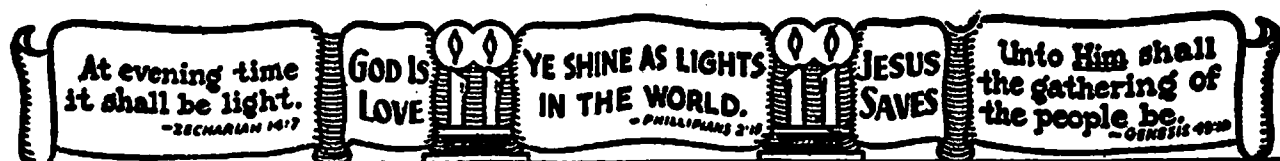


FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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55th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

July, 1977

The Holy Design of The Church

The blueprint of God's Church is found
Laid out in Holy Writ;
The border of its holy ground,
All that pertains to it:

Forgiven, washed in Jesus' blood
From all the stain of sin,
Made holy through the crimson flood—
All glorious within;

Then sanctified, and Spirit filled,
Anointed and inspired,
All consecrated, Heaven willed
As Christ, the Lord, desired;

Made one in Christ all members are:
One heart, one soul, one mind,
One body with no schism-mar,
All to God's will resigned;

All Spirit led, man rule denied—
God speaks and goes before;
To live and labor by His side
And trust Him evermore;

Most holy is the sacred law
In all we do and say,
In dress, in manner: modest awe
To walk the holy way;

Victorious in holy might
O'er Satan's dreadful spell,
Unmoved, unstained, in robes of white
Against the gates of hell.

This is the Church that Jesus built,
The one designed above;
Thou mayest enter if thou wilt,
And walk in perfect love.

—Leslie Busbee

The Church of God

The Church of God is the only institution on earth that is of heavenly origin. It is the only institution on the shores of time that will continue to exist in eternity. All else will pass away with the closing of time. The glory of empires, the magnificence of civilization, the grandeur of monarchies of time will have no reflection amid the glories of heaven. The splendor of earth's fortunes, the pomp and show of earth's glories, the renown of eloquence and oratory, the fame of schools of learning, the enchantments of beautiful forms and ceremonies of creeds will find no imprint, will have no representation in that land beyond the grave. Only the Church of God will shine there. It came down from heaven, and will return to heaven.

The Church of God is God's body, not only on earth, but also through all eternity. The church is God's habitation now and forever. God will dwell in His people and His people in Him while the cycles of eternity roll on unending. The Church of God on earth is God's incarnation among men. As men read the history of the true church they will read the biography of God. The life of the church is His life. The world is God's creation as a Creator, the church is His creation as a Life-Giver. It is His own life. It lives in Him and He in it. The church is a creation in Christ. The church is not created in Christ by a mere creative act, but by being born of God. The church is born of God in Christ and is the offspring of God. God loves the world as His creation. He loves the church as the life of His life.

The Church of God on earth contains heavenly elements and nothing that is not heavenly. The church bears God's image. God views His own likeness in His church. The church is a mirror which reflects all the Divine perfections. The Church of God is a living thing. It lives upon the life of God. God's life flows through its veins. The life of Jesus circulates freely through His church, as freely as the blood circulates through the human body—the church is His body. It feeds on heavenly food. It breathes the atmosphere of heaven.

God and man united in Christ is the church. In the Church of God is the uniting of all men with God and

Attend National Campmeeting, July 22 to 31, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.

with each other. The manifold wisdom of God, the mysteries of God, the character of God is revealed through His church. God in His beauty shines out of the church. She is all fair; there is no spot in her. God made the sun, moon, and all the shining stars, but He does not make them His dwelling place. When He built His church He said, "This is my rest; here I will dwell and multiply myself; here I have found such beauty and worth as to call out the fullest capacity of my love; here I find the fullest complacency of my being, here I see of the travail of my soul and I am satisfied."

The Church of God is attended by the ministry of angels. It is the only institution on earth that angels desire to look into. They pass every other thing by, but stop at the church to admire her beauty and to bestow their ministry. It is the only institution on earth that affords joy to the angels. It is the only institution over which they sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." All of the conquests of the church on earth bring joy to the angels.

The Church of God is the only institution on earth that can worship God. God, to be worshipped, must be worshipped in Spirit and truth, and nothing but the church has the Spirit and the truth. The church is full of heavenly instincts. God gives instinct to the bird and this instinct teaches it to do things. Heavenly instincts fill the church, teaching it to do heavenly things. Its life is heavenly life. It lives by heavenly things, and divine things are wrought out by her activities. The church is Holy Spirit filled and Holy Spirit governed. The church is in the world, but the world is not in the church. There is no room for the world in the church. It is filled with divine things. The fish is in the salty ocean, but the fish is not salty. If you die in the church you do not go out of it; if you die out of it you can never get in it. There is no sin in the church. Her law is the law of holiness. All honor in the church is given to the Holy Trinity. Some day the Church of God is going to be caught up to heaven and receive a faultless presentation into the immediate presence of God's glory and the joys of heaven will be full and complete and be undiminished while eternity rolls on forever.

—C. E. Orr

Christ Gave Himself for the Church

Darkness fell and little six-year-old Patricia didn't come home. Her parents were worried, and they looked for her until they had exhausted all the probabilities of where she might be. They called the police who became much concerned. Police Sgt. Michael Palese told her mother that she was probably at a friend's house, but that he wasn't going to take any chances, so out into the snow storm he went with 20 officers and a canine unit, searching for the first-grader. While crossing a trestle, he tried to outrun a train, and was killed instantly. Patricia was found at a friend's home where she had gone without telling her parents she was staying overnight. The little girl cried when she heard about the policeman giving his life for her.

Many times we hear of similar incidents where someone gives his life for another, but there is One who gave His life for sinners. First, God gave His Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,

but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Oh, the great love of God for those who were helpless to help themselves! Sin separated us from God. Someone needed to bridge the gap, and Jesus, God's only Son, came to this world and died on the cross, bearing our sins so we could be brought to God. Sin could never come into God's presence, but as we accept Christ as "the propitiation for our sins" then we can have communion with Christ. Truly, it is wonderful to belong to Christ. His love can't be denied. He proved His love for us. He didn't leave anything undone that should have been done, but went all the way so we could have everlasting life. Praises be unto our Saviour, Lord, and King!

"Christ . . . loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:25-27. Are we living a spotless life, free from sin and blemish of any kind? Oh, that is the church that Jesus "gave himself for!" Let us be watchful, careful, and walk daily to please the Lord, so we can be ready to meet the One who gave His life for us.

—Sis. Marie Miles

SALVATION

Salvation is the grandest theme of gospel story, which is the most important message ever delivered to man. Centuries before the advent of the Messiah, the prophet Isaiah predicted his coming and said, "He will come and save you" (Isa. 35:4). The angel of God, announcing his birth, said to Joseph concerning Mary, "She shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). This was his special mission to earth. He himself declared, "The son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). The apostle Paul affirms that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (I Tim. 1:15). Peter declares that God hath exalted Christ "to be a Prince and a Saviour (Acts 5: 31); while according to Hebrews he is still "able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:25). Therefore salvation must be

A Present Possibility.

In Heb. 2:3 we read, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" The fact that men can neglect the great salvation of Jesus Christ proves that it is obtainable; and if it is obtainable, then it is a present possibility. The New Testament throughout speaks of salvation as obtainable by men in their present state on the earth. When the Philippian jailer asked, "What must I do to be saved?" the answer was quickly given, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:30, 31). And Paul says, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth" (Rom. 1:16). And again, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Rom. 10:9). To the Corinthians he declared that it had "pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that

believe" (I Cor. 1:21). And in language still more emphatic he declares, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2).

The text last quoted shows that this "great salvation" belongs in some special manner to the present dispensation of divine grace. Many people are being deceived by Satan into believing the fatal lie that in some way or other they can obtain salvation in a future age. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." May God help every honest soul to see that salvation must be obtained now or never.

Some Have Obtained It

One of the best proofs that salvation is a present possibility is the fact that some have already obtained it. In II Tim. 1:9 the apostle Paul affirms that God "hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling." Peter writes to certain brethren to this effect: Ye have received "the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls" (I Pet. 1:9). Paul refers to the work Christ wrought in human hearts, saying, "According to his mercy *he saved us*, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Tit. 3:5). "By grace ye are saved" (Eph. 2:5, 8). "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto *us which are saved* it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1:18).

What Salvation Means

What does this term "salvation" signify? Its literal meaning is *deliverance*; hence in its spiritual usage it signifies *deliverance from sin*. Let the Word of God define its meaning: "Thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall *save his people from their sins*" (Matt. 1:21). "Ye know that he was manifested to *take away our sins*" (I John 3:5). "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might *destroy the works of the devil*" (verse 8). He "*gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world*" (Gal. 1:4).

