

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### Stop and Consider!

There is a time, we know not when,  
A point we know not where,  
That marks the destiny of men  
To glory or despair.

There is a line by us unseen  
That crosses every path;  
The hidden boundary between  
God's patience and His wrath.

To pass that limit is to die;  
To die as if by stealth;  
It does not quench the beaming eye,  
Or pale the glow of health.

The conscience may be still at ease,  
The spirit light and gay.  
That which is pleasing still may please,  
And care be thrust away.

Oh! where is this mysterious bourn  
By which our path is crossed,  
Beyond which God Himself hath sworn  
That he who goes is lost?

How far may we go on in sin?  
How long will God forbear?  
Where does hope end? and where begins  
The confines of despair?

An answer from the sky is sent:  
"Ye that from God depart!  
While it is called today, repent,  
And harden not your heart."

—Alexander

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

"Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts," Heb. 4:7. Come to Jesus NOW!

### So Great Salvation

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Heb. 2:3.

At several periods and in different ways has God revealed His will to mankind. He spoke to men during the patriarchal age; He spoke to them in the Mosaical economy; He communicated His mind under the prophetic dispensation; but in these last days, or gospel times, God has spoken unto us by His Son, who in all things excelleth both patriarchs and prophets. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?"

The term *salvation*, though it is sometimes used in Scripture to denote temporal deliverance, is generally used to imply the blessings of the gospel; in a few passages it is used to denote the gospel itself, or the Word of God, or the doctrine which, when received, brings salvation; and in this sense it is used in our text. The salvation conferred by Christianity or the Word, or the doctrine of Christ, is the restoration of man to the forfeited favour of God. It is the deliverance of man from a state of sin and condemnation, to a state of justification and acceptance before God. It includes the forgiveness of sins, adoption, regeneration, sanctification, the fullness of the Spirit, and eternal life. Such is the salvation of the gospel, the religion of the New Testament. No wonder the system which confers such unspeakable benefits is designated good news, glad tidings, wells of salvation, the salvation of our God, and in the text, a great salvation.

It is a great salvation, because God conceived the plan. It is heavenly in its origin. It is not a scheme of man's devising or propounding, but it originated in the mind of God, and was revealed through His well-beloved Son.

Its greatness may be seen in the circumstance that when man fell, a promise of this salvation was given by

God, and was held out to the world through all the Old Testament dispensation until the coming of the Messiah.

We may see its greatness in the fact that the Holy Trinity has been concerned in procuring it, in proclaiming it, and in dispensing its blessings. The Father sent the Son; the Son offered Himself up as a sacrifice, and satisfied the demands of justice for the world's sin; the Holy Spirit enlightens the sinner, operates in his heart and conscience, convinces him of his sin, guilt, and danger. The Holy Spirit applies the healing balm, makes him a new creature, inspires him with peace and joy, and bears witness to the reality of the change.

It is called a great salvation, because of the great price that was paid for it. Oh, what a price that was! It astonished all heaven, and has been the wonder of saints and angels for more than nineteen centuries. It was no less a price than the life-blood of God's own dear Son. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." To procure salvation, He suffered as none other before or since the days of His flesh, has suffered. He not only endured privations, pain, anguish, scorn, and reproach; He was not only falsely accused, charged with blasphemy, scourged, crowned with thorns, and killed; but He also endured the awful and tremendous load of the sins of the whole world. He also bore the hiding of His Father's face. With a loud voice, He cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" The salvation procured at such a cost, must be great. Thus Christ "became the Author of eternal salvation."

It is called a great salvation, because of the great guilt, condemnation, and misery from which it saves us. Ask the man who has embraced the gospel, what is the nature of the deliverance it has wrought out for him, and he will say, "I was once a wretched, miserable sinner, without peace and without hope. My sins had burdened my conscience with a heavy load; they had spread a thick gloom over my pathway; they had planted thorns in my pillow; they had made the very heavens look angry at me; and death and futurity they had made to appear awful beyond all description. My life was a burden to me, and many a time I wished I had been a bird, fish, dog, horse, or anything that had no soul, and no capabilities of sinning, and no account to render to God. But at length I was constrained to renounce sin, and embrace the great salvation; and from that hour, I have been delivered from my guilt and bondage. My burden is all gone; I feel no condemnation; I am delivered from the thralldom of the devil, and from the power of sin; and I have no dread of the future." My dear friends, is not this a wonderful salvation? Oh, how eagerly you ought to embrace it! How sincerely you ought to thank God for it. What it has done for others, it can do for you. It can remove your sins, cancel your guilt, roll away your burden, and drive away all your slavish fears. —S. Henn.

Oh, how true it is that Jesus loves and cares for those who are weak as well as those who are strong, and will give special attention to them when He hears their call for help! —E. E. Byrum

"Great opportunities come to those who make the most of small ones."

## The Children's Bread



When the Syrophenician woman came to Jesus for the healing of her daughter, Jesus told her that it was not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to dogs. Matt. 15:26. Here we see that healing was provided for God's children—was actually their bread. Now we know naturally that bread is considered the staff of life, and if Jesus called healing the children's bread we would infer that it must be something very necessary in order to maintain life—both natural and spiritual.

We see by Christ's life when here, that healing was a great part of His ministry; for He "went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people." Matt. 9:35. When He sent out His disciples He commissioned them with the same power. He told them to go only among the children, or the house of Israel; as much as to say: "Carry this bread to the children; for I have bought it for them with my own blood." How grieved He must be today when His own children will not accept this precious food, which He purchased and for which He paid such a great price! I am sure He is moved today with just as much compassion as He was when here and He saw His children under the galling yoke of disease. He knows the remedy is at hand and that we have the knowledge of it; for we have it in His written word. Matt. 8:16, 17 says: "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

It was prophesied before He came that healing was to be a part of His work, and when the Israel of God came to Him for their bread He was compelled to give it to them. Why? Because God's Word had gone out that He would send a deliverer; and now He was come, and the children naturally came in for their inheritance and Jesus had to give it to them. Not only so, but He loved to give it to them; for had He not paid dearly enough for it? Ah! the only way He had to keep from giving was to hide Himself where they could not find Him for a while. This was His work given to Him by His own Father, and Jesus Himself testified even by prophecy years before He came, that He delighted to do the Father's will. Could He refrain from it when the opportunity came? No, NO.

Then, too, giving is one of the natural laws of God. Could He refuse His own children when they came in such great need and distress? No; it would be impossible for God to do that. It is give, give, GIVE, with God. Will you receive? Children of God, let us wake up to our privileges. When these things are provided for the children, and even the dogs can get crumbs, why are we so far away from Father's graciously provided table, which is loaded with all needed benefits? My children know that their father always has bread in the house—that is what he works for, in order to always have a supply on hand. They feel perfectly free to take of it. They just feel all that belongs to father, belongs to them. They say, "This is ours," "That is ours." Why? Because it belongs to father, and they are partakers with father. They sit down to father's table and partake of all that

father has provided. They are not slow to do it, either. They take no thought for it; for they think that is father's part to do. Really they do not think much, if anything, about it until they want it; then they come and get what they need.

When the blind man was healed (John 9:31) he answered the revilers' questions by saying, "Now we know that God heareth not sinners; but if any man be a **worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.**" Here again we see it is for God's children, or those who worship Him and do His will. Those who do not do His will cannot expect to share the children's portion. If they come to Him in an humble attitude and give God His place and they take their place, then He will hear them by making them His children; for He adopts children into His family and they become full heirs. Praise God! We see that when the one came, even taking the dog's place, she came **worshipping Him**; and how could He refuse, even though He was not ready yet to reach out His blessings to others than the then chosen of God. But we see she came in God's way, and Jesus knew it, and He was compelled to give it to her. **Compelled** seems like a strong term, but when anyone comes in God's way, He is obliged to grant the petition, because of His Word, which must be fulfilled. It has gone out, and "He magnifies his word above his name"; and so when we come on His Word, He will grant our requests.

Many say, "Well, I cannot have faith." Cannot believe God? What a pity! What if my children would say to me, "Mamma, you say you will give me what I need, but, oh, it is so hard for me to believe it?" How would I feel? O children of God, there is something wrong somewhere else. I fear you are not a worshipper of God nor **doing His will**, or faith would naturally follow. Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness. He simply believed that when God made a promise He would fulfill it. Today we are too wise of our own selves to believe God. We want to see and understand how He does it, and not simply like a child just believe He will do for us just what we need. Faith is believing God, and if we are walking in perfect obedience we will believe God.

