

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



Volume 52, No. 10

52nd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

January, 1975

New Year 1975



Now once more upon the threshold
Of a New Year clear and bright,
We are pausing and reflecting
As the Old Year fades from sight.

Swifter than a soaring arrow
From an archer, we would say—
Down the path of life so narrow
We are passing every day.

O'er the crusty heights and ridges
Of life's long uneven road;
Round the curves and o'er the bridges,
Often with a heavy load

We are pilgrims on a journey
T'ward a distant land so fair,
But our Saviour! He is leading;
We are safe beneath His care.

Looking back, we see His goodness
Shining on our path below;
Looking forward, He has promised
To be with us, this we know.

For His service we are yearning
More efficient to be found,
Every lesson wisely learning,
As we tread His holy ground.

For a light to shine in darkness
Let us each resolve to be;
Fill the New Year with the message
Of His grace so full and free.

For some day the books He'll open,
And each year will something show
For a crown of endless glory
In that land where pleasures flow.

Face the New Year, then, with courage;
Seek to do God's perfect will;
Peace which passeth understanding
Will your happy spirit fill.

—Leslie Busbee

REFORMATIONS



Now the rise out of apostasy was expressed by a series of reformations, not by gradual ascent corresponding to the decline. The "mystery of iniquity," which crystallized in the blasphemous "man of sin," had already begun to work in Paul's day, and the drift into spiritual darkness on the part of the professing church was without specific opposition. But, on the other hand, to break away from conditions apostate always means war with infernal powers. The wrong is endured until a rising sentiment of protest breaks out with stern denunciation. God raises up instruments for this purpose. John Wycliff, in the fourteenth century denounced the errors of the so-called church and the conduct of the monks and also had sufficient light to see the papacy as the "man of sin" foretold by the Apostle Paul. His reform efforts, however, centered mostly in the translation of the Bible into English, which work, in spite of the attempt by Rome to destroy it, God graciously caused to be preserved.

John Huss, a little later, took Wycliff's attitude against the corruptions of the church and was burned at the stake as a heretic. His martyrdom furnished the occasion for him to utter this prophecy: "You are now going to burn a goose (Huss meaning goose in the Bohemian language), but in one hundred years there will arise a swan whom ye can neither roast nor boil." True to this prophecy, in one hundred years came the intrepid Luther, under whose leadership history records the great reformation of the sixteenth century. Church and state were at this time united, which gave this reformation a political prominence, as it resulted in the change to Protestantism of two strong nations, Germany and England. What the sixteenth century reformation accomplished spiritually was, among other things, the bringing to light of the Scriptural doctrine of justification by faith in Christ instead of by priestly absolution.

It could not have been expected that all the Scriptural truths and principles should at any time or by any one reformer be recovered from the rubbish under which they had been buried for a thousand years.

There have been numerous reforms, bringing out various truths that had been obscured by the apostasy. Thus Truth in her progress upward to the Scriptural level, has arisen only by successive steps, God having to use human instrumentalities that were limited by the prevailing tendencies and beliefs of the times. Each reformer naturally dealt with conditions that were most conspicuous from his view-point and was exercised in questions of truth that applied only to such conditions. His reform work was not final in character, inasmuch as it left some errors still uncorrected. Hence, the progress upward was by a succession of reforms, each, as a general thing, springing from a higher level of truth and spiritual attainment than those preceding. With the great decline into apostasy now in the past, the Church of God was disposed to rise out of confusion, her destiny being the attainment of her original standing, when it could be said that her sun should "no more go down."

Human Rule Instead of Divine

The apostasy of the church, as one writer has expressed it, came by "ecclesiastical ambition and degeneracy." The human element got in the way where there should have been only the divine. There is necessarily the human element in the work of God, for Christian work is God and man working together; but in the true relation man is God's instrumentality and is altogether in subjection to the divine Head, who rules over all. When the human element supplants, gets in the way of, or acts in the place of, the divine, we have a fundamental error that always results in apostasy. This human ecclesiasticism, always more or less intolerant, reached its autocratic perfection in the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church and constituted the "man of sin who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." (Second Thess. 2:3, 4).

The spirit of human government in church affairs has shown itself in, or has followed in the wake of, every reform movement of the past. The Spirit of God worked in the movement to accomplish good, but was always checked by this baleful element. Luther meant well but was himself dogmatic and intolerant. He held to many doctrines of Catholicism whose wrongs he could not see. He did not make proper allowance that others besides himself might be right, or at least have some truth. Neither did he nor his associates or followers leave the way open for God to lead into more truth, much less the whole truth. Thus the reformation of the sixteenth century, while it recovered from the debris of apostasy the doctrine of justification by faith, became the occasion for Protestant sects, human-ruled institutions, and these were succeeded by other sects. Some of these have been as intolerant, inflexible, and as unlike primitive Christianity as the Catholic Church itself.

A Final Reformation

It must follow, and the assumption is already established, that a reformation which takes in full the

characteristics defining the church in her wholeness must thereby reach the New Testament standard and therefore be the last, or final, reformation. No reformation can make good such claim if it does not proceed on the whole church lines or principles. If a reform does progress on those universal principles, we need look no further for, nor await future years to reveal, the final reformation resulting in the restoration of all things to the Scriptural ideal.

The errors of the religious world are, and have been, the failure to so preach salvation truth that people may obtain and enjoy full deliverance from sin; failure to conform to the divine standard on all lines; the human ecclesiastical system, which hinders Holy Spirit organization and government; and separation of God's people into parties, thus making true church relation impossible. A movement that comprehends a correction of all these, and meets the Scriptural standard, must therefore fill the measure of reform.

Reader, it is claimed for the movement represented in the teaching and labors of D. S. Warner, that it possesses these elements of finality, that by it God is bringing His people "out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day" of Protestant sectism, and is restoring Zion as it was at the first.

—A. L. Byers

"It Is Well"

In Shunem, there lived a great woman, whose heart was right with God. She loved to talk about the wonderful things of God. After talking to a prophet, she constrained him to come in and eat with her and her husband. After that, he often stopped and ate with them. One day, this woman said to her husband, "Let us build a room on our house and furnish it so this wonderful man of God can have a place to stay and be comfortable when he visits us." Her husband agreed to this generous and kind thought. The room was built and furnished.

One day, when the preacher was enjoying this comfortable room, and thinking about the kindness, that God had given him, he thought of the instrument, through whom God had worked to bring this about. Surely God had a great blessing for this great woman of God. He sent for her to come to him. He asked her what he could do for her, and mentioned how much he appreciated the care and concern she had manifested toward him. He said, "Shall I speak to the king about you or the captain of the host?" In other words, "Would you like to be honored by being in their employment or live at the king's court?" The woman answered, "I want to dwell among my own people." Later, the man of God called her again to him. It had been brought to his attention that this wonderful couple did not have any children. Her husband was very old. So the preacher said to her, "About this time next year, you shall embrace a son." This was too good to be true and so she said, "Don't deceive me." But it came to pass just as the man of God had said.

She was very happy and loved her son dearly. Time went on. One day, her son went with his father out to the field. They were going to see how the gathering of the grain was coming along. Suddenly the lad began to cry, "My head! My head!" The father carried him to his mother. The lad lay upon her lap until noon, and then he died. She was shocked and deeply grieved. She took him and laid him on the bed of the man of God. Then she shut the door. She called for one of the young men to get an ass and take her to the prophet. When the prophet saw her coming, he sent a man to meet her. The man asked her if it was well with her, her husband, and her son. She said, "It is well." When she came to the prophet, she fell upon her knees before him. Her soul was deeply grieved and she was full of sorrow. The prophet went with her to her home. God restored the son to life and she was full of joy and happiness again. Her heart was full of praise to her God for all that He had done for her. (2 Kings 4:8-37)

Notice two things that she did and said. First, she put the subject of her sorrow in the man of God's room and shut the door. When she was met by the man, sent to her by the prophet, she said, "It is well." Notice that she laid her son out before the Lord and shut the door. Do you remember how Jesus taught His disciples to pray? He told them, "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matt. 6:6. This dear woman took her burden to the prophet's room and shut the door. When she was met by the man, sent to her from the prophet, she said, "It is well." Yet her soul was grieved, and she was full of tears. Isn't it precious, when we can know in our hearts that when we take things to the Lord that it will work out for the best? Do we have the same confidence that this woman had, even in her grief, that "It is well?" When she shut the door and prayed, God rewarded her openly. —Sis. Marie Miles

"Wher'er my Savior's hand may lead, whate'er my lot may be
I will not murmur or repine, I'll know 'tis well with me.

Though storms sweep o'er my trembling bark, and waves
around me swell,
Still this my ransomed soul shall sing, 'tis well with me,
'tis well.

Tho' friends forsake, and I alone, the narrow way pursue,
Thy grace, dear Lord, I only ask, my courage to renew.

Should earthly treasures fade away, His promise still I'll
plead
And trust him, for I know he will supply my every need.

Since I am fully saved from sin, my joy no tongue can tell;
And all along the way I'll sing, 'tis well with me, 'tis
well." —W. J. Henry

Man is not entire, he is not complete as originally
intended, when not keeping all the commands of God.
Something is lacking in the life that is not in full
obedience to every word of God. —C. E. Orr

The Flesh And The Spirit



Jesus said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." (John 3:6,7) The Apostle Paul wrote, "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." (Rom. 8:8,9)

Jesus said, "*Ye must be born again.*" Surely, this is the most important "must," more important than all the other words used to carry the same thought in all the Word of God. All who are not experiencing the new life which is made possible because of the new birth, will hear these final words from the lips of Jesus, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." (Matt. 25:41b)

The Apostle Paul made it clear that all born-again ones possess the Spirit of God and are not living just to satisfy the lust of the flesh, because they are led by the Spirit of God and "have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." (Gal. 5:24) Our Brother Paul writes again in Gal. 5:16-18, "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law."