The Word of God is so very plain that we marvel so many people misunderstand its teaching on this point. It is the happy privilege of every guilty soul to receive, at this very hour, a free and perfect deliverance from all sin. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9, 7). Yea, he hath "loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood" (Rev. 1:5).

Now, while all Christians believe that the blood of Christ was shed for sin, still in many cases this provision for sin is not connected vitally with the individual believer, thus making the work of actual deliverance from all sin a present accomplished fact. If the actual results of salvation are not accomplished in the heart and life, then it is because the person is not yet saved. Many people who are still continuing to do the works of sin claim to be Christian, declaring that they are "saved by faith" or are "sinners saved by grace." Now, how can a person be saved by faith or by grace while at the same time he is *not saved at all*? Salvation is received by faith, but a definite result is obtained, for we "receive the *end of our faith*, even THE SALVATION OF OUR SOULS" (I Pet. 1:9). Of what use is a mere profession of religion unless one has a real experience in the soul? But when the person really has salvation, then testifies boldly to the fact, it has the desired effect; as Paul says, "That the communication of thy faith may become effectual, by the

acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus" (Philemon 6).

Notice how the apostle Paul also connects salvation with its results in the individual heart and life: "For the grace of God that bringeth *salvation* hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should *live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world*; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and of our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, *that he might REDEEM us from all iniquity*, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Tit. 2:11-14).

—F. G. Smith

From *What the Bible Teaches*, 1913 edition

Nature of Sin

Two verses of Scripture give us a correct interpretation of sin. I John 3:4 — "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." Jas. 4:17 — "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Sin is therefore either the direct transgression of God's law or else the willful failure to conform to its requirements. But God's law is an infinite law; therefore its violation becomes a serious offense, involving the soul in spiritual ruin, both in time and in eternity. "Is not thy wickedness great? and thine iniquities infinite?" (Job 22:5). The first act of this character committed by our fore-parents caused their banishment from Eden and the consequent train of sickness, pain, sorrow, and death.

The consciousness of sin is universal, all men having fallen under its dismal and blighting sway. One of the grand arguments of Paul in the Roman letter was to show that all men are sinners, in order that he might emphasize the truth of Christ's mission as the universal Saviour. He charges the Jewish nation with sin, notwithstanding their revealed law of God, and quotes their Scriptures to prove the assertion. His description of the Gentile world shows their wretched condition morally. Then he proceeds to say: "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another" (Rom. 2:14, 15).

The argument is plain. The Gentiles, independent of the written revealed law of God, possessed a revelation of God's law within their own natures sufficient to fix responsibility; therefore in transgressing this law they also became sinners. He is not teaching that men are saved by their conscience, independent of revelation, but that they are by this means all condemned and lost. Listen to his conclusion: "We have before proved both Jew and Gentiles, *that they are all under sin*" (chap. 3:9). "There is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (verses 22, 23). In another place he says, "The Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe" (Gal. 3:22). It is unnecessary to multiply texts on this point. The uniform testimony of Scripture is that all men are "by nature the children of wrath."

—F. G. Smith

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

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

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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 teach you to do or stir 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

GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS on the arrival of this summer season: We hope that many of you will be privileged to attend at least some of the Church of God campmeetings and evangelistic tent meetings that will be held at various places across the country.

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It is God's will that every person should hear and believe the gospel—the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, who paid the redemptive price for every soul. Let us be "workers together" with God and His people in this special summer effort to reach many more precious souls with the gospel message by personal witnessing and passing out gospel literature.

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According to our stated policy and usual practice, this "Faith and Victory" paper will not be published for the month of August. This omission of one issue will relieve the workload somewhat in the month of July, and allow our faithful co-workers some time off, if they so desire, during July to attend a campmeeting or two, or do whatever the Lord may direct. Since the demand for gospel literature has increased so much, it seems very necessary to keep the presses running through the summer, if possible. When one gets a God-given vision of the value of one soul, no sacrifice is too great to help rescue the perishing. Lord willing, some of us will be working here at the office all through the summer.

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The 43rd annual Oklahoma State campmeeting, held here at Guthrie from May 27 to June 5, was especially blessed of the Lord by His presence and convicting power. The large attendance was from many states. A number of out-of-state and in-state ministers were mightily used to preach the Word under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Conviction came down time after time. Many souls responded to the gospel invitations, and found the unspeakable joy and peace of sins forgiven. On the last Sunday a number of converts followed Jesus' example and command of water baptism. On the previous day the other New Testament ordinances of the Lord's House—feet-washing and the Lord's Supper—were observed. These were very solemn and sacred services which brought afresh to our hearts the great love of our Saviour for mankind.

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A number of obituaries appear in this issue of saints who recently finished their earthly pilgrimage and are at rest with the Lord. Our sincere sympathy is extended to all the bereaved relatives, and may the God of all comfort be their portion continually.

Sister G. A. Nichols of Loranger, La., who is the mother of our daughter-in-law, Clarice Pruitt, passed away on June 14 after a long illness. My wife, her sister Maude Hornbeck, and this writer left by auto

that same day to attend the funeral to be held in Hammond, La. The next day, about the time we arrived in Loranger, Sister Etta Williamson, aged 88, of that congregation also passed to her eternal Home. We attended both funerals, one on Thursday and the other on Saturday. Bro. Randall Flynn, a co-worker at this publishing plant, came by plane to attend his Grandmother Williamson's funeral and returned with us to Guthrie on June 19th. Our thanks and praise to the Lord for a safe round trip over the dangerous highways.

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Sister Opal Kelly, who usually keeps busy here in Guthrie in the publishing and distribution of the Spanish gospel literature, is driving to Ojos Negros, Baja C., Mexico, to attend the campmeeting which is scheduled to begin on June 27. Sister Kelly is especially concerned with that campmeeting as she had previously spent several years at that Spanish mission station. Pray for her safe return to her Spanish literature ministry.

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Occasionally, we receive offerings to the Lord's work from individuals who do not sign their names or give their addresses, preferring to remain anonymous. Since we have no way to personally acknowledge these offerings, we take this means to express our sincere appreciation to all those contributors. Be assured that your sacrificial service to the Lord's cause and precious souls is not unknown to Him, and your treasures laid up in heaven to your account will never fade away.

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Out of print for many years, the excellent book, "Christian Baptism, Feet Washing and the Lord's Supper" by H. M. Riggle, has been reprinted verbatim and is expected to be available by August 1st. This doctrinal book on the three ordinances of the New Testament contains 264 pages in a nice cloth cover. The price is \$3.00 per copy, plus 40c for postage and handling. Please send your order with remittance, and it will be filled and mailed as soon as the books are ready.

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Thank the Lord for giving Bro. Geo. Hammond a safe and profitable three-weeks' round trip to the Philippines. He arrived by plane in Oklahoma City on June 20, and drove on to his home in Kenosha, Wisconsin. His mission report appears on another page of this issue.

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At the coming National campmeeting (July 22 to 31) at Neosho, Mo., we expect to have, as usual, the Bible Book Store open where Bibles, song books, and other gospel literature will be available. Come in and browse around. We hope to see you there.

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Write for a full price list of Bibles, books, cards, and other items. Listed in our book stock are many of those excellent old books written by the pioneer ministers of the Church of God Reformation which had 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.

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Our old, obsolete, hand-fed, Miehle letter printing press, which had been the "workhorse" of the pressroom at the Lord's Print Shop for thirty years, has been idle for about three years. Its work has been taken over by the faster presses using the off-set printing process. Though it had very little value as a printing press and occupied valuable floor space, for sentimental reasons in respect to its long work record in producing gospel literature we had been reluctant to consign the 6½-ton machine to the scrap pile. However, this week (June 20-23) the brethren in the shop and Bro. Hyrum Ray demolished the old faithful press and hauled it to the metal scrap dealer where it brought 2¢ per pound.

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Another shipment of 10,000 pounds of printing paper is scheduled for delivery to the Lord's Print Shop the first part of July at a cost of over \$3,200. Jesus said, "The gospel must first be published among all nations," (Mark 13:10) and His Church must be so doing until He comes again.

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In stock at this office are more than 400 different titles of gospel tracts in English and Spanish 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 tract may result in the salvation of many souls.

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The book, "God's Gracious Dealings," written by my father, Fred Pruitt, has been out of print for a number of years. The last edition was published in 1962, the year before my father's Home-going in 1963. Many calls have come for that book, and Lord willing, we plan to add more pages, bring it up to date, and reprint this book as soon as possible.

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This writer is still trusting the precious promises of God for his healing in this fiery trial of faith. I am endeavoring to learn and profert by all the lessons God has for me in this prolonged test, as nothing touches our lives except for our good or for someone else. With Job of old I say, "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him." Job 23:10, 14. The Lord still gives me strength to work long hours in the office, for which I am very grateful. Thanks again for your prayers, letters, get-well cards, and words of encouragement in this testing time. Please continue to pray until the victory is won, and faith is lost in sight.