Dear brother and sister in the kingdom, it is our portion; will we have it? "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . . He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." Isa. 53:4,5. And when He came and finished the work He had to do He could testify, "It is finished." So His bodily presence is gone, but He sent His Spirit, and pledged His own presence in the Spirit, when He says, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Again, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:17,18. So we see the work was to be perpetuated. When it ceased through Him, His children were to continue the work. He commissioned them with the same authority and power. The work was not to stop, for He was to be with them even to the end, working in them such things as were pleasing in the Father's sight; for He is the same yesterday, today, and for ever. Amen.

Then since we see this to be the Father's will and our portion, do not let us hinder the will of God being done in us. Let us come boldly to the throne of grace and let His will be done in us—even the healing of our bodies. Let us not question anymore about "if it be his will"; but let us give ourselves into His hands as His subjects, that He may show to the world what His will is concerning us. Really God has very little material to work on today. There are so few who will let His will be done in them. Come, children of the promise, let us yield ourselves into His hands and become material through which He may show His power and glorify Himself in the healing of our bodies.

—Jennie M. Byers

## Sorrow

Sorrow means grief, sadness, regret, mental suffering caused by loss or trouble, or loss of someone dear; misfortune and distress of mind. "She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her." Lamentations 1:2a. We are glad to know that we have someone to look to for comfort and consolation in the time of grief and sorrow. "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: and ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." John 15:26,27. "These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you. But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? But because I have said these things unto you, *sorrow hath filled your heart*. Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." John 16:1-7.

I thank God for the Comforter which is the blessed Holy Ghost. If we had no burdens, or sorrows, we would not need to be comforted. I am sure the Lord knew from the beginning every trial, every test, every grief, every sorrow, and He said He would not permit anything to come upon us more than we could bear. He knows just how much we can bear. I know He is a burden-bearer and He tells us to cast our care upon Him. I praise God for the Comforter!

One day I was so grieved, sad and lonely because the Lord had called my wife away. I was so heavy that I prayed, not on my knees, but in my heart and mind from daylight until nightfall; no food, just mourning and sighing. What could I do? The next morning the light began to shine on my pathway. I felt like I was in heaven all day long. "Oh, how I love Jesus because He first loved me!" Christ is mine and I am His! I am on my way to Glory, thinking of Thee, O Lord, of Thee!

Pray for me.

—Ulysses Phillips

**SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PAPER — 3 years for \$1.00.**

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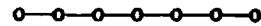
**EDITORIALS**

**"OH THAT MEN WOULD PRAISE THE LORD** for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" Psalms 107:8. Again the Psalmist David wrote: "Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments." Psalms 119:164.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude and thanksgiving to our heavenly Father for His manifold temporal, physical, and spiritual blessings bestowed upon us and our co-workers over the years. With the prophet of old we gratefully proclaim, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," and our faith and trust is in Him to triumph over the obstacles we face in these closing days of time. While the Master delays His coming, the Church is still under the command to carry the gospel to every creature. What will our answer be in that day when we stand before Him? Can we say we have done what we could to win the lost at any cost?

God is truly mindful of all His obedient children, showing His mighty arm to deliver those who put their trust in Him. Even to the unsaved He manifests His great love and mercy, for He sends the rain upon the just and unjust alike, and God so loved the unsaved world that He gave His only begotten Son for their redemption. God designed that His goodness should lead men to repentance, but it is so sad to see how few respond to and return this outpouring of divine love.

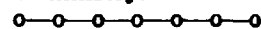
Prayer and praise is the language of dependence, for truly without the Lord we can do nothing. Every day is a day of Thanksgiving to the child of God. Let us praise Him more and more.



We are so thankful for the GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS that we have received since the October issue was put in the mail. Many more would certainly be appreciated and the Lord will reward you many fold.

Continue Sending Yearly Gift Subscriptions . . .

Write or print PLAINLY the names and addresses of your relatives, friends, and neighbors on a SEPARATE SHEET of paper from your letter, and send in the list and remittance at these rates:—One address for one year, 35c; three addresses for one year for \$1.00; six addresses for \$2.00, and nine addresses for \$3.00. Please do it NOW, so we can start sending this gospel paper of vital truth. Let us continue to be "workers together" in God's great cause to rescue the perishing. The reward will be eternal joy in the presence of our Lord and Saviour when the "golden sheaves" are brought in. Thank you, and may the Lord bless and prosper your effort in this literature ministry.



Philippine Mission Work Progressing . . .

Bro. Florencio Granil, native missionary in the Philippine Islands, acknowledged receipt of the support for the month of October for their mission work, and expressed their appreciation to the Church for

the aid in reaching souls with the gospel. Many books have been sent from this office free of charge for their mission library, and thousands of tracts and papers for free distribution. Bro. Granil is still translating songs to the Ilocano language, working toward 200 songs in a hymn book which we plan to print for their use in that area.

Recently a typhoon damaged the roof of their chapel at Cauayan, so some repairs are needed immediately to prevent further damage to the contents of the building.

The chapel where Bro. Ben Granil is laboring in the gospel work needs to be replaced with a permanent-type building, and they have found a lot for that purpose which they can purchase for \$150.00. Let us pray the Lord to supply these needs in the foreign mission work.

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Word was received that Bro. Walter Worley, aged 98, departed this life to be with the Lord on Oct. 11, 1977, at the Golden Rule Home at Shawnee, Okla. Burial was in Arkansas. Bro. Worley's first personal contact with the saints of the Church of God was about twenty years ago when this writer drove from the National campmeeting at Neosho, Mo., to Springdale, Ark., and brought him to the meeting which was then in progress in July. His wife had passed away that spring and he was living alone at the time of the campmeeting. Though he had been associated with holiness movements for many years, he seemed to embrace the teachings of the Church of God and had been an active resident of the Home about ever since its beginning. Recently he prayed through and made a definite consecration to Christ and testified that he was ready to meet the Lord in peace.

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Bro. Ostis Wilson, pastor at Jefferson, Oregon, writes that the work on the chapel on their new campground is progressing nicely. A later report from another source indicates that the roof of the chapel is on and the windows are being installed. Let us continue to pray that every need will be supplied in order that this worthy project will be completed in a reasonable time.

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#### Phillips' No. 2 Stereo Song Records for Sale . . .

Available at this office is the new No. 2 long-play stereo song record of eleven songs by the Phillips family—Bro. Paul Phillips and his six children. Bro. Paul is a nephew of Bro. Ulysses Phillips. On the cover for the record is a large picture of the singers. This record is priced at \$6.00 each, plus postage and handling of 50c. You may also purchase this record directly from Bro. Paul Phillips, 1220 Wabash St., Wichita, Kansas 67214.

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#### Beautiful 1978 Wall Calendar with Scripture . . .

This 1978 Wall Calendar has beautiful nature scenes in color for each month with Scriptural emphasis. Size 7¼ by 13½ inches. Price, 70c each,

plus 30c for postage and handling, which is \$1.00, postpaid to your address.

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Scripture Text Christmas Cards — 12 cards in box. Price per box, \$1.50, plus 50c for postage and handling. Order your supply NOW!

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#### Excellent Booklet Off the Press . . .

Recently off the press is a reprint edition of the out-of-print booklet, "Bible Humility" by J. W. Byers. This Scriptural treatise is very enlightening on the subject of humility which everyone should read. Consisting of 33 pages in a heavy paper cover, this booklet is available at 30c each, or four copies for \$1.00, plus 35c for postage and handling.

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#### Another Book Reprint in Production . . .

The excellent out-of-print volume, "The Double Cure, or Redemption Twofold" by D. O. Teasley, is on the press and expected to be finished by Nov. 15. This book should enlighten the reader on the second work of grace, and correct the thinking of those who deny the cleansing element in sanctification. Consisting of 160 pages of large print in a heavy paper cover, this book is priced at \$1.00 each, plus 35c for postage and handling. Send your order and remittance today, and we will mail the book as soon as it is ready.

