scripture in full the Lord will raise you up as He promised?" And the answer comes back, "I cannot say in regard to that." He just got through saying that he believed all of the Bible, yet the very first test showed plainly that he was an unbeliever when it came to appropriating the promise to himself, which is the only way that we can receive healing to our bodies. It is easy to say that we believe the Bible or believe God. The Word tells us that the devils believe and tremble

(James 2:18), but they did not have the faith that would bring deliverance.

Lack of Vision Prevents Healing

The lack of the right kind of vision keeps people from being healed. Some people have a vision all right, but their vision sees the giant, disease. It looks so large to them they cannot see around it or under it. It looks so large to them they cannot see the Lord or their deliverance from all manner of diseases. This person has plenty of faith, but his faith is anchored in his diseases, and his faith is so steadfast in his diseases that he hangs to it and lays claim to it until it is impossible for the Lord to deliver him from it.

Jesus did not say to this father of the demon-possessed son, "If thou canst believe that the son is still possessed with demons after we pray, he will be delivered." No, "If thou canst believe my words, all things will be possible to him that believeth." Someone says, "How can I know it is done?" I can tell you how you can know it is not done. By not believing God until you feel some demonstration or until you see that you are healed. The Word of God did not say, "Have faith in your eyes," or, "faith in your feelings." It said, "Have faith in God." Faith counts it done because God said that He would do it when we meet certain conditions in His Word. The Word did not say anything about the fact of feelings or sight as evidence (Mark 11:24) or, "Therefore whatsoever ye desire when you say your prayers." NO, "when you pray [the prayer of faith] believe that you receive them, and you shall have them." You cannot claim your disease and healing at the same time any more than you can claim victory and defeat at the same time. Believe Jesus heals you for no other reason than the fact that He promised to heal you (James 5:14, 15). Claim your healing on the authority of God's Word (Mark 11:24). —O. L. Y.

I WANT TO BE LIKE HIM



I want to be like my Jesus,
For He is so good to me.
He paid for my redemption
On the cross of Calvary.

He came and gently sought me
When out in sin I trod,
He never will forsake me,
But lead me Home to God.

Thank God, I found my Saviour,
So tender, kind and true.
May we strive to be more like Him
In everything we do.

Let us help some weary sinner
To find this peace of heart,
That only the loving Saviour gives
When from sin he does depart.

—Flora Hinzman

The Midnight Cry

"And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Matt. 25:6. Christ is the bridegroom, and is soon coming as He said. Both saved and unsaved will hear this awful, solemn cry, and will then be compelled to face the judgment. But the most important question is: Where shall I be? Shall I be reckoned with the foolish whose lamps have burned dry? or shall I stand re-deemed with my lamp brightly burning?

We do not know why the Lord used the term "midnight" here in connection with His return unless it was to convey to the minds of the wise the fact that great spiritual darkness would be prevailing. Truly there is much light shining in the world for those who want it, but men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil. When I was first saved, I marvelled at the great darkness by which I had been surrounded, and I had been unaware that it was darkness until the Lord opened my eyes. Surely it is midnight darkness. The world is in an awful condition; and just at the very instant when the cry is made, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh," some husband and wife will be quarreling; someone will be drinking intoxicating liquor; someone will be backbiting his neighbor; someone will be accusing and fault-finding the brethren; someone will be trying to gain a higher position by pushing and crowding others; someone will be speaking unkindly to his fellow beings; someone will be committing adultery; someone will be taking his neighbor's life; some will be taking that which does not belong to them; and numbers will be claiming to follow the Lord, but living to please the flesh and will not really have an experience of salvation. Sometimes I shudder when I think of the many evils that are going on around me; and I see and know of a very small per cent. How it must grieve God, who sees and knows everything!