Before we can "walk in the Spirit" at all times, all born-again ones must have the flesh crucified, must keep the body under control of the Spirit, as we are taught in I Cor. 9:27. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (I Cor. 10:12) Here lies a great danger: those who become careless and cease to fight, thinking that *they* are able to stand, have ceased to trust God and have listened to another voice. Some seem to think that since they have entered into the "Cannan land," the fight will be less severe. But, dear ones, the battle only becomes hotter. The closer we get to God, the harder Satan tries to overcome us.

We must remember that "God is a Spirit" and we must worship Him "in Spirit and in truth." We must not listen to other spirits, for "many false prophets have gone out into the world" who are listening to many evil spirits. Man has a spirit. The spirit of man is influenced by spirits; and there is but one true Spirit, the Spirit of God.

Our mother, Eve, was created in the image of God, pure and holy, being made a partaker of God's divine nature, but when she listened to another voice, she failed and lost the divine nature. From then on, she had only the human, fleshly nature to depend upon. We, who possess the divine nature, today, must remember that it is not by good works that we are saved, but by the "grace of God." Only God can enable us to stand and conquer the devil. We must realize that there is a continual warfare going between the Spirit and the flesh, because "these are contrary the one to the other."

—H. P. Huskey

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"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.

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

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

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

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

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 25:2; 1st Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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EDITORIALS

On this New Year's eve, we extend warm Christian greetings to all our readers, and should the Lord delay His second and final coming, we wish for each of you a prosperous and happy future in the service of the Master. Until the final trumpet sounds and God calls an end to Time, the Church still has the commission: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." There is no place to stop or slow down in carrying the good news of salvation through Christ to this wicked world which is right on the verge of eternal destruction. May this divine call challenge every true believer until he is called from labor to reward.

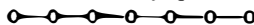


Though we were unable to make the special three-months' subscription offer this winter, we are indeed grateful to our readers for their good response in sending yearly subscriptions—three names for one year for \$1.00. This January issue will be going to a number of these new readers.

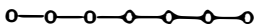


Since our co-workers were attending the Guthrie holiday meeting, which just closed on Dec. 29, this January paper is a little late in going to the press.

The recent 10-day annual Assembly meeting here at Guthrie was real profitable in the salvation of souls and the edification of the Church. For the most part, the weather was favorable, and the meeting was very well attended from several states. The unchanging Word was preached with Holy Spirit anointing. Souls were saved, believers sanctified, and the sick healed. Love and unity prevailed in the camp.



Bro. Mark Spinks, a young minister who has been helping here in the publishing work for more than a year, terminated his services at this place on Dec. 16, 1974. He felt that the Lord would have him take a course of study in computer operation in Oklahoma City where he now lives at 3733 N. W. 25th Street 73107. May the Lord bless and reward Bro. Mark for his past services in this gospel publishing ministry, and ever direct his future activities.



Again, it was the privilege of this writer's wife, Maybelle, and her sister, Maude Hornbeck, and this writer to attend the annual Assembly meeting at Hammond, La., during Thanksgiving week. Enroute to Hammond, we visited Bro. and Sister Lee Whitley at Marshall, Texas, and found Sister Whitley much improved from her long siege of affliction. She still needs much help from the Lord, but we thank Him for what He has done already. Continue to pray for her complete restoration to health.

The Hammond meeting was a real blessing from the Lord, and the saints and ministers attended from near and far. At the night services the chapel was especially crowded. The preached Word was accompanied by the convicting Spirit of God, and a number of souls were saved. The saints were fed on the

precious Word which brought strength and courage to their souls.

While attending the meeting, we enjoyed our stay in the home of our son, Byron, and his family who live near Loranger, La., just out of Hammond a few miles.

On the last Sunday of the meeting, this writer began taking a "cold," and by Thursday, the day we started home, he was feeling quite bad with the flu. On the way home, we shared the gracious overnight hospitality in the home of Bro. and Sister Hartley Spinks at Shreveport, La., whose son, Mark, was one of our co-workers here at the Printshop. After returning to Guthrie, I was confined at home with the flu for a week. Thank the Lord, He undertook for me and I am back to work full-time at the office.

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Now available are books in heavy paper binding of the eleven issues of the "Faith and Victory" paper for 1974 at \$1.00 each, postpaid. Ready also are the 1974 "Beautiful Way" books for juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, postpaid. Bound books of various prior years are priced at 75c each, postpaid.

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Many of our readers would like to know the dates of the Church of God campmeetings for 1975 so they can pre-arrange their vacations to attend these meetings. Those who have this information, please send in the campmeetings dates by Feb. 15, 1975, so we can publish the entire list in the March issue.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting here at Guthrie, Okla., will be held, Lord willing, from May 23 to June 1, 1975. The date of the National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo., is July 18 to 27, 1975. Watch for other dates in the March issue.

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In stock at this office are more than 350 different titles of gospel tracts to be sent free in limited quantities for careful and prayerful distribution. Where prices are quoted, they are at cost or below. Write for a FREE 4-ounce sample to read and pass on, or enclose in your letters. One gospel tract may result in the salvation of many souls.

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The Church of God at Shreveport, La., where Bro. C. C. Carver is the pastor, is in the process of building a new chapel in a new location. If anyone desires to contribute some manual labor or money for this project, I am certain that it would be much appreciated. You may contact Bro. Carver at 305 E. 62nd St., Shreveport, La. 71106.

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Bro. George Hammond, Bro. Bobby Huskey and Bro. James Bell just returned on Dec. 31st from a trip to interior Mexico where they visited Bro. Irineo Rama, the native missionary, and repaired the roof of the chapel which had been damaged in a storm. Their going was a great encouragement to Bro. Rama, his family and other believers in that area.

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There has been a good demand for the very inspiring new book, "Life's Golden Gleanings," written

by Sister Ruby E. Stover, in which she tells some interesting experiences of her childhood and how God answered prayer in marvelous ways in her family and during the past fifty years of the gospel work in which she and her husband, Bro. Ira D. Stover, are engaged. This book of 94 pages is bound in a nice heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each, plus 25c for postage and handling.

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Write for our price list of Bibles, books and cards. Listed in our book stock are many of those excellent old books written by the pioneer ministers of the Church of God Reformation which have been out of print for many years. More of these old books of vital Bible truth will be reprinted and added to our stock as time, means, and help permit. Watch for publication dates in future issues of this paper.

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The past year of 1974 is one of the most momentous in world history, not only in regard to the nations of the world, but also as it relates to the Lord's gospel publishing work which began here at Guthrie more than a half century ago. The obstacles appeared formidable, but with faith and prayer the many battles with the adversary resulted in many victories, thank the Lord! This writer during the past year has come through the hardest trials of his 47 years in serving the Lord, but thank God, he has found His grace and mercy sufficient in every time of need. We humbly and gratefully acknowledge with one of old, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," and our face is set like a flint toward God and His will for us in the new year of 1975.

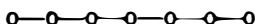
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Marvelously Answered Prayer . . .

For several months we have been requesting our readers to pray for the solution of a certain serious problem facing the Lord's Printshop. As you know, we did not describe the problem. The Lord knew all about it, and we did not feel it was God's will to make the matter public until the answer was received. Thank the Lord, we are happy to report that the problem has been solved to a great extent through your prayers and faithful concern.

Last summer, the Internal Revenue Service requisitioned our books containing the records of the allowances given to our co-workers and ourselves. In all honesty and good faith, we had not withheld Social Security tax and withholding income tax on these allowances, as we did not feel that this non-profit religious institution came under those Federal statutes. Going back 6½ years, the IRS figured and levied against us a total tax in five figures, which included interest and a 25% penalty. On Dec. 18, the District Conferee of IRS reviewed our case, and he was convinced that our failure to withhold and pay the above taxes was all done in good faith. As a result, he is recommending to the higher authorities that the 25% penalty be cancelled, but he stated that we would have to pay the remainder. That action will no doubt reduce the total tax by several

thousands of dollars. They will have to re-figure the tax, so it will likely be 30 to 60 days before they give us the final figure. Furthermore, we are happy to testify that the Lord has so marvelously answered prayer that the money is on hand to pay the tax in five figures, and that was without solicitation to anyone in any form. God's Spirit alone directed the contributors. Thank you everyone for hearing that "still small voice" and standing by God's publishing work in this crisis. We feel eternally indebted to God and His saints. Let us do as the Psalmist exhorted: "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord." Psa. 150:6.



Another answer to prayer is that we can again get the right size of printing paper from the mill, and the supply is more plentiful. For the past year, the mills would not accept an order for the exact size of paper that we use on our books and publications. Therefore, we had to purchase a larger size and cut it down to our size with a consequent waste. In December we received a shipment of 10,000 pounds of this right size paper, but the price was much higher like everything else these days.



Bro. Tom Melot Flies to Nigerian Mission Field . . .

For some unknown reason, Bro. Geo. Hammond was denied a tourist visa to Nigeria, so Bro. Tom Melot, a young minister of Guthrie, applied for and obtained a tourist visa for six weeks in that country. The native gospel workers in Nigeria have been pleading for someone to come from the U. S. According to plan, Bro. Melot left by plane from Oklahoma City on January 3, 1975, for Port Harcourt, Nigeria. In that area, Lord willing, he will labor with the native gospel workers and believers of the twenty mission stations for about six weeks. Pray earnestly that God will grant Bro. Melot a profitable and safe round trip on this urgent mission to that needy foreign field. God's work must go forward until our Lord and Master comes again.



Our best wishes are extended to Brother Mancil Doolittle and Sister Shirley Watkins who were united in marriage on Dec. 21, 1974, at Jefferson, Oregon, with Bro. Charles Elwell officiating.