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Five of the six children of Fred and Mary Pruitt were together recently here in Guthrie when this writer's sister Mary Embly of Chino, Calif., and his brother Andrew and his wife, Hope, of Veneta, Ore., came to attend the marriage of our niece Connie Miles to Dwane Sorrell, which was an event of Oct. 15. Our brother Frank of Phoenix, Ariz., was not able to come after having open heart surgery last year in December.

Connie Miles is the granddaughter of my sister Marie Miles. Dwane and Connie Sorrell are making their home at R. 1, Box 13, Thayer, Mo. 65791. Let us pray God to make their union a blessing to others in the world.

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All of the workers at this gospel publishing shop and office are sacrificing time and talents, accepting only a nominal allowance for living expenses, to advance the cause of Christ in the salvation of precious souls, but we are happy to have a part in paying "the debt that we owe"—the debt of the gospel light—to the unsaved world. We are also laying up our treasures in heaven along with all of you who are so faithfully sending your offerings and ordering gospel literature to help pay the cost of paper, postage, and operating expenses. It is a pleasure to be "workers together" with you and the Lord in His great cause.

—Lawrence Pruitt

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Seek to have your life wholly free from imperfection, and you will daily advance in the divine life.

—C. E. Orr

## 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.

**What The Bible Teaches** by F. G. Smith. A reprint of the original 1914 edition, containing 576 pages in cloth binding. This is a book that should be in every home. Price, \$5.00 each.

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**Experiences of S. O. Susag** is a record of the activities of S. O. Susag, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister of the Church of God. Price, 1.50 each.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Christian Baptism, Feet Washing, and the Lord's Supper** by H. M. Riggle. This excellent doctrinal book on the three ordinances of the New Testament contains 264 pages in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$3.00 each.

**Must We Sin?** by D. S. Warner. This 24-page booklet records the supposed conversation between Bro. Light and Bro. Foggy on the sin question. Price, 25c each, or five copies for \$1.00.

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The light received in the soul is Christ. He is the true light, and he says, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." John 9:5. But He has ascended unto the Father, and now His children are to be a light unto the world; and how can that be done if they are ashamed to let it be known what he had done for them?

—E. E. Byrum

## OBITUARIES

**Precious Rendy (Green) Bowers** was born to Joseph and Lillie Hines Green on March 3, 1900, and departed this life on Sept. 4, 1977, at Durham, N. Carolina. She lived in Emanuel County, Ga., most of her life.

In 1918 she was married to Charlie Barney. He passed away in 1941. To this union were born two children: Clyde Edith (Mrs. C. W. Nelson) of Durham, N. C., and Thurston Barney of Swainsboro, Ga.

She was married to Edd Bowers in 1947. He preceded her in death in 1971.

During her early adult life she saw the Church and embraced the truth. She became a faithful and tireless worker in the Lord's vineyard. There was no task too small or too large for her. She was "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

Other survivors include a sister, Mrs. Josie S. Simpkins of Swainsboro, Ga.; three brothers, Friendly Green, Sr., Midville, Ga., Simeon Green, Sr., Glen Allen, Va., and George Outler, Cleveland, Ohio; eleven grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, many other relatives, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Woodrow Warren and Bro. Herschel Hargrave. Burial was in the Cross-Green Cemetery at Swainsboro, Ga.

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**Bertha May (Artrup) Roberts**, age 85, the daughter of the late William and Ida Artrup, was born May 17, 1892, in Ashland, Ky., and departed this life on July 5, 1977, in Clarksburg, W. Va.

Her husband, James Thomas Roberts, preceded her in death in 1959.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Forrest (Florice) Mitchel of Huntington, W. Va., and Mrs. Amos (Christine) Trent, Salem, W. Va.; six sons, Paul Roberts, New Albany, Ind., William Roberts, Huntington, W. Va., Harold and James Morris Roberts, both of Clinton, Ind., Marvin Roberts, Flatwoods, Ky., and Claude Roberts, Mesa, Ariz.; one sister, Mrs. Leroy (Inez) Wilson, Mantua, Ohio; one brother, William Artrup, Oberlin, Ohio; 21 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mrs. Roberts was a member of the Church of God at Pikeville, Ky.

Services were held at the Reger Funeral Home, Huntington, W. Va. Graveside rites and burial followed in the Johnson Memorial Park, Pikeville, Ky.

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**Clifton Levi Gentry** was born Sunday, Sept. 18, 1977, and was called to be with Jesus in heaven on Tuesday morning, Sept. 20, 1977.

The opportunity to take Clifton Levi into their family circle to make him a part of their lives will be greatly missed by his father, Bro. Troy Gentry; his mother, Sis. Christine (Masters) Gentry; one sister, Tammy, and two brothers, Darin and Brent, of the Loranger, La. community; also his grandparents, Bro. and Sis. A. J. Sorrell of Myrtle, Mo., and Mr. William Masters of Jena, La.; his uncles, aunts, a host of relatives, saints, and friends.

Graveside services were held in the Oak Grove Church of God Cemetery, near Loranger, La., with the

services being conducted by Sis. LaVern Manuel and Bro. Bob Forbes, assisted by Bro. Richard Madden.

### OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING AT JEFFERSON

The annual Oregon assembly meeting of the Church of God will convene in Jefferson, Oregon, on Nov. 4, and continue through November 13, 1977, Lord willing.

Those who come by bus from either north or south should come to Albany, Ore., if traveling on an express bus. Some of the local schedules come through Jefferson. If you travel by train, get off at Salem as trains do not stop in Albany. When you arrive, phone 928-7223 or 327-2855 and someone will pick you up at the station.

The meeting is financed by free-will offerings only, and the ministers who labor in the meeting are supplied by the same means. We urge all saints and lovers of the truth throughout the Northwest to attend this meeting. There are cabins and a dormitory available on the campground, and also a limited number of places available in the saint's homes. All who come will be cared for.

We are expecting several ministers to be present who will be able to preach and teach God's Word with the inspiration and anointing of the Holy Spirit. The truth of the gospel will be expounded in a way that all souls may be enlightened, instructed, edified, built up, and strengthened. Let everyone come with a true purpose of heart to do good and to receive good.

We will be looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Yours and His in the Master's service,

—Ostis B. and Evelyn Wilson

6505 N. E. Sunset Dr., Albany, Oregon 97321

### ASSEMBLY MEETING AT HAMMOND, LA.

The annual assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held as usual on the Church of God campgrounds in Hammond, La., just off 109 White Street, beginning on Sunday, Nov. 20, 1977, and continuing through Sunday, November 27.

We would like to invite the saints of all nations and races to come and be with us in this meeting, enjoy the fellowship of the Spirit, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, and in Spirit and in truth.

We are praying that God will send Spirit-filled ministers of His choosing to preach the truth under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The meeting will be supported as usual on a free-will offering basis with meals being served in the dining hall on the campground. Lodging will be provided for all who come. All will be cared for! We have some blankets, pillows, and linens available, but it might be well for those who can to bring additional blankets, etc., as we may have some cold weather at that time.

Come praying that God will pour out a blessing that will flood our souls with the grace and glory of God, that God will save precious souls, and manifest His power in the healing of bodies that are afflicted.

We are expecting God to work in a mighty, wonderful way.

—Bro. Bob Forbes

Rt. 2, Box 67, Amite, La. 70422

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## AUTUMN MEETING IN LOS ANGELES

The annual fall meeting in Los Angeles, Calif., will convene, Lord willing, on Friday night, November 25, 1977, at 7:30 p.m., continuing nightly for ten days, ending on Sunday, Dec. 4th. There will be 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. services on Sat., November 26, Fri. and Sat., Dec. 2nd and 3rd.

We sincerely desire your prayers for this meeting. All are welcome. The chapel is located on the corner of Naomi and Walnut Streets, phone (213) 746-9474.

For further information, please contact our pastor, Bro. Mackey Francisco, 2129 Stocker St., Pomona, CA, phone (714) 629-9907, or Bro. T. R. Summers, 711 W. 85th St., phone (213) 752-1135 —L. Phillips

## Prayer Requests

La.—“Sis. Nyda Hall has been suffering with bursitis and needs prayer.” —Sis. Audrey Baumgartner

Okla.—Let us remember the need of a van or truck for Sis. Edith (Cole) Lara to bring people in Old Mexico to services and for use there in her missionary work. Some has been sent in, but there is still a need for more funds to buy the right vehicle.