It seems that some think they will get by if they can make their fellowmen think they are all right. Jesus had many rebukes for this class of people when He was here. He said they appeared before men to be righteous, but He called them hypocrites. There will be many hypocrites when the midnight cry is made. Some of these hypocrites claim they are saved but not sanctified and use the fact that they are not sanctified to cover things in their lives that they know are not right. Some of them pretend to be seeking for sanctification, but never seem to gain the experience. Why? God knows the heart. They want a little of the pride of life, and to enjoy some fleshly pleasures; they want to love the things of this world, give way to their ill feelings and hold grudges against others, gossip, and backbite. "The hypocrite's hope shall perish." If one is not clear from all known sins, he is not saved; his lamp is empty. There is no satisfaction nor eternal profit in trying to appear to be what we are not. We should live unto the Lord and not unto men. If we wear some article of dress for pride before worldly people, we may as well wear it

before the saints even if we do know they will count us unsaved for doing so, because God counts us unsaved if we have the desire in our hearts, and His opinion is what counts. His Word says if we love the things of the world, the love of the Father is not in us. If we are cross at home, we do not need to put on a pious face around others and act like we would never speak an unkind word, for God heard the words at home. Some guard their speech quite closely when around Christian people, but join in with slang, jesting, and joking when around others who indulge in it. We ought to guard our speech more around worldly people than we do around the righteous, for we need to be an example and to point them to the right way. If we are pure in heart, our speech will always be pure; and we will not be under a strain for fear we will say any wrong words when in the presence of the righteous. If some people could be known by others as God knows them, they would not appear in daylight. They would be ashamed to let their wives or husbands see them as they really are. These little thoughts and deeds of impurity and deceitfulness, if allowed, will surely cluster around our minds and hearts like cancers; and cancers of the soul should be as nauseating to us as cancers of the body, or more so. We ought to live as pure and conscientiously every day as we would want to be living when the cry is made. Salvation makes men or women appear to be just what they really are, and only those who have salvation will be ready when the Lord comes. God is light, and in Him and His people there is no darkness.

People are becoming accustomed to being warned about the coming of the Lord and the midnight cry, and it is becoming as an old tale to them. People would live quite differently if they really believed from the heart that they would have to stand before the flaming bar of God to give an account of the way they have spent their time here. Unbelief along this line is another sign that the midnight hour is fast approaching. And yet we hesitate to call it total unbelief, for even though they act like they do not believe it, yet their actions in times of a sudden calamity show that they really do believe, and that there is an instinct in each heart to make them know that at the coming of the Lord there will be "tribulations and anguish upon every soul of man that doeth evil . . . but glory, honour, and peace to every man that worketh good . . . For there is no respect of persons with God." Romans 2:9-11.

We are told that in the summer of 1952 during the Bakersfield, California earthquake, many thought the Lord was coming and began to pray and confess their sins. One woman was living in adultery with another woman's husband. She had justified herself in this condition until the earth began to shake, then she cried out, "Oh, Lord, if I had known you were coming so soon, I would not have been living here with this man!" But when the earthquake was over and all seemed quiet again, she settled down in her life of sin. Oh! The mercy of God to bear with sinful humanity!

A few years ago we knew of a family of saints. The father was becoming careless and unconcerned about the things of God. The rest of the family seemed to want to do better, but because of the father's example and influence, the family was seldom ever seen at prayer meeting. One Wednesday night, they were listening to the radio. A program came over the radio which they thought was real, and they thought the end of the world was upon them. Immediately they began to repent of their carelessness and indifference, and even that night they got ready and came to the prayer meeting, though it was late.

These are only examples of what men will do when they really hear the midnight cry. But it will be too late then to repent or to change our way of living. We need to live at all times so we can look up to God with a sweet assurance in our hearts that we have lived to please Him. Read again these words concerning the coming of the Lord. Acts 1:9-11, "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Does your heart thrill with joy when you read these words? and can you say, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus," without having to pray another prayer, or finish some neglected work, or make a wrong right? —Geneva Ray

Come Out From Among Them

Have you heard the trumpet sounding?
Have you heard the angel's call?
Flee from sin and sect confusion,
Come to Zion, one and all.

Sound the tidings o'er creation,
Let God's faithful children know,
Sinful sects and all division,
Separate them here below.

Hear that voice from heaven, brother,
Heed the warning, come today;
Leave the names and creeds of Babylon,
Take the holy Bible way.

He has said, "My people know me,
And my voice they will obey;
So, if you are mine, you'll prove it,
Just by doing what I say."

Come out from among them,
Oh, do not partake of her sins;
Come out from among them,
For her judgment already begins.

—B. E. Warren