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May God's presence abide with all our readers to guard and guide each one on the path of life, and, Lord willing, we will greet you again in the September issue of this paper. —Lawrence D. Pruitt

Partial List of Items Available

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 512 pages in cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of God. Price, \$3.00 each.

Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner by A. L. Byers. A reprint with additional pictures of pioneer ministers. Cloth bound, 496 pages. Price, \$5.00 each.

Prophetic Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation by F. G. Smith. It contains 260 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.00 each.

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The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages. Nice paper binding is priced at \$3.00 each, and the cloth binding is \$5.00 each.

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle. Reprinted verbatim in 541 pages, cloth binding. Price, \$5.00 each.

Life's Golden Gleanings by Ruby E. Stover. She records many experiences of her childhood, and how God answered prayer in marvelous ways in her family and through the years in the gospel work. 94 pages in nice paper cover. Price, \$1.00.

The Great Physician by Mrs. Lucie Newman, which is a booklet of 32 pages in a paper binding. This is a faith-inspiring, true story of a young lady who was miraculously healed by the prayer of faith in God after she was given up to die by the medical profession. Price, 35c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

Bible Readings for Bible Students and for the Home and Fireside compiled by S. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle. Originally published in 1902, this excellent volume contains 432 pages of Scripture references and comments on many Bible subjects. Nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00.

Tim and His Lamp, re-written by Fern Stubblefield. This excellent booklet of 52 pages for children and young people is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 35c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

From Darkness To Light, a twenty-page booklet by Bro. Mart Samons, which is his inspiring testimony of his marvelous conversion, his call to the ministry, and some of his experiences of living by faith in the gospel work. Price, 25c each, or five copies for \$1.00.

Adventures in the Land of Canaan by R. L. Berry. An instructive allegory of true-to-life experiences in the grace of sanctification. 128 pages in paper cover. Price, \$1.00 per copy.

Parent and Child by J. W. Byers. Out of print for many years, this 60-page booklet with a heavy paper cover is heartily recommended for young parents to aid them in their child-training. Price, 40c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

Echoes From Heaven—a new song book of 195 songs in shaped notes. In a heavy paper cover, this song book is priced at \$1.65 each.

Life's Story and Healings by Sister Nellie Poulos. Just off the press, this book is a reprint of her book which had been out of print for a number of years. With additional material, this volume contains 160 pages with a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.25 each.

Courtship and Marriage, a 12-page pamphlet which was copied from a taped sermon delivered by Bro. Ostis Wilson to a group of young people in Oregon in 1976. These vital Bible truths in printed form should be in the hands of every person, young and old, who is contemplating marriage. In order to encourage a wide circulation of this pamphlet, we are offering it free of charge here at the office in limited quantities. For mail orders, please enclose a coin or stamps for postage.

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Obituaries

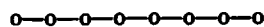


Berniece M. Rumfelt, the daughter of Lum and Collie King Phillips, was born on May 11, 1902, in New Wells, Mo., and departed this life on May 17, 1977, in Jackson, Mo. She was married to Hezekiah Rumfelt on February 24, 1932 and he preceded her in death on Nov. 4, 1976. Two children, Mary and Gertrude, also preceded her in death.

She is survived by one son, Lyman Rumfelt, of Pochontas, Mo.; two daughters, Mrs. Fredrick (Vergie) Dick of Rochester, Mich., and Mrs. Don (Virginia) Cotner of Ballwin, Mo.; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two half-brothers; four half-sisters; two step-sisters; and one step-brother.

She was a member of the Church of God. She had a strong determination to please God and testified many times of her love for Him.

Funeral service was conducted by Bro. Donald Sharp at Jackson, Mo.



Malvina (McNeil) Nichols was born on April 2, 1905, at Louin, Miss., and departed this life to be with the Lord on June 14, 1977, at Loranger, La., at the age of 72 years, two months and twelve days.

Sister Nichols was saved and embraced the truth of the Church of God many years ago in Mississippi. More than thirteen years ago, Sister Nichols suffered a major stroke which left her an invalid. All those years her faithful husband, Bro. Gatha Nichols, cared for her in their home with the help of their daughters who live nearby. Though she could not speak, she seemed to understand to an extent what was spoken to her, and she

almost always had a smile for those who came to visit. Sister Nichols is now at rest with the Lord.

She leaves to mourn their loss: her husband, Gatha A. Nichols of the home; three daughters, Mrs. Douglas (Nyda) Hall, Mrs. Byron (Clarice) Pruitt, and Mrs. Charles (Joan) DePhillips, all of Loranger, La.; three sisters, Ida Bishop and Tressie McGee, both of Louin, Miss., and Jewel Smith, of Savannah, Ga.; one brother, James A. McNeil, of Louin, Miss.; four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, other relatives, many friends and saints.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. C. C. Carver, assisted by Sister LaVerne Manuel and Bros. Bob Forbes, Curtis Williams, and Charles Smith, at the Harry McKneely and Son Funeral Home Chapel in Hammond, La. Interment was in the Oak Grove Cemetery near Loranger, Louisiana.

—L. D. Pruitt

Note of Appreciation

We, the family of Malvina (McNeil) Nichols, wish to express our thanks and gratitude to all the saints and friends for their love, prayers, phone calls, letters, and cards of comfort and encouragement throughout the 13 years our companion and mother was ill, and at the time of her death, June 14. We also thank each one for their kindness, abundance of food and beautiful floral offerings.

—Bro. G. A. Nichols and family

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Monty Charles Stovall was born in Wichita, Kan., July 4, 1968, and departed this life May 24, 1977, at eight years of age.

Monty was a loveable child who had many friends and was liked by grown-ups as well as the children. He was a good student and liked by his teachers. He liked to pray and had faith in God answering his prayers. He enjoyed attending church and liked to join in the singing.

He leaves to mourn his passing; his mother, Barbara Pryor and his father, Dwayne Stovall; his maternal grandmother, Earnestine Gates, and his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stovall, plus a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral service was conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Sis. Katherine Williams. Scripture texts were II Sam. 12:23; Matt. 18:10; I Cor. 2:9; Matt. 19:14.

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Etta (Joiner) Williamson, a native and life-long resident of Loranger, La., was born on Feb. 6, 1889, and was called Home to be with the Lord on June 15, 1977, from the residence of her daughter, Sister Katherine Harmon, of Loranger, La., at the age of 88 years.

Etta Joiner was married to Oscar E. Williamson on Oct. 11, 1906, and to this union were born ten children—two sons and eight daughters. She was preceded in death by her husband, Oscar E. Williamson, a daughter, Mrs. Hutton (Louella) Naretta, one great grandson, John Erwin Naretta, and four brothers, Walker, Leonard, Joe, and Finley Joiner.

Sister Williamson and her husband were saved many years ago, and their contact and relationship with the Church of God dates back to the pioneer days of the Reformation. They were pillars in the Church in that area, and remained true and faithful to the original reformation truths. Together they reared their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Most of the children are saved today, and two are ministers in the

Church — Sister LaVerne Manuel and Bro. Merrill Williamson. Their grandson, Bro. Randall Flynn, is a worker at Faith Publishing House. The spiritual heritage which they left to their children is worth far more than all earth could afford.

Survivors include: two sons, Leroy O., of Hammond, La., and Merrill A., of Jena, La.; seven daughters, Mrs. Angus (Myrtis) Flynn, Mrs. Jim (LaVerne) Manuel, Mrs. O. D. (Alta) Flynn, Mrs. Monroe (Cewilla) James, Mrs. Gerald (Katherine) Harmon, Mrs. Russell (Shirley) James, all of Loranger, La., and Mrs. Howard (Hazel) Savage, of Shingletown, Calif., 24 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild; four sisters, Misses Neva and Elva Joiner, Mrs. Dallas (Mamie) Flynn, all of Loranger, La., and Mrs. Lee (Della) Perry of Shawnee, Okla., besides many other relatives, friends, and saints.

The funeral service was conducted at the Thomas Funeral Home Chapel in Hammond, La., by Bro. Charles Smith, assisted by Bro. Bob Forbes. Interment was in the Oak Grove Church of God Cemetery near Loranger, La.

—L. D. Pruitt, editor

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Mary Ann Barnett, the daughter of Lindsey and Sirilla Striplin, was born on Aug. 18, 1889, and departed this life on June 9, 1977.

She was married to George Willis Barnett in 1909. To this union five children were born, three of whom preceded her in death, along with her husband.

Sister Barnett was saved many years ago under the ministry of Bro. Henry Robinson in Okmulgee, Okla. She had resided in Los Angeles, Calif., since 1940, being active in the Los Angeles congregation of the Church of God until she was physically unable to attend. Though her last few years were spent in a senior citizens' home, she retained her integrity with God.