Okla.—Continue to remember Bro. Waldo and Sis. Beatrice Eck. They both are afflicted.

Nigeria.—“I am having chest pains and pains on one side of my neck, also on my right side. . . . Pray for the work of God here, and for souls.” —J. U. Akang

W. Indies.—“My grandmother is in a wheel chair and needs healing.” —Patricia Chauharja Singh

La.—“I have asthma. I am leaning on Jesus.”

—Erma Rachel

Calif.—“I am badly afflicted.” —Sis. Opal Williams

Kentucky—Bro. Curtis Williams of Morehead, Ky., phoned on Oct. 13th for a special agreement of prayer of all the saints for his healing. The bones in his right wrist were broken and crushed from a fall seven weeks previously. He is fully trusting God. Please pray earnestly for his healing and complete restoration.

Our faith is being put to a severe test in these last days, but, oh, we must hold steady and stay true to the Lord. He is looking upon us and He knows what is best for us. Daily troubles come to us and pains of various kinds touch our bodies, especially those who are up in years, but we want to look up, and by faith, keep our bodies in God's hands. He created our bodies and He surely knows how to take care of them. “O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction.” Jer. 16:19a. Truly this is true! We can fly to that “refuge” and find comfort, healing, and patience. He will give strength and help, so do be encouraged and keep looking up. —Sis. Marie Miles

A quiet, humble profession, with the sweet gentle Spirit of Jesus shining forth in all meekness is winning, and has a far greater tendency to draw others to Christ, than has one who is impulsive, unstable, and too quick to speak or act. —E. E. Byrum

“Failure is frequently the path of least persistence.”

## LETTER FROM NIGERIAN MISSIONARY

River State, Nigeria (Sept. 27)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings again in the most precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you for your letter dated Sept. 2, and the enclosures, including the *Faith and Victory* paper, were noted with much gratitude. Let me tell you the good news. You and the saints in America prayed for me and God touched my body and I am getting healing. Oh, my brother, we have a mighty God above all gods! Praise the Lord! Please continue your prayers until I get complete strength.

Our second annual revival meetings of the Church of God were held five nights in August. There was much rain and cold, but the Lord surely did bless us and we appreciated His presence.

May God bless you and the saints in America. You will reap what you are sowing at the last day when our Lord Jesus Christ will come with His mighty angels. Your Brother, —Ben Taylor

## MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (Sept. 22)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and the dear saints everywhere in America: We send our loving greetings to all of you again in the matchless name of Jesus Christ “who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom.”

Thank you very much for your two letters dated Sept. 3 and 13, and the enclosures were noted with many thanks and overflowing gratitude. . . . I was away from my home the last two weeks. I just came back yesterday, so I am a little late in replying to your letters. Two weeks ago I got a “Macedonian call” from a few people at Wynadu which is a forest area on the border of Kerala and Tamil Nadu States. Wynadu is about 6,000 feet above sea level and thickly populated. Most of the people are labourers on the tea estates. They speak different languages there. Bro. Mathunni of Trichur co-operated with me in prayer, and we both went over there to preach and teach the gospel to the needy people. This is the first time they have heard the gospel of Christ, and we could see they are very thirsty and hungry for the gospel. We stayed there several days conducting night meetings and house visitations in the daytime. We also labored in other places such as Chellamkodu, Mannithi-Vagal, Choladi, Vendipuram, Kannampally, Chumkam, and Cherambadi and many came to the altar seeking Christ. The Sunday service was a very blessed feast and we enjoyed the fellowship with them very much. One young pastor stays there now to continue the work and I request the prayers of the saints everywhere for the progress of this very profitable work at Wynadu. . . .

Our last monthly meeting was at Thrikkannamangel, and Lord willing, the next monthly meeting will be at Niranam this week-end. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Who will answer this question? May God help many young people to arise and go for the Lord.

We continue to pray for your complete healing to work for the Lord.

With love and prayers, yours in the Lord,

—John Varghese



## REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO, AND SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

Dear Ones: Greetings of Christian love to all in Jesus' precious name, the only One by whose name we can be saved. He is so very good to all of His trusting children. Bro. Mayarino writes that the Lord is blessing there but that there are certain ones who need special prayers, so all of you who feel a burden to pray for them, we would surely appreciate your prayers in their behalf.

More Spanish tracts are being printed now and should be ready to send out to all known addresses within the next couple of weeks. The Lord is burdening my heart to translate more on the line of doctrinal tracts lately, so there are now several in the process of preparation for printing. Please pray for all the workers on all missionary fields and for the printed page also, that souls may yet be gleaned in these very last days.

Yours for souls in Mexico,

Mayarino and Panchita Escobar, Ap. Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico, and Opal Kelly, 919 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

## NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (Sept. 27)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of Jesus, the Faithful and the Amen. Praise Him forever! None in heaven or on earth can dispute His Word. "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" Psalms 119:89. "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever" Isaiah 40:8.

Thanks immensely for your letter dated September 2, 1977. The enclosures were received intact and we are thankful for them. We thank the saints for enlisting the support of the foreign fields. Jesus loved us first and purchased our salvation on Mount Calvary. All who come in spiritual contact with the Lover of mankind must love. Christ emphasized that love is the sum and substance of the Law, and that the Law can be truly kept as one loves God and his fellows. (Matt. 22:36-40).

It is joy to note that the campmeetings of the year 1977 closed with victory. It is undoubted that all who participated in the Spirit received blessings from the Lord. . . .

A district business meeting of Kwale District was convened and held at Utagba-Ogbe on September 17, 1977, for general review of activities. The meeting was profitable. The Ministry of Education, Kwale, has approved our application to use one of the school halls at Emu-Ebendo for Sunday worship and week-day meetings. Inhabitants of this village have been anxious to have the Church of God established in their place. The hungry souls of this village have had the gospel of salvation preached to them publicly on more than four occasions by the saints of the Church of God.

The loudspeakers shipped to us have been received with immense thanks to God. They have been tested and found to be in perfect condition, even the entire system which can be used without connection to the vehicle. We bought a 12-volt battery to power it independently. Thank the Lord for putting us in the field fully to preach His Word.

A national business meeting is being arranged to be held in Port Harcourt on November 5, 1977. Circular letters to that effect have been mailed to all the Church of God congregations in Nigeria.

Seven days of fasting have been proclaimed in the Kwale area congregations from October 1st to 7th for spiritual upliftment. All the lights of God should have their place in His plan whether blazing or lesser. The less-known saints on earth may shine best in the sight of God. More oil is needed in our lamps to shine to give light to men. The Lord Himself is the source of Light, the Light of men, the Light of the world (John 1:4; 8:12), and those who are His reflect His light. Rise and shine.

Yours in Him,

—Titus U. E. Enu, pastor

## LETTER FROM NIGERIAN MISSIONARY

Cross River State, Nigeria (Sept. 24)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of Jesus who suffered for us on the cross. All honour and glory unto Him forever!

I am grateful to receive your letter of Sept. 2nd with the enclosure. May the hand of the Giver ever continue to bless the donor.

Satan is trying his very best to draw many souls to himself by offering them the worldly riches, but I am happy because the Lord still has some remnants. We are battling on in the House of Prayer and the Lord is showing His mercy to the sick and afflicted. Thanks be to God who has never let us down.

Yours in Christ,

—S. U. Udoh

## FROM THE MAIL BOX . . .

Okla.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings in Jesus' sweet name. Truly, we find that life grows sweeter all the way. I am so thankful the Lord saved my soul. Sometimes I just wonder what condition I would be in if Jesus had not saved me while I was young. I think of Paul writing to Titus, "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, . . . hateful, and hating one another." I am sure I would have been hateful if the Lord had not saved me. I am sure I would have had no good thing in me. Truly I can say with the poet, "All I am or hope to be, I commit, dear Lord, to Thee. Oh, preserve me in thy love, 'till I reach Thy courts above."

May God bless all of you, is our prayer,

—Margaret Eck

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

Tenn.—Greetings: I trust all are well. I appreciated your good letter and your prayers. I think of all of you often in my prayers. It is wonderful how we can hold each other up in our prayers.