This writer is still holding by faith to God's promises for healing. The battle has been long and hard, but we are pressing our case for victory. Continue to agree in prayer. —Lawrence Pruitt



"The real trouble with the world is not that it is running out of physical resources, but that it is running out of hope. And it is running out of hope because it puts its hope in the wrong thing—in physical resources, for example . . . Hope begins with what Jesus Christ did that day on Calvary 1,900 years ago, and it never ends. Hope is life forever for them that believe. Our hope is the hope of salvation, centered in the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

OBITUARIES



McKinley Eddens was born to Mr. John Wesley and Mrs. Rosa Jackson Eddens on the 31st day of August, 1903, in Claborn Parish, Homer, Louisiana, and departed this life on Nov. 13, 1974.

When he was about three and a half years of age, his family moved to Oklahoma. Later he met and married Naomi Williams, and to this union were born eleven children, six girls and five boys. He lived with her until her departure.

Bro. McKinley Edden's first commitment to Christ was at the age of 12 years in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Later in life he rededicated and reconsecrated his life to God and served in the Church of God in Oakland, California, faithfully filling the place of a trustee and treasurer of the church, and a Sunday School teacher under the pastorates of Bro. and Sis. Clyde Smith.

On September 4, 1973, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Sadie Jackson. Bro. Eddens was a loyal husband, a faithful father, a dedicated Christian, fighting the good fight of faith.

He leaves to mourn his homegoing, a wife, Sadie Eddens, ten children, Doris La Von Washington of Oakland, California, Rose Etta Randie of Sacramento, California, Betty Long, Wynona Faye Wilson, Edith Annette Keys, Wanda Jean Eddens, Thomas Ettrall Eddens, Kenneth Mack Eddens, Donald Ray Eddens, and Roger Dale Eddens, all of Oakland, California; one brother, Myrle Eddens; two sisters, Mrs. Leola Mathues and Mrs. Carrie Fletcher, all of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; twenty-three grandchildren, nine step-children, and a host of other relatives and friends.

—Sister Velma S. Smith

To A Well-Earned Rest

To a well-earned rest our brother sleeps;
Do not sorrow, Do not weep.
He is at peace, he is at rest,
Gone to live with Him who loved him best.
We'll wipe away that bitter tear,
And reach out to Jesus who's ever near.
Beyond these hills of toil and tears,
Beyond these hills of doubts and fears,
He lives anew in mansions fair,
Beyond these hills of toil and care.
And so good night, our precious one:
Your battle fought, your victory won.
Your work all through your day all done.
Rest now in peace until Jesus comes.

—By his sister, Leola E. Mathues

Earl Watson was born at Tylertown, Mississippi on July 3, 1946. He departed this life to be with Jesus on November 23, 1974, at the age of 28 years, 4 months, and 20 days.

On November 15, 1968, he was united in marriage to Violet Cable and to this union two children were born.

Most of his life was spent in Mississippi and Louisiana, he moved to Oregon about four years ago.

Earl gave his heart to the Lord when he was in his early teens and was a devoted child of God and very active in the congregations in which he worshiped. He worshiped in the church of God at Hammond, La., before moving to Oregon. The past four years he has worshiped with the church of God congregation at Gladstone, Oregon. He was the adult Sunday School teacher—very active in every service and was very faithful in his attendance up until he became physically unable to attend.

He leaves his devoted wife, Violet and two children, Diane, age 5, and George, age 3, of Beavercreek, Oregon, his parents, Bro. and Sis. John Watson of Foxworth, Mississippi, three brothers, Dennis Watson of Prairieville, La., William Watson of Port Sulphur, La., and Ervin Watson of Baltimore, Maryland.

In all Bro. Earl's sufferings, he was a real example, steadfast in the faith with great grace! He was fully submitted to the will of God, at times manifesting a real anticipation to be with the Lord. Some of his last words, minutes before passing were, "Jesus, I love you, Jesus, I love to testify for you." We miss him very much, but do humbly submit to God's will.

Services were conducted in Oregon City, Oregon by Bro. O. B. Wilson and Charles Elwell.

—Charles Elwell

NOTES OF THANKS

From the depths of my heart, I want to thank you for the cards, letters, flowers, and for the offerings and for all you have done for us during this time of sickness and sorrow. It has meant so much to me. During Earl's sickness, I didn't have time to write to you because I was busy day and night, taking care of him. He greatly enjoyed your letters and cards. He wanted to thank you himself, but he was too weak to write. I will try to write and thank each of you soon.

May God richly bless each of you for your sacrifice. Please continue praying for us.

—Violet Watson

Thanks be unto God, the One we can always go to in time of sorrow and trouble. Our hearts are heavy over our beloved son, who has gone on. We feel confident that he [Earl Watson] is in the realms of Glory. We are so thankful for all the cards and letters we have received. May God's richest blessing linger with each one.

—Bro. and Sis. John E. Watson, Foxworth, Miss.

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TO MY DAD

(Silas Marion Whitson Departed This Life On Jan. 24, 1973)

Daddy, oh, dear Daddy,
Can it really be you're gone?
Two years have passed
Since I saw you last.
When you were taken from our home.
The grief we knew
From the loss of you
Was the deepest we've ever known.

Did you know then how near you were
To the silent door of death?
And did your thoughts fly
To our God on high
Who gives us our every breath?
The door is not locked—
If only we'll knock,
He'll open to us, He saith.

Reclaimed by Earth, thy human form
Was laid within the grave.
Two years past;
Now grows the grass
Above thy earthen cave.
Somewhere your soul
Has reached the goal
For which our hearts now crave.

Time can't erase your memory,
Nor quench my love for you.
Death cannot fade
The soul God made,
Though your form we bid adieu.
I'll not be sad,
My dearest Dad,
For someday I'll join you, too.

—Written by Sandra Whitson

o

It takes heart's blood to heal hearts. Saving of life proves, in the end, the losing of it. —Selected

QUOTES FROM MINISTERS

The Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting, held at Guthrie, Okla., during the Christmas holidays, has gone down in history, and time will tell the real profit that has been derived from the meeting. We appreciated the saints who came from other states, as well as those here in Oklahoma. Some altar work was done, and also bodies were healed. We thank God for the Holy Spirit-filled messages that went forth.

Below are some quotes from different ministers who spoke in the meeting:

"Let a holy life tell the gospel story.... A woman came up to me in the laundry and asked, 'Are you a Christian?' I said, 'Praise the Lord! I am, aren't you?' She said, 'Yes,—you come here all the time, don't you?' She had been watching me...."

—Sis. Sam Abbott

"The saints have a greater vision than a television."

—Bro. Mart Samons

—Bro. Mart Samons

"This country is in a prison-house of sin, but the Lord has come down to bring 'out the prisoners from the...prison house' of sin. Isa. 42:7.... When we are saved, we are translated out of sin and into God. Col. 1:13.... If I write down to Louisiana, to a nursery, and ask them to send me some rose bushes, they will dig them up, wrap the roots and send them to me. I will plant them in Missouri. They are no longer in Louisiana but have been transplanted in Missouri."

—Bro. Egbert Allen

"It is hard for God to get people to stop long enough for Him to talk to them, so they can be saved.... The reason people don't keep saved is that they do not give God a whole-hearted service. God wants all or none."

—Bro. Tom Melot

"If we make a success for God, we must apply our hearts unto wisdom and understanding." Prov. 2:2; Psa. 9:12.

—Bro. Leslie Busbee.

"God is looking for something in Zion (The Church of God). In Zion 'the spirits of just men [are] made perfect.'" Heb. 12:23.

—Bro. Lewis Williams

"Thirty-nine years ago this coming August, I was standing in the back of the tent. I was trembling under Holy Spirit conviction. I wanted to go to the altar, but I couldn't take that first step. I cried, 'Oh, God, help me.' God made me to know that if I would take the first step, He would help me. I took that first step and it seemed that I was just carried up to the altar.... I stayed there until I prayed through and got the glory in my soul."

—Bro Sam Abbott.

"Faith is a Church of God teaching.... If you trust God for your body, you can't lose. If you die, you have gained. You will go to heaven.... If you believe, you will act according to your faith."

—Bro. H. P. Effinger.

"If we do as Jesus said, 'watch and pray', your mistakes will be farther apart."

—Bro. Mart Samons.

"Every person is bearing some kind of fruit. The fruit is either good or bad."

—Bro. Orie Young.

"We are prone sometimes to hold a little something back from God.... Ananias and Sapphira 'kept back part of the price.' Acts 5:2. If we keep back anything from God, He knows it."

—Bro. Archie Souder.

"Some say that a person could have a better experience if he went out into deep sin and be delivered from those sins. But the Scripture says, 'the flesh profiteth nothing.' John 6:63. There is no profit in living after the flesh."

—Bro. Eddie Wilson.

"Jesus is standing in the midst of His church. Knowledge, wisdom, and grace flows out from Him to every one."

Rev. 2:13. —Bro. Mark Spinks.

—By Sis. Marie Miles

REVIVAL MEETING REPORT

The revival held at the Akron, Ohio Church of God on Nov. 10th through 17th, was wonderfully blessed of the Lord. We witnessed the power of God to save souls who were deep in

sin. Backsliders came home to Zion. The saints were edified. The anointing of the Word of God accomplished that to which it was sent.

We are grateful to all the ministers and saints who came to help us in this battle against sin. We also thank all for the donations, and the cooperation that helped to make this revival a success. Pray continually for the work here.

—Sister Hazel Clark

MORE EVANGELISTIC TENTS NEEDED

Dear Saints scattered abroad: Greetings in the name of Jesus who is our Saviour, Lord, and King. Surely, He proves His love to us over and over again. He is our refuge in time of storm. The blessings of the Lord are so rich and He addeth no sorrow with them.

We have been so happy to see the tent evangelistic work moving forward last season. As we look out over the vast area of lost souls, it makes us feel the need of seeing more effort being put forth to reach out further and praying the Lord to qualify pastors, teachers, and more evangelists for the great harvest field. We were encouraged by the burden expressed by the brethren in the South who want to get a tent, chairs, and some kind of hauling equipment for that area. The chairs have already been purchased. Let us all unite our prayers that the Lord will provide for every need as they move out in this effort. Some of us can not go, but we can get behind the tent work with our prayers and financial support and lay up treasures in heaven.