Surviving to mourn her passing are: one daughter, one son, three grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren, two sisters, one brother, other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Mackey Francisco at the Harrison-Ross Chapel of Sacred Memories in Los Angeles.

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Shawnee Omie Little, born Nov. 28, 1903, in Grayson, Okla., to Samuel D. and Eliza C. Brown, departed this life on May 12, 1977, in Los Angeles, Calif.

On June 27, 1924, she was married to Jake Miles Little in San Bernardino, Calif. To this union were born two daughters.

As a young adult, she was influenced by the teachings of Christ and committed herself to Him. She became an active member in the Church of God where she taught Sunday school and accepted other responsibilities. Her daily life was a continuing witness for Christ as she shared her love with others, both in the home and community.

She leaves to rejoice in her memory: a devoted husband, Jack; two daughters, Milesetta Cole and Eaton O'Brien; one brother, Ola Brown, all of Los Angeles; seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and other relatives, friends, and the household of faith.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Mackey Francisco at Utter-McKinley Mortuary in Los Angeles.

Remaining Campmeetings For 1977

Akron, Ohio—July 1 to 10.

Muncie, Indiana—July 8 to 17.

Fresno, California—July 8 to 17.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.—July 22 to 31.

Myrtle, Missouri—Aug. 3 to 10.

Bakersfield, California—Aug. 5 to 14.

Blackford, Kentucky—August 12 to 17.

Boley, Oklahoma—Aug. 19 to 28.

California State at Pacoima, Calif. — August 26 to September 4.

CAMPMEETING AT MUNCIE, INDIANA

Another campmeeting of the Church of God (Evening Light) will be held, Lord willing, from July 8 to 17, 1977, on the Central Friends Campground located six miles southeast of Muncie, Indiana, on U.S. 35 and ¼ mile to the right on Road 650 S. The old-time Bible truth as taught and practiced by the pioneers of the Evening Light Reformation will be expounded under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Everyone is cordially invited and urged to attend this meeting, especially those in the Northeast. The Lord blessed there in a special way last summer, and we are expecting a greater outpouring of grace and truth in the coming meeting.

Bro. Egbert Allen of Norwood, Mo., and Bro. Orie Young of Sapulpa, Okla., carry a special burden for this meeting, and they request earnest prayers and the co-operation of the saints for this effort that it may redound to the glory of God in the salvation of souls and the unification of God's scattered sheep in one fold under one Shepherd.

Bro. Young has accepted the responsibility to receive donations of food and other provisions at his Sapulpa home from Oklahoma and surrounding area and to deliver it to the Muncie campground. Please send or take your donation of food, etc., to Bro. Orie Young, 12 South Walnut, Sapulpa, Okla. 74066, phone (918) 224-1600.

Bro. Allen expects to arrive on the Muncie campground on Wednesday evening, July 6, and he would appreciate volunteer workers to come on Thursday to get the equipment and buildings cleaned and ready. The campground phone number is (317) 774-4575. Sister Littlejohn of Tulsa, Okla., will again do the cooking, and other volunteer assistance like that rendered last year will be appreciated.

This five-acre campground, well equipped with tabernacle, dining hall and dormitories, has been rented at considerable expense. All phases of this campmeeting will be supported entirely by free-will contributions. All those coming, please bring your bedding. Please send your free-will offerings and requests for more information directly to Bro. Egbert Allen, Rt. 2, Norwood, Mo., 65717, phone 417-746-2840, and state specifically in your letter what the offering is for.

—Lawrence Pruitt, Editor

FORTIETH NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

This reminder comes bringing a special invitation and welcome to everyone to attend the 40th annual National Campmeeting of the Church of God which will convene on July 22nd and continue through July 31, 1977, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri.

We are looking forward to another time of warm, Christian fellowship among those who have a love for the truth, and are willing to stand firmly in the old paths wherein is the good way. We expect ministers from various localities to bring forth God's Word under the direction and anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Meals will be served in the dining hall on a free-will offering basis as well as the lodging in dormitories and tents. We do trust that no one will stay away because of a lack of finances, as we are confident that God will supply for the needs as they arise. Dormitory space and tents will be available on a first-come first-serve basis. There are several comfortable motel accommodations within a short driving distance which are available at reasonable rates for those who desire such. In addition, there will be parking areas on the grounds for trailers, campers, motor homes, etc.

Since the price of food is much higher this year, the managers of the dining hall encourage all the saints to send or bring in groceries and food of all kinds—fresh, canned or frozen fruits or vegetables. If you intend to process more fruit and vegetables this season, we could use the processed food you had left over from last year.

The campgrounds are located approximately five miles east of Neosho, Missouri, on Highway 86, the exact location being one mile east and ¾ mile south of the intersection of Highway 86 and of Alternate 71 Highway. Those coming by public transportation, such as bus or train, will need to come to Neosho and take a taxi to the grounds, or call Granby, Missouri, phone number 472-6427 to arrange for someone to meet you and bring you to the grounds.

Bro. and Sis. Austin McMillian will be working to assist in finding accommodations for sleeping. All correspondence regarding tent orders, dormitory space, etc., should be addressed to them, in care of the Church of God Campground, Monark Springs, Rt. 5, Box 61, Neosho, Mo. 64850.

The address of the campground caretakers, Bro. and Sis. Dale Doolittle, is Rt. 5, Box 61, Neosho, Mo. 64850, phone 472-6427. Please send your contributions to Bro. Dale Doolittle, or to the secretary-treasurer, Bro. Bob Stover, 6304 S. 97 West Ave., Tulsa, Okla. 74107.

The work days to prepare for this meeting are scheduled for Saturday, July 2, Monday July 4, and each Saturday thereafter. Your services as unto the Lord will bring His special blessings, so come and see what the Lord will do.

Come praying for the salvation of sinners, sanctification of believers, divine physical healing for the sick and afflicted, and a drawing together of God's family in these last days.

"If we knew all our needs, what a large want book we should require! How comforting to know that Jesus has a supply book which exactly meets our want book."

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MISSOURI STATE CAMPMEETING

The Missouri State Campmeeting will be held at Myrtle, Missouri, August 3rd through the 10th, Lord willing. This is another Wednesday to Wednesday campmeeting and it will begin on the 3rd day after the Monark Springs National Campmeeting ends. This will make it convenient for those leaving Monark Springs to drive on down to Myrtle which is only about 200 miles away. We extend a hearty invitation to all to attend this campmeeting. We are praying for a rich outpouring of God's spirit on this meeting and that many souls will be saved.

The expense of the meeting will be met by free-will offerings. Provisions will be made to care for all who come; however, those who have campers or trailers are advised to bring them as that will help in accommodating everyone. Bring bedding if convenient, as there is a limited supply on the grounds. Come prepared for some possibly cool nights.

Anyone coming by bus to Thayer, Mo. (the nearest station), may call the Church of God campgrounds at Myrtle, Mo., (417) 938-4682 and someone will come and pick you up.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Donald Sharp, Myrtle, Mo., 65778.

BAKERSFIELD, CALIF., CAMPMEETING

The Bakersfield, Calif., campmeeting will be held, Lord willing, August 5 through 14, 1977. The chapel address is 1802 Virginia Ave., on the corner of Virginia Ave. and Brown Street. We expect to furnish accommodations for all who can attend. We request your prayers, and hope the Lord will impress many of you to come and help in the meeting.

Those coming from the east on Highway 58, do not take the Bakersfield exit. Continue on the freeway and get off at Cottonwood Road exit. Turn left at the stop sign (Brundage Lane-Cottonwood Rd. exit). Keep in right lane and turn right at signal light (½ block), which is Lakeview Ave. Go two blocks to Virginia Ave., then right two blocks to Brown St.

From Highway 99 north or south, take Calif. Ave. exit, go east about three miles, turn right on Lakeview Ave., go about seven blocks to first stop sign, which is Virginia Ave. Then left two blocks to Brown Street.

Those traveling Interstate 5, take Stockdale Highway-Brundage Lane exit. Go east about 25 miles to east side of town. Turn left on Cottonwood Rd. Sign reads Cottonwood Rd. on right and Lakeview Ave. on left. Go two blocks to Virginia, then right two blocks to Brown St.

For further information contact: Bro. Z. E. Francisco, 305 So. Owens St., phone 323-0747, Bro. Robert Mayes, 245 "N" St., phone 325-2730, or Bro. A. W. Sherman, 201 "L" St., phone 327-0411. The church phone is 322-9314. Area code 805.

—Sis. Robena Montgomery

BOLEY, OKLA., CAMPMEETING

Lord willing, the annual campmeeting of the Church of God at Boley, Okla., will convene August 19th and continue through Aug. 28th, 1977. We extend a hearty welcome to all to attend these services. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord." Isa. 1:18.