I enjoy the paper, *Faith and Victory*. It helps and strengthens us in our faith. . . . God has done so much for us, and has shown us His great power.

May the Lord bless each one of you, and pray for me.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Mary Williamson

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

Alabama—Dear Sister Miles and all the workers at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of our precious Saviour.

I am sending an offering to be used where it is most needed. I do love the true Church of God and what it

teaches, and I am praying God will supply all the needs to get these precious truths out. Pray that we can have more revivals everywhere. I am glad we have the National missionary work. . . . I want to help support God's Word in every way I can.

Yours in Christ Jesus, —Mollie R. Totty

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

S. Carolina.—Dear brothers and sisters: . . . We moved about the middle of September. We are busy trying to get settled. I am getting better in body. I can do some of my housework, and I thank the Lord for what I can do. Of course, I am weak, but I am gaining. Thank the Lord!

We have been to Holly Hill to services several times since we have been here. I desire the prayers of the saints to pray for me and my companion that we might stay encouraged. We want to keep heaven in view. Pray that I will be stronger in the Lord. I want to walk in His footsteps who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth.

We love all the saints.

—Bro. and Sis. Howard Boulden

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

Ind.—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: . . . If I should pass away before my *Faith and Victory* paper expires, give the time left to someone else.

Praise the Lord for the great things He does for me every day. I am old, but the Lord is dear and is getting dearer day after day. I am nearly deaf and I can't see very well. . . . Pray for me. I have trusted the Lord for a long time. Oh, glory to the Lord! I want His will to be done. . . . I pray the Lord's blessing on His work there that it will last until our Saviour returns. I pray for the saints everywhere.

—Sister Lettie West

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Calif.—Dear Sister Marie: Enclosed is a check for renewal of my subscription and eighteen more names and addresses for one year each for the *Faith and Victory* paper. Use the remainder to help pay for the printing paper you have ordered. May God bless each of you in the printing office.

Pray for us as we pray for you. Our precious Father hears the prayers of His children. It is my determination by God's help to make heaven my home when my work is done for the Lord.

Christian love, —Letha Reece

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

N. Mex.—Dear Sister Marie and saints who read the *Faith and Victory* paper: Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus. I trust everyone is very happy in the Lord and that Bro. Lawrence is being healed entirely.

I thank and praise the good Lord for all He does for me and His children. He is a present help in time of need.

Thank you for all the encouraging letters and tracts. Pray for me as I pray for you, and especially for my unsaved loved ones.

Love and best wishes, —Sis. Ruth Doolittle

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

Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus, our Saviour and Healer.

We trust that each one there is in good health. Wife is still needing help in her body. About ten days ago she fell against a towel bar and she thinks she cracked or

broke a rib. It is giving her a lot of pain, and she still aches about all over her body. She still needs a healing touch from God. I am about as usual.

Bro. and Sister Ralph Wilkins and Bro. Clarence Brant came last week for a couple of hours, and we did enjoy their visit.

Keep praying for us as we do for you.

—Floyd Hines

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Okla.—Greetings in Jesus' precious name who gave us the greatest gift which is salvation. Words cannot tell the love, mercy, and the times Jesus has helped, healed, encouraged, and strengthened us. What a mighty God we serve! Praise the Lord!

Bro. and Sister Ira Stover were at Neosho, Mo., for a few nights' meeting. I got to be there in two services, and that did bless and encourage my soul, and I am sure it did each one who was privileged to be there. Dear Sister Peterson was real sick when the meeting began. In answer to prayer she was able to attend some.

We are sending subscriptions, praying each reader will enjoy and be blessed by reading the *Faith and Victory*.

May the Lord encourage each one to press on, for soon the battles of life will be over.

—Sister Doris Bowers

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

West Va.—Dear Sister Miles and Bro. and Sis. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of our precious Saviour. . . .

On Saturday when I called Sis. Olive Keene, she and Sis. Beatrice Spaur were going to Green Bank, W. Va., for the Sunday morning service and then back to Sister Keene's for the Sunday afternoon service. I thought that was a hard trip for those dear ones. When I called Monday morning, Sister Keene answered and was very happy that they had fifteen there in their home for the afternoon services. How she wished I could have been there. Then she wanted me to talk to Sister Spaur, and I did. I was so glad they had such a precious time, but of course I could not be with them for we have a Sunday morning service for some little children and then Sunday afternoon services for the older ones. We only had a few, but it was a precious service in the afternoon. It was just a few minutes after I talked to Sis. Keene Monday morning that she passed away.

The Lord is blessing in the meetings and I feel in my soul it is best to spend the rest of my days here where the Lord wants me. Pray for me. —Flora Hinzman

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

Wisc.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all: Blessings from our Father to all in the name of Jesus.

I went to the meeting at Shell Lake, Wisc., last week-end. They had a schoolhouse prepared for church services. Around fifty people attended the Sunday services. Bros. James Huskey, Egbert Allen, Kenneth Probst and his parents, Sister Margaret Eck and some young folks were there.

Lord willing, I am hoping to be down to Guthrie right after Nov. 1st. —Bro. George Hammond

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

Okla.—Here is my renewal subscription to the *Faith and Victory* paper. I do like to get the paper.

Sister Edd Mathesen and I used to attend the camp-meetings in Guthrie. She is 96 years of age now and is in

the Nursing Home at Shawnee, Okla. I will be 82 in a few days and am confined to a wheel chair, but I get along fine. I live alone and do my own work. I do miss attending the church services. The Lord is very good to me and I feel His presence. I talk to Him, so I am not lonely.

I would appreciate your prayers.—Lucy A. Atkins

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all the dear saints: May the God of all grace ever watch over you and the work of faith and love which He has assigned to you. . . .

For quite some time I have had a feeling that some day I would be in the Guthrie congregation. So, Lord willing, I shall be traveling east if God does not block the sale of my place here in Orland. I want His will done. All is committed unto Him. . . .

May God bless and keep all of you looking up.

Your Brother, —H. P. Huskey

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

Canada—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, Sis. Marie, and co-workers at the Print Shop: Greetings of love to all of you, as you labor together for the cause of Christ. Only heaven will reveal the souls who have been helped and encouraged to press the battle on because of your faithful work. Satan is working very hard because he knows his time is running out. We surely thank the Lord for the good soul food we get from the *Faith and Victory* papers and the *Beautiful Way* lessons.

We read the paper as soon as it comes in the mail. It is just like a letter from home. When we read the wonderful testimonies and letters from our brothers and sisters in the family of God (many we have never met), we feel the closeness of the ties that bind our hearts together in the Lord. I'm truly thankful for the Spirit of God that makes us one in Christ Jesus. I'm glad to be a part of the great family of God.

My wife and I are very well in body and soul. Thanks to the healing power of our Lord Jesus!

We were much blessed at the Monark Springs campmeeting at Neosho, Mo. We are looking forward to the next campmeeting. Lord willing, we will be there.

Let us pray one for another that the dear Lord will help us in every step we take to make it to heaven.

—G. and G. Schroeder

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

La.—Dear Sis. Marie, Bro. Lawrence and co-workers: Greetings of love in the lovely name of Jesus who suffered on Calvary's cross that we might have eternal life.

Sis. Marie, I always enjoy your letters so much. They are always uplifting and encouraging.

I trust this will find you and all the dear ones at the Print Shop well and encouraged to keep pressing right on up the shining way. This leaves me well and still saved and happy in the Lord, still rejoicing in this great salvation. I find His service sweeter as the days go by. As the song says, "He is so precious to me . . ."

I look forward to getting my *Faith and Victory*. The articles and testimonies are very encouraging. . . .

The Lord has been wonderfully blessing in our services in Hammond. Louis Kimble from near New Orleans came to our meeting last January, got saved and was baptized on a cold day with icicles on the trees. The Lord is really blessing him and he is on fire for the Lord.

Two or three weeks ago, Bro. Richard Madden held a meeting at Loranger, La., the first part of the week and Bro. Tom Melot was there the last part. On Sunday the altar was full of young folks before prayer. Bro. Louis Kimble's niece and her boyfriend got saved. Bro. Bob Forbes baptized them two weeks ago. This past Sunday, Bro. Louis' sister, mother of the niece, got saved. . . . His sister and her children have been coming to Sunday morning service ever since. . . .