We are thankful the Lord has blessed Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons through the past season and during the winter as they continue to labor on. Let us hold them up in prayer. They feel the burden to carry on with the tent work. We surely appreciate their labor of love in the gospel.

Pray for us that we may do what we can in whatever way the Lord lays it upon us.

Anyone desiring to help in this effort may send your offerings to the undersigned, stating for what purpose you wish it to be used.

—Bro. Ralph Beisly

407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kans. 67337

Prayer Requests

Ky.—“Please remember me in prayer. I have high blood pressure, so I am told. My trust is in the Lord.” —Sis. W. F. Jarvis

Wisc.—“Pray earnestly for my eyes. My vision is bad on account of having glaucoma disease.” —F. L. Schilling

Okla.—Remember Sis. Glover of Okmulgee, Okla., who is very sick. Also, pray for Bro. Charles Chandler who is very ill at this time—Dec. 30, 1974.

Mo.—“Pray for me. I have a lot of trouble with my nose.” —Berniece Rumpfelt

W. Va.—“Bro. Jim White fell on the ice Dec. 4th, and broke his ankle. He needs prayer.” —Sis. Lula Sizemore. [Bro. White has been faithful there to teach the Word of God, and he is much needed.]

Ida.—Remember Sis. Ruby Marken in prayer. She has been having trouble with her stomach. She is fully trusting and is expecting complete healing. Her mother also needs prayer. She is still very sick, at times, with high blood pressure.

N. Y.—“I have an infection in my throat. I need the prayers of the saints.” —Carl J. Kunz

Okla.—“The Lord blessed me with a good trip to N. Car., and on to Florida. We are very thankful to the Lord for all He accomplished in the two meetings. We are thankful for the miracle that God wrought on Bro. Hargrave's body. It was quite a battle, as Bro. Hargrave was very sick. But thank God for the victory!...I talked to Bro. Hargrave last night (Dec. 10th) and he is doing fine. Praise the Lord! He had been walking around in

the yard in the sunshine and was able to eat some meat.” (Pray that he will continue to gain strength)

—Sis. Katherine Williams

S. Car.—“I am a sinner and I need Christ in my heart. My mother is a child of God. I would like to be like her. My home is torn, and I would like for my husband and I to get back together, if it be God's will, so we can raise our children together and serve the Lord. I want us to be together over yonder. Satan is really after me. It seems everywhere I turn, he is there, causing me to do and say things that I know are not right. I need prayer badly before it is too late. I know God can and will make a way for me if I will turn to Him.... My husband is trying to take my baby away from me. I have been checked out as a fit mother, but the old devil is still working. My husband is a drunkard and doesn't need the baby. Please pray that the Lord will help me to keep my baby and raise him for the Lord.” —Mamie Hutto

Mo.—Still remember dear Prudy Broaddus in prayer. She is looking for complete healing.

S. Car.—“Pray that the Lord will save my oldest son and help him to quit drinking. I want the Lord to cause him to hate the stuff.” —Sis. Corrine Russell

Ill.—“I have suffered a lot from a bad sore. I would like your prayers that God will heal it.” —Elizabeth Wieringa

Okla.—“On Nov. 8th, my blood pressure was so high that I was no longer able to care for my companion. To make the decision to put her into a rest home was so hard for me. Only by the help of the Lord was I able to do that... Remember us when you pray. My nerves are bad...I desire to please the Lord and stay in the bounds of His will.” —Bro. Louis Droke

Ill.—“My head is bothering me. It still has the feeling of swimming. . . . Keep me on your prayer list.”

—Sis. Grace Norton

Remember in prayer a number of the ministers among us who are 75 years old and older. They are feeling the wear upon their bodies from a life of service for the Lord. They still carry a burden for the work of the Lord, but are not able to be as active as they used to be. Do not forget to support them in their older years with financial help. They need encouragement as the devil works hard against them. He would like to cause them to fail in their last days. It does take grace to grow old. Our elderly saints need our prayers.

There are many afflicted to pray for, but the scripture comes to me, “I will give thee the treasures of darkness.” Isa. 45:3. Sometimes, we do not understand why we are being afflicted or have so many hard things to face, but remember, there is a lesson in each thing that touches our lives. How can we rejoice with the white-robed crowd in heaven unless we have “come out of tribulation, and have washed their [our] robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb”? Rev. 7:14b. In that day, we can wave the palms of victory. Praise God! Getting us ready for heaven is some of the “treasures of darkness.” “The trial of faith is more precious than gold.” So be encouraged and walk humbly before the Lord. Hold your faith steady in God. He does love you and will bring you through with victory if you will exercise yourself rightly in the affliction or trial.

The devil is working to discourage every soul. We can know the voice of the accusing spirit of the devil. He speaks harsh, cruel, nagging, or exacting. God's Spirit is mild, gentle, and encouraging. When God reveals anything to us, it is made clear and plain. God is an intelligent God and deals with us in an intelligent way. The devil will accuse us and try to make us bewildered and confused, which discourages us and makes us feel like there is no hope. But there is always hope for each of us in Christ. Our heavenly Father is not watching for an opportunity to cast us off, but rather He is seeking by the gentle wooings of His gentle Spirit to lead us into right paths. He will show us our shortcomings in a way that will not crush or discourage us, but will help us. These are some of the “treasures in the night” that are given us in the depths of

trial. It is detrimental to one's spiritual condition to be always feeling their spiritual pulse, just as it is to one's physical health to always be counting your pulse or heartbeat. May the Lord encourage you to receive help to your soul in the trying scenes of life and be willing to be walked over and talked about for Christ's sake. The path of humility leads to heaven.

—Sis. Marie Miles

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Dear Sis. Marie and all the dear saints who have been so faithful to pray for us while in this battle of affliction.

We are glad to report "Victory in Jesus." Our faith and confidence are still settled in His Word, and we are not discouraged. We can say with the Psalmist, He is "My goodness, and my fortress, my high tower, and my deliverer, my shield, and he in whom I trust;" Thank the Lord!

We want to take this opportunity to thank all the dear saints for their cards, letters of encouragement, phone calls and offerings. We don't have words to express our real thanks, for all the love shown to us. We truly appreciate the dear family of God, with all our hearts.

We thank the dear Lord for the many times He has touched and quieted our nerves and given rest and sleep and given strength, when so very weak. Our appetite is better the last week and we are expecting complete healing.

We do thank all, for their prayers in our behalf. We do want to be faithful to God in every test. May the dear Lord bless each one, is our prayers.

Our love to all,—Your Bro. and Sister, Ira and Ruby Stover
O—O—O—O—O—O—O

Missouri (Dec. 13)—Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord: I want to thank you for your visits, get-well cards, letters, anointed handkerchief, phone calls, and prayers. It has been deeply appreciated and encouraging. Please continue to be a prayer warrior with me in this battle with cancer.

—Sister Emma Rhoads

OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO, MISSION REPORT

Dear Ones: Greeting of love in the sweet and precious Name of our Redeemer.

On my return to Ojos Negros to my field of labor, I was encouraged especially by the spiritual growth of two of the sisters in the congregation. I went to the home of one of them to teach her a Bible Lesson as she is the only one who is not working in the late crop of potatoes. I was really surprised at the hold she had gotten on God during the summer. In our conversation, I also realized that she had given some very wise counsel to two other sisters for which I truly thank the Lord. Of late, her husband has been showing some interest in the things of God also. We know God is dealing with hearts here in the village. This week, I stopped to visit another sister, and she told me she had been convicted for wearing pants. She had read Deut. 22:5, then her eyes fell on the words, "he who walks behind light is walking condemned" in "My Lord and I", a copy which I had left for each of them for the summer. I felt the Lord would be pleased for me to help her in doing right, so I made three skirts for her. She has some blouses. My heart is always heavy when I see the sisters come to services in pants, and I thank the Lord for answering prayer. He is so faithful to His children. She is grateful too, that her husband wants her to obey the Lord.

Praise the Lord for the opportunities He has given us each day this week to pray with and for people in trouble and affliction.

All of you who can get a hold of God in prayer, please continue to remember all of God's workers in every field and those to whom we've been sent.

Christian love, —Sis. Opal Kelly Ap. Postal #284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico; or P. O. Box 2860, San Ysidro, California 92173

REPORT FROM INTERIOR MEXICO

Michoacan, Mexico—My loved ones in the precious name of our Jesus Christ: I am answering your letter that we received with the offering for the car that we are using in the missionary work. Brothers, we thank God for this offering. Of a truth, we had been praying much for this necessity, and God is faithful to His sons. May God multiply your blessings, brothers. We thank God for the effort you have made for the work of God, for the love you have had for us. We are paying on the debt of about \$136.00 which we still lack. Receive our salutations and those of the brothers here in this place.

Your Brother, —Irineo Rama

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

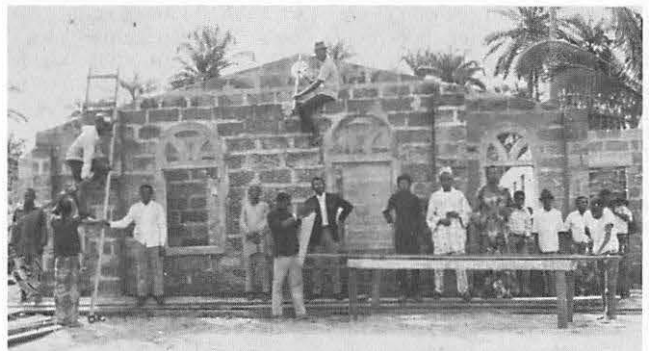
S. India (Nov. 21)—My dearly beloved Bro. Pruitt, co-workers at the Printshop and other dear saints abroad: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ "who hath made us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins . . . and he is the head of the body, the church." Col. 1:12-20.