We are looking to the Lord to send Holy Ghost-filled ministers and workers of His own choice to help in the meeting. Dormitories and ample space for parking trailers are available on the campground.

Let us all come praying the Lord to give us a successful meeting with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, convicting souls of their needs and causing them to turn to God with all their hearts to be saved. Remember the Lord's request: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." Luke 10:2.

For further information, contact Sis. Ora Spears, Rt. 1, Boley, Okla., 74829, phone 918-667-3376, or Sister Katherine Williams, 905 N. E. 15th St., Oklahoma City, Okla., 73104, phone 405-235-2270.

CALIFORNIA STATE CAMPMEETING

The California State Campmeeting of the Church of God will convene, Lord willing, at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif., on August 26, and continue through Sept. 4, 1977.

Meals and lodging will be provided on a free-will offering basis. We do request that those living within the state and traveling by car to bring their own linens if possible. There are accommodations for all.

We are praying, and desire that you pray with us for the success of this meeting.

For directions to the chapel or other information, you may contact Bro. Robert Sherman, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. 91331, phone 213-896-7593, or Bro. James Pierro, 11316 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima, Calif., 91331, phone 213-896-5331. The chapel phone number is 213-899-9021.

HOLLY HILL, S. C., CAMPMEETING REPORT

Jesus was in the Holly Hill, S. C., campmeeting with His outstretched hands, bidding, "Whosoever will, let him come and take the water of life freely." We are sorry that not many responded to His call. The saints were fed plenty of good truth during those ten days of meeting. Praise God! We surely had a good meeting with fair attendance. People from different parts of the states came and helped us out. We want to thank them and God for everyone who came. Pray for us, as we surely need your prayers.

Your Sister in Christ, —Sis. Edna Crummie

REPORT FROM THE FIELD

"Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35. These are the words of Jesus. In these last days and perilous times we are realizing a little of the depth of Jesus' burden when He spoke those words.

The Boley, Okla., spring meeting was a very successful meeting and a few souls were saved. The Word of God was preached under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Thank the Lord for working in our midst.

Bro. W. Warren, Sis. Mildred Sherman, Sis. Patsy Fields, and this writer traveled in the motor coach of Bro. and Sis. Robert Sherman's to visit several congregations and some isolated saints. We were in a few

nights' meeting at Spruce Pine, North Carolina, and some souls were saved.

At Durham, North Carolina, we witnessed the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which caused our hearts to rejoice. We visited Sis. Bowers in the home of Bro. and Sis. C. B. Nelson (her daughter). At that time she was very sick and needed our earnest prayers.

We were in service with Brother H. P. Effinger and the congregation in Northport, Ala. Brother Effinger accompanied us to Thomasville, Ala., where we met some dear saints who are standing for the "old-time truth." They received us with much love and hospitality. We worshipped the Lord together in the "beauty of holiness." The spirit of the meeting was precious. Two souls were saved. Praise the Lord!

On our return, we stopped in Dallas, Tex., to do what we could to encourage the few saints that are standing for the "old-time truth" in this new work for God in that wicked city. Do pray much for this new field in Dallas, that the Lord will keep His hand upon it. We are looking to the Lord to bless with a place for a tent meeting. Let us pray that the Lord will work it out.

We were thankful to be in the Guthrie, Okla., state campmeeting to witness the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and see souls weep their way to the cross and get saved. Praise God! It was a glorious meeting.

Yours in His great name, —Sis. Katherine Williams

REVIVAL MEETING TO BE HELD NEAR NORWOOD, MISSOURI

We are planning a revival meeting from Aug. 11 to 21, 1977, to be held at the home of Bro. Egbert Allen, located thirteen miles southeast of Norwood, Mo., on Highway 76. Come to Norwood on U. S. Highway 60, turn south on "C" Road, and travel eleven miles to Highway 76. Turn left, and come two miles to our home. This will be an open-air meeting. Bring your campers and camp with us. We have plenty of shade, good water and hospitality. Pray much for this meeting, and we are expecting the Lord to send ministers to preach the Word.

For further information, contact Bro. Egbert Allen, Rt. 2, Norwood, Mo., 65717, phone 417-746-2840.

PRAYER REQUESTS

New Mexico—"I have arthritis in my hand and in my body. Please pray for me." —Bro. E. B. Weir

Ill.—Needs healing of cancer. "She had taken a few treatments, but now has requested no more as she is trusting God to heal her." —Vergie Bankston

Ohio—"I want prayer for my daughter who has growths and the doctor wants to operate on her. I know she is too young for the kind of surgery he will do, but I know that our Lord is able to save her from it . . . I am trusting in His dear name that He will heal her."

—Mrs. Bernice Guess

La.—Pray earnestly for Bro. Angus Flynn who is suffering with heart trouble.

Calif.—"Remember my sister who needs deliverance from alcohol." —K. Rich

La.—Cewilla James needs prayer for the healing of her leg. She cut it with wire and it has become badly infected.

Remember Sis. Aquilla Benson for healing, also Sis. Bernice Williams. They are looking to the Lord for deliverance. Some mothers are very burdened for their wayward children, husbands are looking for their wives to turn to the Lord, some wives are deeply troubled about their unsaved husbands, and Christians are concerned about the rulers of our land and the trends of the laws. There is so very much to pray about. Souls are rushing down the broad way to destruction and we need to do all we can to help them see there is a way to heaven. We need to keep a soul-burden. Oh, if we could "rescue the perishing!" Are we doing all we can? Are we sowing the seeds of truth that will bear fruit in the days ahead? Oh, may God help us to be busy for Him! —Sis. Marie Miles

MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA (Part One)

Missouri (June 15)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings of holy Christian love to all there and all the saints scattered abroad in the name of our King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God and the bright and morning Star who has arisen in our hearts to lead us unto this grace wherein we stand and move onward into that bright eternal world of promise.

Please forgive our slowness to write an account of our recent mission trip into Mexico and Central America, but those two weeks were so filled with manifestations of the love and glory of God that it is hard to know what to include and what must be omitted because of space limitations.

I had felt for some time that it would be pleasing to our Lord for me to make this trip, but was either lacking in cash or time. However, it seemed, this spring, that the fullness of time had arrived and our blessed Lord supplied both needs for Bro. James Huskey and myself that we might go together.

The lions roared and the enemy opposed the mission. Many comments were heard about the dangers, especially of flying. My wife was concerned, but said go if I felt I must. We found that our consecration was tested much, but, oh, watch the blessings found in pressing onward for Jesus! We set our mind and heart to obey God, live or die, jungle fever or come what may. He is able to care for us.

Fri., May 6: This afternoon I boarded a jet plane at Kansas City, Mo., for Mexico City, Mexico, via Dallas, Tx., and sat awaiting takeoff with much prayer heavenward for the success of this mission. While I was going down the ramp in Dallas, to board the Mexico City plane, He blessed my heart with a song that became our marching song all the way, "Glory! glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on." I burst out in song, and later on this flight our blessed Lord most wonderfully witnessed to me that He loved me and was going to take care of things. Oh, the great peace that flooded my soul! I was almost asleep when our plane came down out of the clouds over the largest city on this continent. It is a vast ocean of buildings and my Father gave me a grand tour over the bright lights, as our plane had to go into a holding pattern, circling at low altitude until we were cleared to land. Ten million or more souls are here in Mexico City. My heart reached out to them, and I made a claim here of souls for Jesus. Oh, can we allow them to

live and die without the Saviour, without hope? Please remember this in your prayers. They must hear this grand truth of full salvation. May He burden your hearts to pray until a work is established there.

When we landed I found myself in strange surroundings, with a people of a different tongue, and surely I needed a guide in this huge airport to show me the way through customs, etc. And so, my Father provided one! A man from Argentina got off a plane carrying a Bible, who approached me with a warm greeting when he saw my Bible. We could not converse much, so we just shared our love of God and he motioned for me to follow him. After we had found our suitcases, walked through customs, etc., the man disappeared and I never saw him again. May the God of all love richly reward him.

Now I needed a hotel as it was getting late and I was tired, so our Lord directed me to a little booth where the man spoke some English. Most of the rooms were around \$23-\$35 a night and I did not want to waste my Lord's money that way, so I was provided with a nice apartment close to the U. S. Embassy in a pretty part of town for about \$10.50 per night. Praise His name!

Sat., May 7: I spent the day in prayer, Bible study and walking around the city gaining information.

Sun., May 8: Today, I felt led of the Spirit to go to a certain location where I found to my surprise that they were having an early morning Bible study in English. I was given freedom to add to the study for which our blessed Redeemer did give some thoughts and Scriptures which were well received and I feel good contacts were made there. In the afternoon I was beset with a headache, but was healed while holding on with prayer. That evening I felt led to go to a different location. Upon my arrival I discovered these services were in Spanish, but my Lord had provided an interpreter and opened the door for me to speak to the people. More contacts were made here; all glory to His name! Also, a man here left a bill of 100 pesos in my hand and all needs were supplied.