We have been praying for you, Bro. Lawrence, and trust the Lord will completely deliver and heal you for His glory. We, too, have been praying for Bro. Curtis Williams and Sis. Dora Doolittle. We haven't heard from them lately, but trust they are better.

I trust the Lord will bless the Word as it goes forth through the printed page, and that the Lord will search, glean out honest souls, and bring them out into the full light of the pure gospel. . . .—Sis. Audrey Baumgartner

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

W. Va.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings of love to you in Jesus' dear name. Trust this finds all well there at the Print Shop and enjoying the heavenly blessings that God always bestows upon His children who labor for Him.

I'm encouraged much in the Lord. He is so good to me. He made a way for me to be in several meetings this past summer. I do not have words to explain the blessings and how much it means to me to be a child of God and to be in services with the saints.

It is very sad to know so many are in darkness, and some have been in darkness for years and years. Surely they have refused the true light somewhere along the way and are now taking darkness for light and light for darkness. . . .

Much Christian love, —Erma Clevenger

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

Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the blessed and holy name of Jesus who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." That is the plain gospel. If we walk with Him in newness of life and do His will, happy are we.

I am still in good health. Praise His holy name! . . . My faith in the Lord is not shaken. Great are His tender mercies and His keeping power. —Bro. Andrew Senti

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

Miss.—Dear Sister Marie: I am still enjoying the *Faith and Victory* paper. I want to continue to get it as long as I live, or can see to read. I read it many years to my sweet mother, and I remember how she enjoyed my reading it to her. She always wanted me to read Sister Marie Miles' piece first, and that is what I did. I still miss her after these three long years. She was 94 years old, and I am now 76. I don't feel it will be too long until I will see her again.

I do believe we are living in the last days, according to the Bible, and if Jesus doesn't call me Home before, I believe He will soon come back for all His children. What a happy day that will be! There will be no more tears, no sad farewells and all will be peace, joy, and love. What sweet fellowship we will have with our loved ones! I have more over there than here. I'm ready to go any time He sees fit to call me. There is nothing for the Christian to look forward to in this world except to try to win others to Christ.

I still live alone, and yet I am never alone. Jesus said that He would not leave us alone, but He would pray the Father, and He would send the Holy Spirit that He might abide with us forever. I can feel Him.

I am sending a small offering for you to use where you see fit in loving memory of my sweet mama.

—Sis. Grace Gill

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

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and each dear one at the Print Shop: I greet you with Christian love.

"So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors." Mark 13:29. I believe we are living in the "evening time." Above all other things I want to be ready to leave this wicked world in peace with my Lord. Praise God! I love the blessed Church of God, which is the Body and Bride of our Lord Jesus Christ. Praise His dear name! . . .

I hope everyone is happy in the Lord, and well in body. As for wife and me, we are just fair. I would like for all saints to pray for us, body and soul, as we do you folks. . . .

—Nathan Mobley

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

Ala.—Dear Sister Marie: I have been very sick. I have not completely recovered from the illness. I seem to get a little better, can work around the house, and one week I worked in the hospital, but at times I have fever and feel very bad. I know God can heal me, but being alone it is hard to exercise the faith for healing. I am getting old and very tired. However, I intend to keep on going until the Lord tells me it is enough. Whatever I have in the way of time, talent, or money I will use for the glory of God. . . .

My heart goes out to the older folk, especially to the older saints. I pray for God to bless and comfort them even though I don't know who they are. I used to think when I was younger that when we grew old we wouldn't have to fight as hard against the devil. But I am convinced that he would like nothing better than to have us come nearly to the end of the way and then stop working for the Lord. . . .

I am still interested in the missions everywhere, and pray for God to bless them abundantly in giving out the gospel message. I am enclosing a part of the money I made last week to be used where it is needed the most. I know every field is needy, but at this time some may have a greater need than others.

My son, who lives in California, has had three strokes. Please remember him in your prayers. He has had to retire from work because of his bad heart. . . .

Continue to keep me on your prayer list that I will always do the things that please God. If I can serve Him better in affliction, then I say, "Amen."

Yours in Christian love, —Sis. Frances Everhart

o

See to it every day that you are wholly detached from earthly things. Examine the heart often and closely lest there get to be some affection for things on the earth. See that your love for Christ grows warmer and your interest in heaven grows keener. See to it that you are perfectly contented with your lot in life. Be pleased with all God is doing for you, and that you are pleasing Him in all you do. Keep such a realization of God's presense that it enters into and makes holy and heavenly your thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds.

—C. E. Orr

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



La.—Dear Sis. Marie, workers, and saints everywhere: Greetings of much love to you. One Scripture that always blesses me is: "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it." Prov. 10:22. Again in Prov. 13:7, "There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches." I surely believe I understand more and more what it means to make ourselves poor. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for *their's* is the kingdom of heaven." I don't think there is any substitute for humility. To me the product of humility means more than just the word.

I do love the Lord, and he is so very precious to me. I surely find He fills every place in my life that would be vacant without Him. I told someone the other day that I never get bored, restless, or lonely. That may sound like a big boast, but I can truly say that *only because the Lord fills every place in my life that would be empty space if it were not for Him.*

I do think I can say the precious Scripture of Prov. 4:18 is a reality in my life more and more, as my life is fast coming to a close. I do want to please the Lord more than to please myself, but if we aren't careful, we will be pleasing self more than the Lord, and think we are doing God's will. This is a little (or big) saying I have written in my Bible, "Please self, and we will die, die to self and we will live." Although a believer has perfect liberty in his Christian life, he is not free to do whatever he pleases. Devotion to the Lord and concern for others will sometimes limit our actions. These few statements I recently read are well worth giving good heed to. "If anyone is completely dedicated to the Lord, he will voluntarily deny himself of the enjoyment of certain "lawful" practices, because he might make a weaker sister or brother fall or give unbelievers reason to ridicule his or her testimony. *Motivated by the higher principle of love for the Lord*, the individual will set aside his own wishes and desires in consideration of the feelings of those who may be offended by the exercise of his freedom."

I believe saints can easily weaken their testimony and influence of work for the Lord by disregarding this principle of truth. It does mean much to be willing to make sacrifices in this day of perilous times to be the example and light God is calling His saints to be. And if He is calling on any to do this more than others, please permit me to say it is the ministers of the gospel.

We are warned in the Word of the Lord that one of the signs of the last days is that people will be "lovers of their own selves," and by so doing they easily forget the offense they are causing others, therefore hindering their own testimony and influence which is for the greatest cause in the world—for precious souls to be saved or lost.

May the Lord help us to consider these remarks and thoughts, and give us understanding that we may take heed to ourselves and the Word and continue to do so, that we might save our own soul and those that hear us. Amen.

Yours for the Lord, —Sis. LaVern Manuel

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

Mo.—Dear ones at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. We still love the Lord and desire to always do His will. We intend to always trust Him for soul and

body. When He is ready to take me Home, I surely don't want to look to man to try to prolong life a little longer. It is sad to know so many are, it seems, wanting to hold on to this life. We are living to go to a better place and leave this world of sorrow and trouble. I am happy in my soul. Though there are many things that could discourage us, yet we know God, in whom we trust, will not fail us.

We hope everyone there is well or improving, and enjoying salvation. Don't forget to pray for me. . . .

—Sis. Goldie Knapp

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear ones in Christ: I want to thank each one who prayed for me while I was suffering much pain in my body for three weeks. I'm very thankful I can report God's great healing power.

I want to pray more for those who are afflicted and have heavy burdens, as I don't know what I would do without prayer and God's love.

May He bless all of His dear people, is my prayer.  
Christian love, —Viola Weir

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ill.—Dear precious saints: Greetings to all of you in the name of our precious Saviour. How I thank you for your prayers. I thank God for answering prayer. We prayed, believing God and He answered. Oh, praise His holy name!