Thank you very much for your letter dated Nov. 6, and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude. I received two letters from Bro. Hammond . . . I am very sorry to note that you had a major flood in Guthrie . . . I prayed earnestly to God for you, . . . and hope everything is clear now . . .

Our campmeetings will be in progress from December to May, 1975, at various places. Our general meeting at Karikkom will be held from Jan. 1 to 5, and this time we expect more preachers and saints in that meeting. This season I wish to conduct campmeetings in all places of our congregations and also in some new areas. I am sure that the saints in the U. S. will keep on praying for the spiritual and temporal blessings of these meetings. All encouragement is surely appreciated.

The printing of tracts is going on with the press. We finished printing the book, "Church of God." We just finished digging a well of 30 feet at Thrikkannamangal, and the building of the parsonage is progressing. Last Monday, I was at Avoor to lay down the foundation stone for the chapel there, which is also progressing.

Yours in His service, —Bro. John Varghese



Permanent chapel in process of construction at Three Towns Okono, S. E. State, Nigeria. If material is provided to finish the building by April, they plan to hold their annual campmeeting at this location. Bro. A. J. Ubaha, pastor, stands in the center with black coat and white shirt. Bro. Tom Melot of Guthrie, Okla., expects to be laboring with the native workers in this area for the next six weeks.

"The coming of Christ as the hope of the world means also the end of the world as we know it."

THE LOVE OF JESUS (Part 4, In Conclusion)

One afternoon, as I was in my room alone and studying my Bible, I read of how the disciples were changed men after being filled with the Holy Ghost.

1. The disciples were regenerated before Pentecost: Luke 10:20, "Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven"; were preachers, Mark 3:14, "And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach"; John 17:12, "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled"; they worshipped, Luke 24:52-53, "And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God."

2. Yet Jesus prayed that they would be sanctified: John 17:17, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth"; He promised the coming of the Comforter: John 14:16, 17, 26, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

3. This actually happened at Pentecost: Acts 2:1-5, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." It is impossible for me to tell you of the strength of the conviction that seized on my heart that this was what I needed. As I read and compared the change in these brethren, i. e., they were purified from vain ambitions, strife, and self-confident boasting and the using of the literal sword; they were delivered from the fear of men; the power of God fell upon them for service; their love for God was perfected and intensified; I realized strongly the like needs in myself. I dropped to the floor on my knees and poured out my heart. When I arose some time later, the Comforter indeed had come. A deep settled peace flowed through my soul, making God's service an indescribable delight. My comprehension of what I read in the Word was greatly magnified; and over and over, my soul rejoiced at new light. Oh, the wonders of Divine grace! Who can tell all that God has prepared for them that love Him? With the experience came a certainty that my Lord was pleased with me. This was an unspeakable blessing. "This is the will of God, even your sanctification."

"O sweet will of God! thou hast girded me round,
Like the deep, moving currents that girdle the sea;
With omnipotent love is my poor nature bound,
And this bondage to love sets me perfectly free.

"For years my soul wrestled with vague discontent,
That like a sad angel over-shadowed my way;
God's light in my soul with darkness was blent,
And my heart ever longed for an unclouded day.

"And now I have flung myself recklessly out,
Like a chip on the stream of the Infinite Will;
I pass the rough rocks with a smile and a shout
And I just let my God his dear purpose fulfill.

"Forever I choose the good will of my God,
Its holy, deep riches to love and to know,
The serfdom of love to so sweeten the rod,
That its touch maketh rivers of honey to flow.

"Roll on, checkered seasons, bring smiles or bring tears,
My soul sweetly sails on an infinite tide;
I shall soon touch the shores of eternity's years,
And near the white throne of my Savior abide.

"Hallelujah! Hallelujah! my soul is now free!
For the precious blood of Jesus cleanseth even me."
—Mark Spinks

From The Mail Box . . .

Ohio—Dear Bro. Lawrence, Sister Maybelle, and Sister Marie, and the dear ones working in the print shop: Tonight finds us pressing on in this beautiful way, determined to live true to God and to walk softly before Him each day of our life. Many snares and pitfalls are along the way, but Jesus has promised to be a present help in time of need. We are so thankful to know that He is our personal Saviour and a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother. I'm so thankful that in the days of my youth I found that dear Friend and gave my heart to Him for the rest of my life. I've found Him true to His promises. I only wish that more would find Him.

The service of the Lord is so precious, and we are all nearing that long Home. How soon we will be there we know not, but one thing we know—that death is waiting for us all, and it's up to us as to how we meet it. Surely it's our desire to live a finished life each day so we can meet Him in peace. This is a careful life. It's been a wonderful, happy life for me. I appreciate the tender mercies of God to me all along life's journey. I do want to prove faithful to the end, for I do want to hear Him say, "Well done."

Pray for us. We surely want to be led by the Spirit of God. We remember you earnestly in our daily prayers.

In the Master's service, Bro. William and Sis. Evelyn McCoy

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La.—Dear Sis. Marie and all the working staff, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: Oh, what would we do without Him? I am sure that we could not overcome the enemy of our souls. Where would our destination be if we were not overcomers?

In His Word we read, "Ye must be born again." (John 3:7) Accept Jesus as your Saviour and then be very careful and prayerful to obey His Word. He will cleanse you from all sin.

Jesus has been good to me. He helps me in soul and body. I find Him a present help in all needs.

Sis. Marie, we are so thankful for what the Lord has done for you and for all of His trusting children. We are praying for you and Bro. Pruitt. May the Lord bless and keep you well and also heal Bro. Pruitt is my prayer . . .

I need your prayers for soul and body, especially that I keep humble and submissive to the Lord's will.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Maurie Lea

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Jamaica—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings to all of you in the wonderful name of Jesus. It is comforting to know that whatever comes to us as the children of God is with His permission and is limited by Him whose love for us can never fail. Truly, He is too wise to err and too good to be unkind. Every test is measured by His goodness and wisdom before it is allowed to come to us. Praise God!

Thank God we are fairly well and still rejoicing in Him for saving, keeping and healing and supplying us with our daily needs. At times, we are confronted with many discouraging features in our labors for the Lord, but we have decided to remain faithful to the Lord to life's end. Please continue to pray for us.

Enclosed find \$. . . as a missionary offering from our Assembly here. That God's richest blessings will ever be your portion, is our sincere prayer.

Yours in the family of God,—Israel and Olga Smalling

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Okla.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in Jesus' name. I have just pulled the window shades for the night. How good to shut out everything. How nice! This reminds me of how good it is to have pulled the shades on a sinful life and shut out sin.

How wonderful it would be to have some dear saints close by. I love God's children. It would be glorious to have an old-fashioned minister to listen to. How sad it is the way our so-called Christians are going, supposing to be representing the Church of God. It is discouraging to sinners.

Mother and I are still praying for a church here if it is God's will. We have children and other loved ones who are unsaved. Some have joined sect churches; this is sad.

Oh, we do pray for the print shop to stay in operation. It is God's work and we need it. I do love the "Faith and Victory." I have read it for years. I love the wonderful messages it brings to me, when I read it, and all the dear saints who write.

Remember our loved ones and my husband is not a Christian and is in the hospital. God bless all who take part at the shop, and may He also completely heal you and Bro. Pruitt.

Christian love, —Mrs. Nola Wells

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Tenn.—Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, and kind friends: It's been quite a few years since I began taking the "Faith and Victory" paper. Best I remember, it was in the late 20's when I first started taking it. I think there was a few times I let my subscription run out for awhile. It's been a blessing to me. It draws me closer to God. When the older Pruitt passed, it was a great loss, but heaven's gain. I was a young woman when I started taking the paper. Now I'm an older lady, 70 years old this year, 1974. I hope I can take it as long as I can see to read. My eyes bother me quite a bit. I was in a car wreck Jan. 21, 1973. I've not gotten completely over that. Thank God, I'm able to keep house for a lady three days a week. I'm a widow of 14 years. God has been good to me. I can't thank Him enough. I thank Him for a place like your print shop that will print the Bible truths.

May the Lord be with you all at the Printshop.

Yours in Christ, —Mrs. Jesse Simpson

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Ore.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, workers, and saints: Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We appreciate all the kindness and hospitality of the saints every where that we have been in the year of 1974. The Lord has blessed us in many ways, for which we are thankful. As we receive word from the field of answered prayer, it causes us to rejoice in our Lord, who is so able to meet each need.

I think of the text in Psalms 133:1, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." It is wonderful when we see cooperation in the work of the Kingdom of God. So much more can be accomplished, and I know this is pleasing to our Lord. There is no place for competition in the work we do for God. Paul said, "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." All of us should be pleased to do the work God has laid out for us to do. We should be able to complement or help each other for God's glory. In the Galatian letter, 5:20, there is a word, "emulations." In the 19th verse, it gives us to understand that this is a work of the flesh. Also, I believe that "contempt" is foreign to the work of the Kingdom of God. To belittle or to minimize the efforts of one's fellow labourers in God's work is not in keeping with God's Spirit. That is not the way He directs in the Church that Jesus built. If someone has been a blessing to you in leading you to the Lord, or helping to lighten your burden in working for Him, then we all share in the profit

We enjoyed working with the brethren in campmeetings and other meetings. We rejoiced to see folks blessed and lifted up in the Lord. For those that didn't yield to the Lord, I hope the Spirit of the Lord will still offer them another opportunity to receive the need of their souls.

May the Lord prosper you in your work for Him. I trust that God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory.

In Christian love, —Dan J. Kroker

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Ark.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, and all the co-workers: Greetings in the name of Jesus, who gave His life for all so they can have eternal life.

No doubt, you all are enjoying some good messages there in the Guthrie Assembly Meeting, and being with the saints, mingling your voices together in songs and praises unto the Lord. Oh, how thankful I would be to get to be with the saints, but since I am so crippled I don't get to be, only when they come to visit me. Bro. and Sis. Merrill Smith and children come by on their way back home from being with the little congregation at Wharton and I enjoy having them for a short time.