Late that night, when I got back to my apartment, I found it occupied by Bro. and Sis. James Huskey and Bennie. They did not know where I was staying, but our Lord brought us together. I had called the airport that afternoon and left a message for them, but when they checked, the man said, "No," there was no message. Bro. Huskey went in search of a hotel and was led to the very same man to whom I had talked, and he told Bro. Huskey where I went. We had a blessed meeting, and he testified of how the Lord had helped them. They were flying on a pass, on standby, and were supposed to be at the Oklahoma City, Okla., airport an hour ahead of time. However, they were late and arrived only a few minutes before takeoff. The people at the ticket desk said they were too late, and there was no possible way they could get tickets, check baggage and visas now. Bro. Huskey said they just stood there and looked at them wondering what to do, when suddenly they began to move like robots, got out the forms, checked the baggage and made the tickets, like they had forgotten what was just said. They were put on the plane and it took off. Oh, don't you see, they had gotten orders from a Higher Power? God rules in the kingdoms of men!

—James Broker

(To be continued in the September issue)

BRO. HAMMOND'S MISSION TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Wisconsin (June 21)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints: Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus who has allowed us to partake with Him of the things of heaven. We surely praise Him for all His mercy and goodness to us.

The Lord allowed me once more to visit (May 29 to June 19) the dear ones in the Philippines. There were some things that were encouraging and some were not.

The first week we were able to spend a few days in Cebu with Bro. Jover to whom I have been writing. He has been spreading tracts and learning of the Church of God. Souls are hungry there, and much stirred because of the natural catastrophe occurring.

We had a five-day campmeeting at Cauayan [where Bro. Florencio Granil is the pastor], starting June 6, and it was a good time of refreshing and studying the Word. There was fasting each day until the noon meal, and prayer started the day at 6:00 a.m., following straight through with a morning service until 10:30 or 11:00. In the afternoon we had Bible study, and at 4:00 an evening service. Some days there was a song and worship service at 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. A number came for salvation, healing, and sanctification. On Thursday, we baptized six, and then followed with the ordinances of foot-washing and the Lord's Supper. We closed the meeting on Friday and had a Saturday evening and Sunday morning meeting at Bro. Justo's chapel before proceeding to Maddella where Bro. Ben Granil is caring for the church. He has put a new roof and sides on the chapel, and would like to build a room on the rear where he and his mother can live. They are now staying about 50 kilometers away which makes it inconvenient. There was a nice gathering there, and the same prayer and fasting for three days with services all day. A number of souls came for salvation and healing, and seven were baptized on Wednesday morning.

On Thursday, we went to Ressurrection where Bro. and Sis. Cabanoan are starting up a work. They have been worshipping in their home, but there is a house next door which can be bought for \$260.00 that would make a very good chapel with some remodeling. Bro. Cabanoan is a carpenter and he feels he could do the work himself. Their married son, Walito, wants to start a work where he lives also in another barrio near there. We baptized seven more converts there on Friday, holding services down by a river 1½ miles away. We also visited a man there who has come out of the Methodists and has three groups he is caring for. He had spent the week with us at the campmeeting. We also visited the Methodist missionaries there at Roxales, and also another young missionary couple at Paniqui who are with the Seventh Seal. I knew the wife here in Kenosha, Wisc., when she had just come out of the Nazarene Church. They were concerned that the Church of God should all cooperate in the Philippines. This is the sadder situation there—a lack of unity. They cannot see that they are just another group broken off the "Anderson" sect. They believe they are going on in the true light, but this is just a device of Satan to deceive the children of God. "... If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" Matt. 6:23. "Anderson" went away from the

"Evening Light," so how could a group that came out of them have any light unless they "repent and do the first works" and go back to the light? Then God will bless them. How Satan can deceive souls! Many people are coming out of sects, but want to set up their own sect because they do not get rid of their sect spirit. Pride is destroying many a dear soul today. One man asked over there, "What confusion are you from?" I found many hungry souls who are looking for the food their soul craves.

Satan is also working in the hearts of pastors with a carnal spirit. Because of the temporal needs, many are seeking several sources of support from America and becoming only paid hirelings. Unless the church is built on the Word of God, it is not God's church, and God says that His laborers are worthy of their hire or needs. Unless the church is taught that it has this responsibility, they will let their pastors get support where they can, and they get it easily because we are more willing to "give" than to "go" as Jesus commanded.

This is something that disturbs my soul in all the countries where God is opening up the truth. Many people there have been getting names from religious papers and writing to them for support. When this is done by pastors, they become more interested in the "gifts" of man than the "gifts" of the Spirit. The Bible says, "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm. . . ." instead of putting his dependence upon God. Saints, we surely need to pray for these men in all these countries—India, Africa, Philippines and Mexico—where Satan would destroy the very foundation of God's church anyway he can. This is a hard problem, and it will take much prayer and consecration to overcome and get God's work on the whole Bible standard.

Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world. . . ." I believe God's message is still the same! It is so much easier to "send" help or someone else, but God knows there is nothing as good as the personal contact. We can see the difference in Mexico where more of the saints have touched their lives. Most of the people in the Philippines have not had the advantage of being among some who were raised in the Church of God and there are many things they have to learn. They are in much temporal need, but God has promised to care for us under any circumstances and anywhere in the world. The Methodist ministers there are self-supported by their congregations out of their own offerings after a church is started. I pray that God can work this out to His glory and for the spiritual progress of His church. There is much need of the pastors deepening in the Lord and lifting up the standard for the people. It is a blessing to see how God is opening up the truth in this "evening time," but Satan is also using every trick and deception he knows. Let us be encouraged and "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might."

In His service, —Bro. George Hammond

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (May 16)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere in America: We send loving greetings again in the precious name of Jesus Christ in Whom we have redemption through His blood. "Blessed be the God and

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. Blessed be God which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me. Blessed be the Lord who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation."

Thank you very much for your encouraging letter dated May 2, and the enclosures were received with much gratitude. I understand that a very small amount has been received for our ticket to come over there this summer. We wished to be with you all this year, but we are glad to yield to the will of God. As you advised, God will give us grace to go or to stay, and we are ready to say "amen" to the will of God. My wife and I made some preparations for the trip, but now we shall pray for the blessings upon the campmeetings held there this summer.

We conducted vacation Bible classes and night meetings at Karikkom Bethel Chapel for four days last week. Those classes and services were a real blessing to the children and young people, and also to the older folk.

One pastor and his congregation left the "Anderson movement" due to the lack of a spiritual atmosphere in it and they wish to work with us. It is in the hill area, and we want to expand our gospel work to the hill areas also where the gospel is rarely heard. . . . There are many congregations without a chapel and a cemetery. My heart is much burdened about these new congregations, as the fund is very low in these days. We look to the Lord for all our needs. Thank you for your co-operation and agreement in prayer. May the Lord open up new ways and doors. This is the Lord's work and not ours, and so our Father knows best.

We continually and earnestly pray for your complete healing.

Yours in the Lord's service,

—John Varghese

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (June 7)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him."

We cannot adequately express our delight on receiving your letter of May 13 with an enclosure which sweetened the heart of all, and proved God true in all His promises that we are now to have means of transportation with which to reach the unreached in this Republic of Nigeria with the Word of God. We thank God for the liberality of . . . , and all others who contributed cheerfully to this fund. May God richly bless you and yours. . . . We shall purchase the vehicle, Lord willing, in July. . . .

We are praying for all the campmeetings there.

Yours in Him,

—Titus Enu

Be careful to turn every temptation, trial, and trouble to good account. Have them work growth in grace in you, for that is what they have been allowed to come to you for. Trials are the things God works with to fashion more perfectly His image in you. Never chafe under a trial. Count them joy. Thank God for them.

—C. E. Orr

Life has a language. To live holy is to have all our words and deeds to say, "Hallowed be Thy name."

—C. E. Orr

FROM THE MAILBOX . . .

Pa.—Dear Sis. Miles and all the faithful workers in the Print Shop: It is a cloudy, dismal day, but I say, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." *Psa. 118:24*. We must be thankful every day for the blessings that the Lord bestows on us, for I am sure they are greater than the sickness, sadness, and problems we all have.

I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* papers very much. I read them over and over. Such good things are in them that strengthen our life. Also, I enjoy reading about the strong faith and wonderful healings. I ponder and meditate over the healings and know He will do the same for me. I must have faith to believe it is for me. I do believe it is, too!

One of my eyes is not good, but I can read some and use them, for which I praise God. . . . I am holding on for complete healing. . . .

May God bless all of you at the Shop, and I pray for Bro. Lawrence's complete healing. . . .