I'm sure you heard through Sister Miles that my granddaughter is back with us. Thank the Lord! She was taken to Lagos, Nigeria by her African father. He and my daughter are divorced and my daughter has custody of her. He had visitation privileges and was to have her with him every other week-end, alternating holidays and also one week during the summer. He told my daughter that he was too busy to get her during the summer and he would get her later. He never visited much and was very unkind to my daughter; but at this time he was acting very kind. Later, he called my daughter and asked if he could have her for the week of Thanksgiving since he didn't get her during the summer. He said he was having relatives here from his country. My daughter said "Yes." He picked her up the Sunday before Thanksgiving and took her back and forth to school every day. He said he would bring her home Sunday after Thanksgiving. (This was Thanksgiving of last year, 1976.) My daughter talked to his wife and little girl the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and some time that Wednesday night, they left for Nigeria, not telling my daughter anything. They really had everything planned. I had told my daughter on Monday before Thanksgiving that I felt he was getting ready to leave the country with her, but she trusted him because she thought he had changed, as he was acting so very nice and kind. Anyway, when he didn't bring her back Sunday, on Monday my daughter went to the address that he gave her and the people there said he never lived there. We did not know where they were. We called every place we knew, and through the telephone number, the operator gave us the address where he lived. Upon going there to find out why he had not brought her back, she found that he had moved out leaving behind a list of unpaid telephone bills and long distance calls made to New York, and the Washington, D. C., embassy. It was through these we found that he had made plane reservations for his wife, their two-year-

old child, my granddaughter and himself. The flight left the same Wednesday that my daughter talked to his wife. We were so hurt, but we went to God. My daughter was a backslider, but she gave her heart back to the Lord, and I got closer! We stayed before God with fasting and prayers. We had the cooperation from the saints and their prayers.

In December, she heard from him for the first time. He wrote telling her that he had the child with him in Nigeria and he would be there for a long time. He felt he should have the say in her life. After all, she had her for five years, he wrote, and if she wanted to, she could join them whenever she liked. Also, he said he would let her know how she was progressing. From the letter we felt that he had no intentions of returning her to her mother. We knew that God was working because now he had written, which he did not have to do.

In Africa, the children belong to the father and there was nothing our American system could or would do. We kept trusting God. At first, my daughter did not fast with us because she did not physically feel up to it. The Lord laid it on my heart to tell her to fast. She obeyed God. God had already assured her heart that her little girl was coming back to her. We did not know when, or how, but we knew God was going to bring her back to us. Within two weeks after the start of her fasting we heard from Sister Miles, letting us know that she was praying, and also she had made the request to the saints there.

Dear saints, that following Monday my daughter received a long distance call from Nigeria from her ex-husband. He told her that he would return the child in a week or two. Oh, how we thanked God! We did rejoice and praise God. We prayed that God would again touch his heart and that he would keep his word. On Sunday, a week later, my granddaughter walked into her mother's house. Her step-mother returned her. She and her daughter had come back at that time and he was still in Africa.

Saints, God is so very good. I cannot express to you how mighty and wonderful my God is. He is a miracle worker! Oh, the wonders of God! Saints, I thank God.

Pray for us that we will always stay humble before God, obedient to Him to do His will.

Again, I thank all of the dear saints there and the *Faith and Victory* readers.

Love, —Sis. Jean Murry

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Kansas—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Pruitt and others: I give thanks to the Lord for His continual blessings unto me. I thank Him for every blessing, plus all the trials and tests which have helped me to draw closer to God. I am enjoying my salvation and am so very happy to have the blessed privilege of serving the Lord in holiness. I am encouraged and determined that no man shall take my crown, but I intend to get it myself. . . .

We hope the Lord will lead and permit some of you from Guthrie to attend our autumn meeting which begins Oct. 28. We are dedicating ourselves to much prayer that sinners will yield to the Lord and His service.

With Christian love, —Shirley Knight

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear saints: Holy greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am saved and have a deep desire to please my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. God has been very good to me. . . .

I had to have some teeth extracted and a piece of the tooth was left in my gums, causing them to become swollen and red. When I went back for my imprint, the gums were so swollen and tender that the dentist could not take the imprint; he told me to come back in two or three days. I knew the Lord would have to work a miracle for my gums to be well enough for the imprint at that time after being so swollen. We prayed and requested prayer. The next morning I could feel something sharp with the end of my tongue. The Lord caused that piece of tooth to come out that very day, and I was able to go back for my imprint on the third day with perfectly well gums, for which I give God all the glory and praise.

There have been many blessings and miracles in my life, but time and space will not permit me to mention all of them. A part of the song says, "Blessings so rich, unnumbered, untold, more precious are they than diamonds and gold." I am so glad I can say with a thankful heart that I settled it 27 years ago, at the age of 17 years, that I would live to please my Maker if I had to suffer the rest of my life. Truly, it has been a life of self-denial, but I still mean to please my God. When I come to the end of life's way I want to be able to say like Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

I am 44 years of age on the day of this writing, Sept. 23, 1977, the mother of eight children, and I have never been to a hospital for any kind of treatments. I tell my children that if I should become unconscious, for them to stick to my teaching. I have trusted God, and I do not want to be sent to a hospital. When the time comes for me to go, no one can keep me here. Like the song says, "I've enlisted in the service 'till I die."

Pray for me.

—Clara Barnett

## Christ's Epistle

"Ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ." (II Cor. 3:3). "All can see that you are a letter from Christ." (20th Cent.) The Christian is Christ's "Open Letter." His life is a message from Christ to the world. His daily walk is a genuine letter from the Saviour of men. The Christian life is written by the same hand that wrote the New Testament and they read just alike, word for word. If you profess to be a Christian be sure your daily life is the handwriting of Jesus. Your life in your home amid its trials and provocations should read like God's Word. It is very confusing and discouraging to others if your life and the New Testament read differently.

The purpose of a letter is to convey the thoughts and mind of the writer. The Christian is that kind of letter. Men come to know the thoughts of God by reading the Christian's life. He shows Christ's patience in his patience. His life is not his life, but Christ's life in his life. The life of a saint is a letter in which the world can read Christ's gentleness, kindness, humility, sobriety, calmness, sympathy, love, holiness, separateness from the world and hatred of sin. Do not think this standard is too high. If you will take time to pray and seek after this life with determined effort, leaning hard on Christ's helpful arm, it will surprise you what a wonderful and beautiful letter you can get to be.

—C. E. Orr

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** Please explain why the Church of God does not believe in capital punishment. I have always believed the Bible plainly taught capital punishment and I would like to know your views concerning the same.

**Answer:** In the time of the Old Testament and the law dispensation capital punishment was not only taught but was required. There were a number of crimes for which the death penalty was required. Murder and adultery were punishable by death; also blasphemy, the doing of any work on the Sabbath Day (Ex. 35:2), a son who cursed (reviled) his father or mother was to be put to death, (Ex. 21:17) and if he smote his father or mother he was to be put to death (Ex. 21:15), a worshipper of strange god's (sun, moon, or any of the hosts of heaven) among the Israelites was to be put to death (Deut. 17:2-7), a false prophet who enticed the people to idolatry was to be put to death (Deut. 13:1-11), a stubborn, rebellious, disobedient son was to be put to death (Deut. 21:18-21). Also various other sins and crimes were punishable by death as required by the law.

But when we pass the line into the New Testament dispensation, we read no more of such things. We have a case in the 8th chapter of John, verses 3-11, of a woman taken in adultery being brought to Jesus by the scribes and Pharisees. Now adultery was one of the crimes for which the death penalty was required under the law (Lev. 20:10) and the scribes and Pharisees pressed this point with Jesus and required of Him what should be done with her. He never pronounced death upon her, but freely forgave her sin and saved her to go and sin no more. This incident proves that Jesus was not going by and advocating the death penalty as required by the old law. Jesus Himself said in Luke 9:56 that He came not to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And according to the rule Jesus gave these scribes and Pharisees for executing a death sentence — "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her" — it seems certain that no one out there in the world who supervises these things would be eligible to execute a death sentence.

In the biggest majority of cases a person who is executed is dropped right off into an eternal hell. Many of them are not prepared to go. I know how it makes me feel personally when I hear of people being snuffed out into eternity in accidents or shootings, disasters, etc., and know there is an overwhelming chance that they were not prepared. It makes me feel very bad and sends a shiver over me to realize that beyond all probability souls have just arrived in hell to never return back again. Then if I endorsed and supported a law or helped by my vote and sanction, a law to execute men and beyond all probability drop them into an eternal hell I would feel bad indeed to know I had that much personal responsibility in such a thing.