Sister Marie, I do need prayer for both soul and body.... I need more faith and patience in suffering and afflictions. Oh, if I had the faith and patience like some of the saints have that I read about in their testimonies, how happy I would be! I know that it is on my part, for the Lord is no respecter of persons. Pray for me that I can have a deeper consecration and get closer to the Lord. I am much afflicted, but not bed-fast, for which I thank the Lord. Remember my family in your prayers.

I hope you have a prosperous New Year in the printing of the Gospel.

—Sis. Kate Dotson

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Calif.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It makes me feel good, knowing I have tried to stay in the will of our wonderful Saviour during this past year. By the help of our Lord, I plan to continue in this life-style, until the Lord calls me home to be with Him. Praise the Lord!

I have so much to be thankful for, as I look back on this year. I am thankful that God has kept me saved and encouraged to live and do His will.

May God continue to bless and lead you in this work.

Sincerely, —Moslette Kern

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Wash.—Dear Brother: May God bless all of you at the publishing house for the good work you are doing by sending your papers out to this dying world. Here is a little contribution to you to help carry on the good work.

A Brother in Christ, —Olin Clark

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Ind.—Dear Brother Pruitt: Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus to you, all the workers at the Printshop, and the saints everywhere. I hope all are well and happy in our blessed Lord, and getting the wonderful message of salvation out to the many lost souls. Surely, the need is great, for the world is full of false prophets and deceivers.

I am more determined to go through with Jesus than ever before.

I hope you and all the saints everywhere have a very good new year in the Lord, and that many thousands of souls will be saved by the printed gospel.

Your Brother in the One Body, —Nathan Mobley

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Ohio.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and workers at the Printshop: Greetings of much love in the precious name of Jesus, the One who was so willing to give His precious life that we all could be saved. Praise His dear name! I am so thankful for His great love and mercy unto mankind. I love Him with all my heart, soul, mind, and spirit. I desire to be just what God would have me to be in every way. I am much encouraged to press on in the strait and narrow way.

Although I'm in much need of healing of my eyes, I have them in the Lord's hands, knowing He made them and has the power to heal them, so, I am just waiting on the Lord to do the work when He sees it is the time. I surely want God to get all the glory. I want all the good Lord wants me to have and that I can be the vessel He wants me to be....

We are praying for all of you, and hope and pray you have a good Assembly meeting there.

Please pray for us that God will have His way in our hearts and lives. May the Lord bless and help all of you in every needed way.

Love and prayers, —Bro. and Sis. Ray Key

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Fla.—Dear saints: I am happy in the Lord. He has been so good to me! He has lifted me out of the deep miry clay and settled my feet in the strait and narrow way. There I am determined to stay until He lifts me higher.

Dear ones, I am happy to have on the whole armour of God. The best of all is the shield of faith: that faith which will not shrink though pressed by every foe, and will not tremble on the brink of any woe. I want to hold that steadfast faith in God. "I mean to go right on until the crown is won: I mean to fight the fight of faith 'till life on earth is done." Praise the Lord!

Pray for me, my unsaved children and grandchildren. —Sis. E. B. McNair

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Penn.—Dear Sis. Marie: I appreciate reading the "Faith and Victory" paper with its many testimonies. It's been a real help down through the years to keep us looking heavenward. May the Lord bless and help you to keep on in His service. Hope your brother (Lawrence) is improving. God is able. I am praying for him. I am thankful God has spared your life.

Please pray for me. Each winter, I have such bronchial trouble and have an inactive gall bladder, which makes it difficult for me to eat. I have been losing weight. Pray for my family to be saved. My daughter must have a transplant in her eye in the spring, as the sight is almost gone. God has been so good to me in keeping me saved. I am isolated from the saints. He has touched me many times in answer to prayer. I have been able to rejoice in God, my Saviour. May all of you have a joyous holiday season. May God be real precious to you as the days come and go.

I am enclosing subscriptions for the paper.

—Sis. Blanche Crosswaite

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Penn.—Dear Sis. Miles: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I want you to know I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper very much. I'm sending in two new subscriptions for the paper. —Helen Ayers

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Ky.—Dear Brother: Find enclosed \$1.00. Please send your good paper to the following addresses and keep the change.... As for me, I think the "Faith and Victory" is one of the best papers that comes off of the press. I surely want it to come into my home until Jesus calls for me, and that will not be long. I will be 81 my next birthday. I have been attending the Church of God services for over 75 years. Leonard J. Ruggles

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Calif.—Dear Saints: Thanks to our Dear Lord for being saved and for all of His blessings to us. Thank God for the good thoughts he brings to our mind from day to day. As I started to write this letter to the Saints at the Faith and Victory Publishing House, the name "Faith and Victory" was made so plain to me.

The paper is about faith and victory over the enemy of our soul through the grace of God.

I am thankful of how mindful God is of us. When I was so fearful of what others would think of me, the Lord blessed me when I read Luke 12:5. The scripture tells us to fear God and why we should fear Him....

I desire an interest in your prayers that the Lord will bless me, and that I will always be found faithful to Him and being careful in all things. My goal is obedience to God.

In Christian love, —Sis. Magnolia Wilson

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Kansas—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings of heavenly love. We are yet encouraged by the grace of our Lord, to press the battle on. Our greatest aspiration in life yet, is to please Father and to be likened into His glorious image day by day. It is, indeed, quite a challenge to live a pure and holy life in this wicked generation, however, it is likewise the most pleasurable life that this time-world can afford. Who but the Christian is happy and free? A great victory, I am learning, in our Christian experience is to discover and to comprehend the depths of the scripture, "Godliness with contentment is great gain."

Praying the Lord to richly bless your labours of love.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Beverly Reed

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Mo.—Dear Ones at the Print Shop. Greetings to you in the name of Jesus, who died for us that we might live.

I am so thankful that all is so well with us. The Lord has surely blessed us in soul and body, although we have had some hard trials. The Lord has always helped us, and I know He will always help. Our job is to live to please Him and to keep our will submitted into His hands, then all will be well.

We trust the Lord will continue to keep the printing work going and supply all the needs.

We are praying for you, and we desire your prayers that we can continue on in the strait and narrow way.

Christian love, —Eula, Leslie Adams and boys

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Mich.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour who has done so much for us. Yes, and as you say, "The One, in whom we can have peace." I am so thankful He has given me this wonderful peace.

I am late in answering your letter, it isn't because I didn't enjoy reading it, for it was food to my soul. I always enjoy reading your writings and am so thankful for a good sister in the Lord. I pray for you each day. I know all of God's children have their trials and tests. We do need each others prayers. How wonderful that He has promised to not let us be tempted above that which we are able to bear, but will with the temptation make a way of escape that we may be able to bear it.

The devil is surely trying to overthrow us. He is powerful, but God is all powerful. Thanks be to God! We know the One that is on our side will help us to overcome the enemy of our souls, and give us the victory. He has never failed us yet, or left us alone to fight our battles, but He is our Captain. He goes before and helps us to be overcomers. Oh, it makes us want to keep close to Him, where we can be safe!

One time I was having a hard trial. (You know they come on sometimes without any reason or cause at all.) So it seemed I was almost crushed. I just turned to the Lord, and I said, "Lord, I know you can help me and lift this burden." As I looked to the Lord, I saw myself surrounded by Salvation like a beautiful light. Darts were being thrown at me, but they couldn't even dent this wall of Salvation. They would come up to it, but just drop over. I was so happy, and the trial lifted. Then the scripture came to me where Paul said in Eph. 6:6, "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." Praise God forever! He is all in all to me.

May God bless you in soul and body.

In Christian love, —Sis. Ether Hines

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Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Sis. Marie: We are hoping and praying that all is well with you. Wife and I are not too well. I have been having much trouble with colon and other troubles in my body. Earnestly pray for us. I have lost fifteen pounds or

more, and do not have an appetite. The Lord has been good to us. I will be 77 years old on Jan. 6, 1975. The Lord is near us in times of trouble. It is wonderful to have Him visit our souls and go with us to the crossing over.

—Your Bro. and Sis. W. C. McMakin

(I am sure that Bro. McMakin would appreciate a belated birthday card. He has been solid for the truth down through the years. Their address is 209 South Philadelphia, Shawnee, Okla. 74801.

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer

Ark.—Dear Sis. Marie and Bro. Lawrence: Greetings of love in Jesus' holy and blessed name. May the Lord bless and keep you each one safe in His fold, safe from all things that are not pleasing in His precious sight. Oh, how blessed it is to be kept safely in His care! His love is more precious to me all of the time.

He still cares for and heals all those who fully trust in Him, even when isolated. Thank the Lord, we can pray, and know He is near. Jesus touched and healed me once more. All praise and glory be to Him forever! He will never leave nor forsake us if we live for Him, keep humble and obedient, doing what He has commanded us to do. His commandments are not grievous, but it is a great blessing to do His precious will.

Jesus gives peace and songs in the night. Last night I had a very unpleasant dream. I awoke and was thinking. The Lord brought an encouraging song so sweetly to me. The song was, "I Mean To Go Right On Until The Crown Is Won." I just laid there in bed and sang that lovely song. It was encouraging to me. Praise the dear Lord forever!

It is precious to be under His wings of protection always. If only more dear people would turn to Him with all of their hearts, they could be so happy right here in this present world. So many love the fleeting pleasures of sin, and sin never satisfies. The Bible tells us that in His "presence is fulness of joy."

I do enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper, the good articles, prayer requests, and testimonies. The Bible Lessons are so good, also. Every day I pray the Lord to bless each one of the helpers at the Printshop. I want to help a little in bearing the need. I hope some will hear the call for help there for more dear laborers. Let's be encouraged in the Lord. Let us not become weary in well doing, nor faint in the time of trial.

—Sis. N. E. Adams

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KY.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all of the saints at the Printshop: The season greetings in the name of our wonderful Lord and Saviour. We can look back over 1974 and see how good, loving, and kind God has been to us. As we see all His blessings that He has bestowed upon us, we wonder if we have been as good to Him as He has been to us. We can never praise Him enough for what He has done for us.