Christian love, —Sis. Bernice McKenrick

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ark.—May God bless all of you for all the years you have put in the Lord's work. I hope you are all better in health. We are very well. My husband is now 80 years of age, but still gets around good and works some. . . . I want to get some of the books about Bro. Fred Pruitt's life when they are ready. . . . Pray for us.

—Pearl Steele

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Pa.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings in Jesus dear name! He is so very precious to me, for when I call on Him, day or night, He is always there. The song says, "Jesus is always there." How true! I do love Him and want to serve Him to the end and leave the testimony to all who know me that I lived for Him and so they may want to serve Him, too. . . .

My husband is doing pretty well. He can't get outside on cold days. He sits and sleeps most of the time. That makes his legs very stiff and wobbly. . . .

I am reading the Bible through again. Each time I read it, I find new things and new blessings. I am reading where Joseph had food for his father and brothers in Egypt. It was such a touching time when he let them know who he was. It is truly an interesting book and enlightening, too. I surely enjoy reading it. . . .

—Sis. Eva Cox

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Canada—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and co-workers: Greetings in the most holy name of Jesus, to whose holy family we now belong by His love and mercy. . . . May the good Lord bless everyone of you in the Print Shop. . . .

We give thanks and all praise to our dear Lord for blessing us with a wonderful spring meeting in Aylmer, Ontario, Canada. The attendance was good, and some came from out-of-town. We also thank the Lord for the "gathering" in of the saints from the U.S.A. Bro. Curtis Williams preached the Word of God anointed by the Spirit of God. Praise the good Lord! We appreciate all who worked and prayed with us to help make this first

meeting of the Church of God (Evening Light) here in Aylmer, Canada, a success. One sister was healed of her sickness in this meeting. Praise the Lord!

Dear Bro. Pruitt, we are still pressing on for the Lord and for His beautiful church, the only church in heaven and on earth. We spend much time reading all the good books of the old-time truth. I will mention one especially, "The New Testament Church and Its Symbols," by Fred Pruitt. There is so much food for the hungry soul in it. We are really growing in the Lord.

We are getting ready for the campmeeting in Akron, Ohio. We pray that the Lord will bless this meeting. We believe that you saints in Guthrie have had a good and blessed meeting there. We would like to ask prayer for all of us here. . . .

In Jesus' love,

—Bro. and Sis. G. Schroeder

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Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: . . . I am writing to thank all of you for praying for me when I called from Seward, Okla., and told you I had gotten hurt. You don't know me, neither do I know you personally, but I felt that you knew the Lord. . . . I will always appreciate your prayers. I rested good that night. May God bless you all. . . .

—Sis. Katie Gaines

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . I want to thank each one for their prayers and the different kinds of help given me in my long illness. I spent four and one-half months at the Golden Rule Home to recover from a complete breakdown. I had such wonderful love and care there and much prayer concerning my condition. God has been good to me and I want all to know how He helped me. I am still weak, but much, much improved. I love the Lord today, and His saints are very dear. Continue to pray for me and my family that all may prepare for that great Judgment Day.

—Sis. Kathleen Clarkson

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Calif.—Greetings to you in Jesus' dear name. I'm still saved, sanctified and encouraged to follow the Lord. Thank the Lord for how He has been blessing me each day. As the song says, "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. I'll nevermore turn back, defeat I shall not know, for God will give me victory if onward I shall go."

Pray for me.

—Lillie Bramlett

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Baja C., Mexico—Dear Sis. Marie and Bro. Lawrence: I greet you in the holy and precious name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, desiring that rich blessings be over all of you and in the work that He has given you.

I give thanks to God that my trip to Chiapas was not an empty one, because I was able to learn many things, and apart from this, the Lord used me. I had six services, and of all those who heard and seemed the most sincere, were nine who repented of their sins. I was able to give out nearly all the literature that Sis. Kelly sent. I left the rest for my father to distribute. They really liked the book, *The Church of God, What It Is, and What It Is Not*. I desired that they know the truth and now we are not at fault.

I arrived back in Ojos Negros on the 20th of May and today I had a beautiful service, one like we had

never had before, with much blessing from the Lord. Many people there in their seats let tears fall. Sincerity from the heart is what is important.

Sister, I wish that you could come to the camp-meeting . . . here in Ojos Negros. I plead that the camp-meeting will be a great blessing. Many thanks for the offerings with which we've been principally helped to reach God. I plead your prayers for us, please, and pray much for some families of the congregation who have some problems, and that God will help them.

With much Christian love,

—Mayarino Escobar and family

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Ark.—Dear Sister Marie: I am still saved and encouraged to keep pressing on in the battle. I love my dear Saviour and I know He loves me. I want to live to please Him and not do anything to keep me from being with Him some day. It is very important to watch, pray, and be on guard as so many, many little things may creep into our lives of which God will not approve. We need to remember that one sin will keep us out of Heaven. Pray for me that I will be just what He wants me to be in everything. God knows I need help on some things.

Please pray with me for the healing of some afflictions on my body. I am trusting Him for healing. He has healed me many times.

Pray for all of us here at Grubbs. Some have burdens and our loved ones need salvation. We still have our two services on Sunday and a Wednesday night service. The dear Lord helps and encourages us. . . .

Your Sister in Christ,

—Della Anschultz

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Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Does I Tim. 3:1 apply to any minister or just to bishops only?

Answer: This verse refers specifically to "bishops" and the following verses give a detailed outline of the qualifications of the man who is to fill that place. The New American Standard Version says, "If any man aspires to the office of overseer." Williams Version says, "... the office of pastor." King James says, "If any man desire the office of a bishop." This makes it clear that the "bishop" is the overseer or pastor in a congregation. The catalog of qualifications given in this case are strict and are calculated to protect and establish the bishop's (pastor's) right to speak on any and all matters even in dealing with members of his congregation on real close points as a pastor must do at times. But there may be those, and I am sure there are, whom God has His hand on and is using in a good way to proclaim His gospel and edify the church and win souls for Him whom we might not consider eligible to fill the responsible place of a "bishop"—pastor or overseer of a congregation. It surely would be clear to all that the pastor has a unique calling and fills a unique place in and to the church where he pastors and that his qualifications would be more strict than for a "lay preacher" or someone else working for God in other capacities.

Question: Should anyone qualify to preach or even teach Sunday school, if he has two living companions even though he is not living with either of them?

Answer: On January 17 and 18, 1958, a ministers' meeting was held in Bakersfield, California, which dealt principally with this same question and there were perhaps ten or eleven hours discussion on it by a sizeable group of ministers. Be it known that there was not a single minister in the group assembled who felt it would be all right for a person to preach at all if he had been married to two women and was still living with his second wife while his first wife was living, and that was not even considered part of the question.

There was a wide range of views in the beginning. Some felt that if a person had cleared up from his adulterous marriage and was living a life above reproach either with his own first wife or alone as a single person not attached to any woman at all, he would be as clean and clear as anyone else and eligible to fill any and all positions in the ministry. Others held that such a person would not be considered eligible to preach at all so long as both of those companions lived. But as the discussion went on and there was a mutual exchange of thoughts and points, the range of views narrowed, and finally at the close the group assembled concurred in the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED that when a person has been involved in a plural marriage; even though he may now be cleared up from it, it is the advice of this group of ministers that because of the question such involvement would leave in the minds of the people, such an one could best serve the interests of the gospel and the church in other capacities than that of a minister to preach the gospel.

"BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that in the event the pastor of a congregation is confronted with such a case and is definitely convinced of the merits of the case and the individual has cleared up from the adulterous marriage and is living above reproach either with his own wife or virtuously alone as a single person not connected with any woman at all and it be well established in the mind of such pastor that the Spirit of God is working with the individual and that God would be glorified in his ministry; that it would be left to his divine leadings and judgment as to whether the individual in the case be permitted to preach at all in his congregation.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in general such person should be left free to work freely for God in other capacities outside of the ministry and should be encouraged to live for God and be as useful as he possibly can for the glory of God and the good of the church."

—(End of resolution)

In as much as the Word of God says, "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety" (Prov. 11:14 and 24:6), and in as much as there was a good number of ministers concurring in this conclusion and resolution; I feel it safe to accept this as a conclusion to this question.

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The rays of light that proceed from the sun are as pure as the sun. The life that flows from God must be as free from imperfections as He.

—C. E. Orr

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"The many things I have seen teach me to trust God for all I have not seen."

"This Is That"



A short time ago I was awakened a while before the day dawned, seemingly by a "tug" at my soul by the Holy Spirit. My meditations took me back 65 years ago, when this same precious Holy Spirit knocked at my heart's door gently, yet firmly, convincing and convicting me of my lost and undone condition—without God or hope in this world. He introduced me to Jesus who came into my heart and life as my personal Saviour and Lord. What a wonderful deliverance from a life of sin, neglect, bondage, and confusion! That sweet peace and communion is unspeakable.