Also, there have been different cases of the wrong person being executed for a crime and it was later proven that someone else committed the crime and the one who was put to death was innocent of the crime for which he paid. Only God knows the hearts of all men and is qualified to judge righteously, and He says, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay."

## PURITY



"Keep thyself pure." I Tim. 5:22. In such commands there is something animating and ennobling. To enable us to have some conception of purity we have only to think of heaven and of the angels. This world has been betimes visited by celestial beings. They are spoken of as being clothed in white and having countenances shining as the light. Matt. 28:3; Mark 16:5; John 20:12; Acts 1:9, 10. White is an emblem of purity. These transient visitors from above, robed in white raiment, represent visitors from heaven. Purity is not ascribed alone to heavenly beings, but it is a characteristic of the redeemed upon the earth. Purity is effected through the atoning blood. The sweet singer David said: "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

The beloved John in a vision saw "a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." Rev. 22:1. This "river of water of life" is the cleansing stream of God's salvation. "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:17. This means salvation. "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." Rev. 21:6b. This is the cleansing fountain of salvation. This stream is pure. It flows from the throne of God. It is as pure as its source. Whosoever enters this crystal stream will be made as pure as its waters.

Though the soul be stained with scarlet stains,

It shall be white as snow;

Though the soul be stained with crimson stains,

It shall be white as wool.

The prophet Isaiah in speaking of the cleansing fountain of salvation in that day, said, "And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin." Isa. 1:25. The cleansing stream will remove all the dross and leave the soul pure. These are garments of salvation. This is not literal, but the cleansing away of sin and the infusion of righteousness is represented by the taking away of filthy rags and being clothed in the garments of salvation. The Lamb's wife, which is His church—which is His people—was "arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Rev. 19:8.

We will now give a Bible lesson describing the purity of man through the blood of Jesus.

A pure soul. "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." I Pet. 1:22.

A pure heart. "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." Matt. 5:8.

A pure mind. "This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance." II Pet. 3:1.

A pure conscience. "I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience." II Tim. 1:3.

A pure language. "For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent." Zeph. 3:9.

Pure thoughts. "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever

things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Phil. 4:8.

A pure religion. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Jas. 1:27.

When man is thus made pure in all the faculties of his being, he is said to be pure even as Christ is pure (I John 3:3), and is then a perfect example of purity to the world. (I Tim. 4:12.)

The question is asked, "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?" Psa. 24:3. The answer is, "He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart." Purity is a requisite for heaven. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." In this language there is indubitably implied the impossibility of seeing God without purity of heart. God is pure, and heaven is a pure place, and without purity of soul, heart, and life you can never enter heaven nor see God.

—C. E. Orr, *The Gospel Day*

## Confidence

Saints are the children of God, the blood-washed ones established by God. True saints of God have the Spirit of the Father and Son. Those in the church that Jesus built all have the same spirit. "I . . . beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Eph. 4:1-6.

When we are saved and sanctified, we are all just one, one in spirit. When we see our blood-washed brother in need of spiritual help, we both having the same Christ-like spirit can get together with perfect peace, and work that thing out.

One time the enemy tried to bring something between a precious sister and me. But that perfect peace, that Christ-like spirit, wouldn't give room to the enemy. Here is where all lowliness and meekness come in. There was no room for the spirit of the devil. We had something to shield against the devil. We gave no room for him. We talked that matter over and brought the devil's plan right out into the open. Saints, it is dangerous to hold something in our minds that has been said by our sister or brother, because the enemy will make a mountain out of that thing. True saints of God will bring it out and clear it up. Don't leave any place for the enemy to work. When you begin to lose confidence in your brother, most likely your spirit isn't in tune with your brother's and if you don't clear the matter up, I'm afraid the fault will lie in your own heart. Saints do not lose confidence in other saints, because if the spirits are the same there will be perfect peace between you and your brother. When the enemy tries to bring a wrong spirit between you and your brother, you can feel it. Go to God and then go to that brother, so all will be cleared and your heart will not be the one out of tune.

—Sis. E. Landis



## The Influence of One Tract



When we hand out a paper, book, or tract, we are never conscious of the good we are doing—of its effects and influence. While it is true that many of these precious messages of light are destroyed and do no good whatever, yet, if we are careful to trust the Lord to guide us in the distribution of this holy literature, we may become much more effectual than if we were to go at it carelessly. We must keep at work regardless of our feelings of discouragement, just as those of us must do who are called into other lines of the ministry. The literature work is truly one of the parts of the gospel ministry, and the beauty of it is that every saint in Zion may have a part in it. May the Lord stir up His saints to this golden opportunity of these last days. "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap. In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Eccl. 11:4,6.

Following is one of the many instances of where one little tract finds its way into such circles that it sets in motion such influences as will keep on and on until they reach almost boundless proportions. It is a little pebble thrown into the great ocean of time, that starts the wave that keeps in motion until it reaches the shore of eternity, carrying with it influences that may never be known until we reach that shore and see the result of our labors.

A lady who had been in some of our meetings and who lives in one of the suburban cities of Oakland had taken some tracts that had probably been handed to her by some of the workers. She handed one of them to a young lady of her acquaintance, and she gave it to someone else. It finally came into the hands of the Methodist preacher of that city. The tract was "Babylon is Fallen," which is not a very agreeable subject to a sectarian. The preacher read it and became so exercised about such literature coming among his people that he felt it his duty to give it a public reading before his congregation. He spoke of it in such terms of denunciation that is aroused the curiosity of some of his people, and they decided they would investigate this literature. This one young lady felt the tract contained the truth and felt grieved that the preacher took such a stand against it. She decided she would send to the office for some tracts. That she did, and satisfied her own heart that this was the Bible way. She separated herself from the sect and began to distribute literature. Although she had not heard a sermon and had not seen a saint, yet she knew in her heart that this was truth and truly received it with all the light she had. Soon her mother also took the stand. The young lady went boldly out among the people, gladly bearing all the reproach and persecutions, and in a short time had distributed over fourteen hundred tracts. A month or two later she met one of the saints working in the cannery where she was at work. She was rejoiced to get acquainted with someone else in the faith. Soon there was a plan made to have public meetings in the dance hall at the cannery. The workers went and preached the gospel, with the results that several souls became enlightened, and many confessed that they never before heard such preaching, and acknowledged the truth. One young lady who lived in a

city one hundred miles away was saved and went home to do what she could to save others. One Catholic lady heard something about the Church of God and the foundation of the same. This was such a revelation of truth to her soul that she went home from the meeting in the evening, sat down in her chair, and became so concerned in deep meditation that the first to detract her mind was the break of day. In the solemn and silent hours of that night she promised God that by His grace she would take her stand. Later, she made her declaration that she was no longer a Catholic, and requested prayer that she might obey God in all things. Others were deeply interested in the truth, and only God knows what the end will be as one soul carries this truth to another and so on in years to come until we all meet in eternity.

Now, dear reader, this is only one more of the many instances where someone has done a little act for the gospel and where some of the results are made visible. However, we do not need to expect the visible results in this life in every case, but must leave it all with God. Oh, how glad we all should be that we can have such an important part in the gospel ministry.

—J. W. Byers, 1908

## God Looks on the Heart



Recently we have heard much about the death of Elvis Presley. I heard a program on a Sunday morning and they were playing his religious songs. The world exalts man and tells how good a person he is and of the good deeds he did. But Jesus said, "Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God." Matt. 19:17. The world looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh on the heart.

This young man did a lot toward the delinquency of the youth of our country. It wasn't his voice that brought him fame, but his vulgar actions before his audiences set the youth on fire and they tore up seats in theatres, screaming and going mad. He made his millions from this and the records he sold. Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." Matt. 19:23,24. Jesus also said, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Matt. 12:35.

The world seems to think that because a man does some good deeds, he is a good man and is going to heaven. On the other hand, they want nothing to do with Christ, but feel that these good deeds are going to get them to heaven. Yet God says He is a jealous God, and for us to have no other gods before Him. He will not take second place in our affections. What we sow, that shall we also reap. The Word says, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Heb. 12:14. No man can live a holy life until he has been made holy. Then when that happens, this world has no more charm for him. —Earl B. Bliss

"Happiness is not perfect until it is shared."