I am so glad that He spoke sweet peace to my soul 40 years ago this past August. I have never been tired of the way since that time. The way grows brighter as I travel along this pilgrim way of holiness. The way is getting shorter for me to travel, but the light seems to be shining brighter day by day. If the Lord spares me until the 25th of Feb., 1975, I will be 82 years old, and the dear Lord has been so good to me. I can get around like a man at 45 or 50, and I do all of our work at our home. Dear Wife has been afflicted for over a year. She is not able to walk part of the time, so I do all of the work and wait on her. I pray a lot and trust the dear Saviour to give me strength to do the work. I know if it wasn't for the Lord, I wouldn't be able. I can truly say I love the Lord with all my heart, soul, body and strength. My wife is a good Christian. We are happy that we can say that the Lord is our Helper. We ask prayer of all of you there at the Printshop and all of the saints everywhere.

Bro. Pruitt, we pray for you that God will see fit to heal you and give you many more years of life to publish the "Faith and Victory" paper. I think that it is the most wonderful paper I have ever read. I have been taking it for so long, and I don't want to do without it.

May God bless every one in this New Year.

—Bro. Frank Dunaway and Wife

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Ky.—Dear Saints everywhere: Greetings in Jesus' dear name, the One that saves, keeps, and heals our body.

I was painting the chapel at Junction City, Kentucky, and I felt like I wrenched my back or pulled loose some ribs that had been broken some years ago. Whatever it was, the Lord knows. I was anointed and prayed for on a Tuesday night. The next morning, I awoke with pains shooting up my back and side. I couldn't be comfortable in any position. I asked God to help me and that I was willing to do anything He showed me to do. If He wanted me to suffer, I was willing to suffer for the Lord. I had it settled in my heart to trust the Lord no matter what came my way. I got up, resisting the affliction in the name of the Lord. I went about my morning chores. At times, the pain was almost unbearable. My wife insisted that I go to bed, but I was determined to defeat the devil. About noon, all the pain left my body, and I preached that night, which was during our revival meeting here. The devil had told me I wouldn't be able to preach any more. The devil is a liar and the father of it. If we resist him, he will flee from us. If we are determined to trust the Lord and have faith, the Lord will never fail us. Sometimes people yield to the arm of flesh just before victory comes. Saints, hold on to God until victory comes. He will never leave us or forsake us. I have learned to trust the Lord for all that I need. Pray for us that we will stand true to God, and be faithful unto the end. Remember in prayer a sister that lives close to us that has cancer and is trusting God completely.

Christian love,

—Bro. Gordon Humphrey

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Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and Bro. Lawrence: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. We have been praying for Bro. Lawrence to be healed, and for the work. We do love the "Faith and Victory" paper so much. It is food to our souls.

I want to thank the dear Lord for how He has touched my body. My health is so much better. I love the dear Lord and His dear saints. I want to make heaven my home. There is nothing in this old world to turn back to. . . . I have a special unspoken request.

—Bro. and Sis. Ralph Sell

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Oregon—Sis. Marie, greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: I am thankful I gave my heart to Him and accepted Him as my personal Saviour.

Dear Sister, it has been twelve and a half years that you have been helping me to bear my burdens concerning our son, Dennis. I want you to know God has healed him of the asthma. Oh, I just can't thank Him or praise Him enough!

My husband and I had noticed that Dennis hadn't been growing like he should, but I still trusted the dear Lord. When it was time to register for school this year, we took him to a doctor to get an excuse from P.E. The doctor was nice and gave us the excuse. But he also told us that our son had not grown or developed for two years and had the protruding chest and other symptoms of severe asthma. I refused medical treatment and told him we trusted God for our healing. He said, O.K., but if he wasn't any better by next year, he would insist on treatment and allergy tests. I took this to the congregation for prayer and when they started praying about it, Dennis began to get better. During the recent Assembly Meeting at Jefferson, Oregon, I felt led to have him anointed and God did something right away. Dennis got hungry for food right away. Ordinarily,

being in rain and dampness, he would have been severely sick, but he has had no sign of asthma so far. His pep and energy seem unending. One day I asked Dennis to tell me what seemed different to him. He said the fuzzy stuff was gone out of his chest and his heart didn't hurt any more. His heart would beat so fast at times. He has a strong pulse and rests well at night. God has worked another miracle for us, and I am so thankful, but I feel so unworthy. Who are we but such needy creatures and so dependent on God?

We moved to Silverton from Bend in July, so we are about thirty miles from Jefferson now. We thank the Lord for this move.

We also took Irwin to the doctor at school registration time this year for a high school required physical. His injured knee was X-rayed and a tumor was seen. The doctor said it was necessary to have surgery or Irwin would become a complete cripple. I said that we would have no surgery—that we would trust God. He said, OK, but if the knee wasn't any better by next year he would insist on surgery. We took this to the congregation also, and he started showing improvement right away. His knee was swollen and feverish. It doesn't bother him any more and he can bend it more than the other knee now. This tumor had apparently stemmed from the time he fell off a horse eight years ago. It definitely pays to trust God for *all* things.

I pray often for you and for the Lord to give you extra strength for the many duties you have. And I pray for the publishing work and workers—it is so important to us all.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers.
Christian love, —Beverly Wattenbarger

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Ind.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: I want to thank you for your prayers for me. God has wonderfully come to my aid again. I am able to eat again without any problem. I don't have any pain except the lower left side of my colon. It is still sore, but I am trusting God to heal this in His own time. I am striving to get closer to God and am praying much for more faith. I know God has more for us if we can only attain to it.

Yours in Christ, —Earl B. Bliss

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Mich.—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: I am an old man—87 years old. When I got saved and sanctified 43 years ago, I wanted to go all the way with God. My God put my name in His Book of Life up in heaven and they can't take that out of the book. I still love God with all my heart, and I mean to go on until the crown is won. I want to serve God the way the Bible teaches me—the old-time church of God. We don't have one in Albion and I am sick with bladder trouble. I need prayer by holy people, so I am writing to some of God's people who know the worth of prayer. Please pray for me . . . If you people pray, I shall receive healing, for I have faith in God.

May God bless you. —Avery James Ellis

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Okla.—Dear Fellow Workers: Greetings in the love that binds our hearts together. The Lord impressed me to send in my testimony that I am saved and sanctified. Only by the grace of God are we what we are. He lifted me out of sin and keeps me from sin each day, and I thank Him. Praise to our King! I am thankful to be a part of the church of God, which is spiritual Israel. I have yielded myself to His service as a vessel to be used as He wills. I like this way. It is a wonderful way. It is worth far more than silver or gold; it has riches untold.

I thank God for His dear older saints who have trod this way before and blazed the trail for us. Now it is falling on us, and what will we do with it? Will we let this truth die? No, never; we have just begun to fight. This kingdom is a kingdom that will triumph over all the powers of Satan. It's a kingdom that shall ever increase. I see this kingdom led by Christ increasing in this day.

Listen, today honest souls are perishing just in sight of home for lack of someone to show them the way. I have found people who are sick and tired of being led astray and they want something better. Do you realize, saints, that my generation has never heard the true Word of God? When it is presented in its fullness, they are shocked and even call it a pagan religion. But the good part is they are accepting it when they can't prove me wrong. I have been led to deal with many souls. Some flatly reject and will even fight for their side. These are the so-called Christians of today. I've been threatened, and told that I could get killed, but I commit it all to God. I only love and show kindness to them, and many onlookers have been shown Christ. A little verse comes to my mind, "Thou many, the voice within me, would love to still, I only pray, God, their hearts with love to fill." This has given me a deep burden for souls deceived by the devil in false religions.

The truth needs to be put out as never before. I thank God for the "Faith and Victory." It is a light to this dark world. The Lord laid it on my heart to help in printing the gospel. He led me, and I have purchased an A.B. Dick Offset printing machine. It works fine. I have dedicated it to spread the truth. We have already printed over 1000 copies. The Lord gives me poems and I use them to give light to many people personally this way.

Listen, brethren and sisters, we enjoy this truth. Are we going to be selfish? Others need it, too. Will you lend them a helping hand?

The stir is in the air; the chill is in the land.

Time is running out—Soon they won't be able to join God's Holy Band.

Pray for me, and let's unite more.

Your brother in Christ, —Dadie Jay Moore

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

S. Carolina—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all the saints at the Printshop: Greetings of love to all who are laboring for precious souls. God is surely blessing me with good health in my old age—past 80 years. Today finds me still standing for the whole truth of God's Word. Praise the Lord!

I am surely enjoying the "Faith and Victory" paper. It is food for my soul. I am trying to place them in the hands of others that they may see the one church of God and that all who are saved are born into that one family.

It seems that the time is at hand for our Lord to return. I want to be ready to go back with Him when He comes for His saints who have stood true to the end of the way . . .

When you pray, remember me. —Bro. Eddie Driggers

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Minn.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings in the holy and precious name of Jesus, our Redeemer and best Friend. May the Lord bless all of you there in the Printshop and keep you in health and strength that the Word of God may go forth with power.

This leaves me well in soul and body, for which I thank the Lord who saved my soul, taught me to pray and live for Him who does all things well . . . My sins are forgiven and I am going to heaven when my life's work is done.

Bro. Lawrence, I am praying for all of you. Keep the good work going. —Bro. Andrew Senti

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

N.Y.—Dear co-workers at the Faith Publishing House: Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. I am pressing onward and upward to heaven in the Saviour's strength and through His tender mercies. I thank Him for His many benefits unto me. He has never left me alone, and I am still saved, also leaning upon His everlasting arms. I thank God for His healing touch to my body in answer to the prayers of the people of God. I mean to serve Him all my days and make heaven my home, by His grace. —Ella Hemphill

Ind.—Dear Sister Miles: Your nice and encouraging letter came several weeks ago, and since then, the Lord has touched me. I do praise and thank Him for what He has done for me. I never could describe the suffering. I really thought I had cancer and my time had come to go. Isn't it wonderful to be brought down to death's door and have the Lord to bring us up from what it appeared to be? Praise the dear and precious Lord! I still have some other afflictions, but nothing compared to what I had. Thank you, dear saints, and all who have prayed for me....