However, I so vividly remembered how I searched around among groups to find a place to worship and meet with others of God's people. In due time Jesus revealed His Church to me, opened the way for me to meet a few dear Church of God people, and what a spiritual thrill and cause of rejoicing! In my thoughts I traced my walk with God through the years to this morning, thanking my Saviour for the times, in His love and care, He chastised and corrected me, being conscious also that I still need this in the school of life. As I pondered, I also was grieved in my spirit that during these past 65 years the cunning tactics of the devil has "accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people" — or the unity that is the condition for power—by forming several groups, each known as "The Church of God." This grief became so heavy that it seemed my physical strength left me and I fell into a deep sleep and dreamed. In this dream, I was in a modest place of meeting with some 200 or so precious people of almost all ages. Many of us bore the marks of time—weather beaten by having encountered many storms and winds of adversity, hoary heads, bent shoulders, slow and feeble steps, yet joyfully conscious that the real person living within these clay houses is renewed in faith, love, and devotion to Jesus and each other, day by day. There was such a sweet spirit resting within and upon all. The presence and glory of God just filled the building and each heart and life—from the oldest to the youngest. There was such wonderful fellowship with Jesus, the center of each other's affections—all and each endeavoring to comfort, exhort, and edify the other to be faithful and true in these perilous times, to the finish line. Then a flaxen-haired girl of about 10 years of age began to sing:

I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus,

I have decided to follow Jesus; No turning back, no turning back.

Though no one join me, yet I will follow; Though no one join me, yet I will follow,

Though no one join me, yet I will follow; No turning back, no turning back.

The Cross before me, the world behind me; The Cross before me, the world behind me,

The Cross before me, the world behind me; No turning back, no turning back.

The rest of the children joined in the singing, as did all, with tears of joy and praises to our great Saviour who shed His blood to bring about such a heavenly gathering here on earth. Someone's voice in the audience was heard to say: "This Is That" — the prophet saw it

afar off. It took place at Pentecost in the beginning of the last days, and God wills that it continue in the last of the last days. Everyone was reluctant to leave such a sacred meeting, but realized that we must redeem the time and go out to witness to the lost until the angel announces that "time shall be no longer."

I awoke so refreshed and renewed in courage, faith, love, and devotion to Jesus, assured that "the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal: the Lord knoweth them that are his. And let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." —Robert Longley



Awake and Arise



Someone who seems to have studied the subject has said that the United States "now slaughters over one million children each year in our quiet genocide program of the unborn called 'legalized abortion.' In terms of mass murders of minors we have already outdone Nazi Germany and perhaps the Soviet Union." How shocking this is, and yet so many think we need to do this to stop the population explosion. May God have mercy upon our nation, should be our prayer! Our nation needs to fall upon its knees and repent like Ninevah of old. Punishment is ahead for every nation that forgets God and His commands.

Sin of all kinds are abounding. Adultery still heads the list, and it is so openly condoned that the young people of today are encouraged to commit this sin. Society accepts it and there is no restraint of any kind encouraged. How sad! We are living in a world like it was in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah. There are fewer all the time that truly obey the Word of God. The children of God are daily grieved like Lot of old, whom the Bible says was "vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)" The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished." II Pet. 2:7-9. Yes, sin abounds, but God will take care of the righteous as they look daily to Him for grace.

"Awake thou that sleepest, and arise . . ." Eph. 5:14. How sad not many will cry out against sin that is abounding all around them! We need to be busy for the Lord. Take every opportunity that comes to speak up for the Lord. Sometimes we have to wait a long time for someone to lead out in prayer in a service or get up and give a testimony of the grace of God that they have in their daily life. God wants us to be willing to be on the spot, so to speak, for Him. Don't belong to the "silent majority." One never knows that what the Lord has done for him may be just what someone else needs to give him the courage to "fight the good fight of faith." Pray for God to stir your very soul and help you to be "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord" daily. —Sis. Marie Miles



"God provides no comfort today for borrowed troubles of tomorrow."



"Troubles are like babies—they grow larger by nursing."

Is Feet-Washing Merely Good Works?



This is the leading objection raised against feet-washing; namely, that it is not an ordinance of the church, but a good work in the private home classed with rearing children, lodging strangers, relieving the afflicted, etc.—all personal and private deeds. I Tim. 5:10. The trouble with those who contend that it is a good work, and not an ordinance, is that they never perform it. It would be hard indeed to find a widow or any one else among these opposers, who would meet every requirement mentioned in I Tim. 5:10. Remember that one requirement was, "If she have washed the saints' feet." Is it possible that this was something that widows alone were required to do? The truth is that Paul and all the rest of the saints practiced it, for it was enjoined upon all; and this was done upon no other principle than that which the Saviour has commanded us to obey.

Saints are commanded by Christ to wash one another's feet. Here is where the Saviour and Paul, in that letter concerning the widow, come together. A religious rite is certainly found in a ceremony, when the rite is to be performed by one saint upon another. No New Testament command, or duty, that God has ever enjoined His disciples to observe with one another has ever been abolished. Commands like these: Exhort one another, pray for one another, love one another—these are forms of a command. They command the disciples in reference to things they shall do to one another, just like feet-washing. That brings them together as a company with one faith, one mind, in one body, separate from the world, and gives them a rite or ceremony that they are to perform, one upon another. Many duties are to be performed to the world, as feeding the hungry, entertaining strangers, etc. But the observance of the command to be done by one saint to another has all the essentials of an ordinance, and if such a command is to be observed when they are assembled together, it is made a church ordinance. No duty, command, or observance that Christ ever enjoined to be done by one saint to another, mark you, has ever been abolished by divine authority. And if Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith on this subject of feet-washing, it will lead us to obey His Word, unless our opinions turn us to follow some other leader.

"Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man, Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work." I Tim. 5:9-10. Here we have feet-washing separate from the lodging of strangers; the lodging of strangers is referred to as one thing and the washing of feet as another thing. Now, if feet-washing was to have been regarded merely as an act of hospitality, no distinction would have been made between strangers and saints. Note well the fact, that there is in this scripture no obligation to wash the feet of anybody on earth except the saints. Saints are to wash the feet of saints. Is that not exactly what Jesus commanded when He instituted the rite as recorded in John 13? Thus, we have a ceremony, institution, or rite, twice named in the Gospel, and enjoined by divine authority upon the

"saints"—something that they shall observe one with another—and no one outside of the church is referred to.

Let us examine more closely. Here are the qualifications that the apostle demanded: "Having been the wife of one husband." Not a word is said about washing her husband's feet. "If she have brought up children." There is not a word about washing her children's feet. "If she have lodged strangers." Not one word is said about washing the stranger's feet. "If she have relieved the afflicted." Nothing is said about washing the feet of the afflicted. Note well this point. If she had washed the feet of her husband, of her children, of the strangers that she lodged, or of the afflicted that she ministered to, then the feet-washing that Paul mentioned would have belonged to mere acts of hospitality; would have been a mere performance in the private home. That was not the requirement. The apostle makes a clear distinction between these family duties and the sacred ordinance that Jesus instituted. "If she have washed the saints' feet." Whose feet? "The saints'." This observance separates it from the entertainment and the lodging of strangers, just as it was at Jerusalem when the disciples' feet were washed and Christ commanded them to wash one another's feet. John 13:4-17. They did not tarry all night; they were not there to be lodged. It was not the ancient custom that they were observing, for they stayed only until they had observed the ordinances—feet-washing and the communion—and then they departed. The Saviour did not make it a part of lodging strangers, nor did Paul. While he spoke of it in connection with some good works which are not ordinances, he separated it from these as a distinct class by itself, which is to be observed only by "saints."

If Timothy, with that letter from Paul in his pocket, were to travel around today among the sects of Babylon where the people argue that feet-washing is not an ordinance, but a mere act of hospitality, and should he hunt for a widow that washed the saints' feet and met the other requirements, he would certainly have a long hunt. The sects would not be overburdened with the support of such widows. But I am glad to say, dear reader, that in the Church of God, among the saints today, he would find many widows who perfectly meet the requirements. The reason is, we practice this rite just as the church did in Paul and Timothy's day, and as Jesus commanded.

—H. M. Riggle

We have obtained the true riches only when we have obtained true poverty. We have obtained true honor only when we have come to be despised. We rise to a great height only by being beaten down. We find true comfort in affliction. When you are called a fool for Christ's sake then you have found the true knowledge. You have found true joy and happiness only when you are crucified with Christ.

—C. E. Orr

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This publisher would like to purchase the out-of-print book, *Man — His Present and Future*, by H. M. Riggle, for the purpose of reprinting it. If you have a clean, unmarked copy for sale, please advise us of the price promptly, or if we could use your copy we would replace it with a new one.

—L. D. Pruitt

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