Sis. Laborn, Bro. and Sis. McCoy, Bro. and Sis. Samons, Sis. Scott Baker and daughter, Betty Mae, and Bro. Hines were all here at my home. I enjoyed them and loved them. . . . I enjoyed their singing. The Lord is teaching me to wait on Him. He has answered prayer for me since they were here. . . .

I hope the Lord has undertaken about the problem at the print shop, so this wonderful work will continue. It is needed. The "Faith and Victory" is my choice of papers. May God bless you, dear sister, and Bro. Pruitt, in your labors of love. Remember me in your prayers. —Sis. Ione Strebeg

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GOD DELIVERS FROM DOPE

Ohio—To all the Saints and people far and near, I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ! I praise the Lord for saving my soul and giving me the understanding that "neither is salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. I've been truly saved now for over a year. I had made a start six months before I found real satisfaction. When I saw I had to give up all sin, sinful friends, my thoughts, and my ways, I then found peace with God.

I had begun a sinful career of drinking, smoking, sinful parties, and running around at an early age, and before I knew it, I had plunged into the life of a dope addict. It all happened so fast. About this time, I enrolled in a business college where I met the girl I married. This seemed to slow me down in my wild career for a short while, but it wasn't long until I was back smoking and drinking heavily. One sin was leading to another, and soon I found myself indulging in drug parties, using marijuana, sniffing cocaine, and popping pills. These led to shooting (injecting in the veins) heroin and I became a drug addict. Soon I became well acquainted with the drug world: the dope dealers, the addicts, and the dope houses. I was by this time strung out (addicted). It had me in the worst way. It took my money, most of my time, the happiness of my home, and was even taking my desire to live. At a sober moment, I began to realize my condition, and though my wife pleaded with me, I couldn't stop. I went to a medical rehabilitation center to be cured, but found no help there. They were only administering a substitute drug to keep me satisfied.

Sis. Clark, the pastor of the Church in Akron, and my wife tried to persuade me to come home in hopes that I would get saved in the campmeeting then convened in Akron in July. Instead, I left town for a month or more, thinking I could conquer it on my own, but the habit was growing. We were about to lose our home, our furniture, our car, and all. Our marriage was on the verge of falling apart. Still, I couldn't help myself. I was spending twenty-five dollars and soon fifty dollars a day on my habit, using money that had to be obtained in desperation.

The saints were holding on to me through prayer and counselling, but I wouldn't listen, as I could only stop for a short while. When the sensation began to die, I had to get more. My body had become accustomed to a certain amount of drugs to keep me satisfied. I had to have it or lose my mind, I thought. The devil, my master, was driving me to deep depths. Things were becoming so bad that one day I called Sister Clark and pleaded in tears for help. I knew I had to have help at once. By this time, my condition was pitiful. My wife and the saints tried to persuade me to come back to church and

try salvation again, as I had failed before. This was my only hope now. I obeyed: then I pleaded with God to help me. With the saints' prayers helping me to pray through, God again took me back into His love. The Lord had saved me and the church was determined to help me hold on to victory. To help in the battle, a young saved couple with their child moved into our home and took over the affairs of the home. At first, I rebelled against this. Then again, I finally came to myself. There was one hour prayer meeting in my home every morning, along with one hour prayer service at the church each day. I needed all the prayers that I could get. Prayer was the only thing that would help me to hold to God's unchanging hand. Daily I had to resist the enemy who tried to bring the power of the habit on me again. Only an addict can describe the deep depressions and sicknesses under the power of this habit. It will take you to hell, as that habit must be gratified. It is a hell on earth, and many times the devil makes you think you are dying. Many men and women have lost their minds, and I would have done so, too, had it not been for the Lord. I thank the Lord for complete deliverance and that I can say with all truthfulness that no mental or physical scars remain. God has taken all desire for this habit out of me. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36.

Not only has the Lord delivered me, but He has sanctified my nature and keeps me pure within. He has given me peace, joy, and happiness. Now I can say with the apostle Paul, nothing "shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8:39. This testimony is to warn young and old alike, that drugs have no respect of age and are a tormentor to mankind. Drugs will make you a slave and destroy your God-given virtues. To those who are bound by drug habits, or any other bad habits, I want to invite you to a Saviour who can cure all manner of diseases. He cured me when I knew the cure was beyond the reach of man. He will heal you of sin if you give your case to Him.

This modern world is only a path to a devil's hell. I pray that many will not only read this, but also write me. I will personally tell you the true cure. God will make a new creature out of you, where you will become a man of God, a servant of the Most High God. There is nothing impossible with Him. Praise the Lord!

—John Austin

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Called To Learn Of Jesus

Saints are in a classroom and should be passing each year into a higher grace if we are studying and doing our best. We expect our children to pass each year until they graduate. Don't you think our heavenly Father expects the same of us? In Matt. 11:29, Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

There are dropouts in this school of the Lord, and some are expelled because they refuse to abide by the rules. In the Bible, we read about Uzzah. He was expelled because he forgot to obey God's rules. He reached out and touched the holy ark (2 Sam. 6:6) when he knew better. Ananias and Sapphira were expelled because they lied to the Holy Ghost. (Acts 5:1-10) Judas Iscariot was among the number who were expelled.

This classroom has the best trained teachers. There is no excuse for failing if we really want to learn and apply ourselves. Some have graduated with high honors and gone to the Heavenly College, leaving a record for us to aspire to. Paul, Jesus' disciples, Job, Moses, Jacob, and Abraham were

outstanding scholars. Our great Professor has given His teachers the best of training in deserts or on oceans of perils. They laboured hard to train and become qualified teachers. Lord, help us to learn our lessons well. We want to leave behind a good report or a mark that others may strive for, even as we strive to pattern ourselves after those who graduated with high scholastic honors. As we receive our diplomas and shake hands with the Heavenly Professor at last, may we hear the words, "Well done, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord."
—Grace Jones

Measure for Measure

Who among us mortals on the shores of time can comprehend and feel the vastness of life's responsibilities? What man among us sees and understands what his life today is making for him in eternity? Who lives each day in thought, word and deed as if he fully understood and believed this? O soul, remember, you are the architect of your own destiny. Each day you are fixing your own eternal existence. What you are doing today is making you what you shall be in that world where life has no ending.

We are to understand that we are not our own saviors, neither can we gain heaven by our own good works. Christ is our Savior, but in Him we are to work out our own salvation. None of our good works will put us into Christ, but when once we are put into Christ by the Holy Spirit through faith, then we are to build ourselves up into Christ by living unto Him. Good works do not put us into grace, but they do promote growth in grace.

Jesus said, "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." Jesus' saying these words does not make them true. He said them because they were true. They were true in the being of God from eternity, and they are true in the being of man who is made in the image of God. The great, unfailing law is that what man measures out is measured back to him. He will give Himself in the exact measure we give ourselves to Him.

God does everything by weight and measure. His balances are correct to the millionth part of a scruple, and His measure is accurate to the ten-millionth part of an inch. This is an unfailing law. God has written it all over both the natural and the spiritual world. You will reap what you sow. You will not only reap in kind, but also the measure of your reaping will be according to the measure of your sowing. They that sow bountifully will have a bountiful reaping. This law is written in the being of God. He cannot work outside of this law. Because of this law, Jesus could not save the rich young ruler. This man was a little short of the measure. God rewards by measure, and punishes by measure. Oh, the amazing accuracy of this law! It will bend to favor no man. If we measure out a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, there will be measured back to us just what was contained in the deed. You can measure out what you will, but soul, remember, that is just what is coming

back to you. We get out of every thing just what we put in. If we put in sin and selfishness, that is what we get out. If we put in love and goodness, then it is love and goodness that will come into our own hearts. The spirit, the motive in which we do things, is what comes back into our own lives and makes us what we are. You may do good deeds, but if you do them with a selfish intent, every one you do will make you the more selfish. Measure for measure is the unchanging law of God. What we give out is what we have. What we hoard up to ourselves is what we lose. Do not think of treasures in heaven as being some tangible thing outside of yourself. Your treasures will all be in your own soul. What you are will be your treasure. And what man is over there depends altogether upon what he has measured out while here.
—C. E. Orr

GROWING OLD

They say I am growing old;
I heard them tell it times untold,
In language very plain and bold,
But I am not growing old.
This frail shell in which I dwell
Is growing old, I know full well,
But I am not the shell.
What if my hair is turning grey;
Grey hairs are honorable, they say.
What if my eyes are growing dim?
I still can see to follow Him,
Who sacrificed His life for me
Upon the cross of Calvary.
Why should I care if time's old plow
Has made its furrow in my brow.
Another house not made with hands
Awaits me in the glory world.
What though I falter in my walk?
What though my tongue refuse to talk?
I still can tread the narrow way;
I still can watch and praise and pray.
My hearing may not be as keen
As in the past it may have been;
I still can hear my Saviour say
In whispers soft, "This is the way."
The outward man, do what we can
To lengthen out this life's span,
Shall perish and return to dust,
As everything in nature must.
The inward man, the Scriptures say,
Is growing stronger day by day.
Then how can I be growing old
When safe in my Saviour's fold?
Ere long this soul will fly away,
And leave this tenement of clay.
This robe of flesh I will drop and rise
And seize the everlasting prize.
I'll meet you on the streets of gold,
And prove that I am not growing old!

—Selected by Andrew Senti

Urgent prayer is requested for Bro. Curtis Williams, evangelist, who had the flu about two months ago and it has affected his right lung ever since. On Jan. 1st he had a relapse of suffering and coughing. Pray earnestly for his healing. His address is: R. 1, Morehead, Ky. 40351