

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Unfold, Unfold, Ye Portals

(Christ's Ascension)

Lift your heads, O gates of heaven,
Open wide, eternal doors!
Who in death His all hath given
Now ascends from earthly shores.

Jesus is the King of glory
For He has subdued the foe;
Left for mortal man a story
To be preached and sung below.

Tarried He on earth a stranger
'Til His Father's work was done:
From the Infant in the manger
To the Risen Glorious Son.

Now arrayed in robes immortal,
Heav'n and earth at His command,
He approaches now the portal
Of the everlasting land.

He has triumphed for salvation,
For redemption and for grace;
And His blessed revelation
Sin and sorrow can erase.

So unfold, unfold, ye portals
To that shining world to come:
Shine upon poor fallen mortals
All thy love and splendor from.

Look ye up, O man, and see Him
Sweeping through the gates on high;
Bow thy heart, trust and believe Him,
For He waits to hear thy cry.

Hold ye fast His counsel spoken,
All His precepts love, obey;
Not one promise has He broken
To the faithful in His way.

Soon those gates will open ever,
The Redeemed His face shall see,
And be parted from Him never
In that blest eternity.

—Leslie C. Busbee

The True Vine

There is a Scripture in the 46th chapter of Psalms that has been a great help to me. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." And the 7th verse, "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge." Many, many times God has come to our rescue, and brought these Scriptures to our mind when the devil would try to make us feel that we were all alone in this world. God has a way of bringing encouragement when the devil oppresses us. I heard of an old saint that was dying, and his pastor came to see him. The pastor said, "Well, how do things look?" The old saint said, "Oh, I am not going by the way things look." The pastor said, "Then how do you feel? Are you afraid?" The old saint said, "Afraid? I'm standing on the Solid Rock, and although I might tremble, I know the Rock will never tremble under me."

The Bible says, "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28. So we want to be in the will of God and please Him. We don't feel very important in this world, but we want to do what we can to glorify His name. As I have said before, and say again, I don't feel that I am a writer, neither do I feel qualified to be a teacher, but I have some things that I have on my mind that came to me while reading God's Word, and I would like to pass them on.

Now we all know there is much division among those professing to be God's children today, and some-one or ones are sidetracked. We can't all be right and have all the truth. This is the burden we have on our heart. We know we are living in an age when, it seems, everyone wants to go his own way; but our way is not God's way, and if we ever expect to get to heaven, it is up to us to find God's way and walk therein.

We will start reading the 15th chapter of John. Jesus, speaking to His disciples, said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman." In this case, an husbandman is both owner and caretaker. Verse 2, "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." Every would-be child of God must get rid of all filth of the flesh, hate the things of this world, and put on the whole armour of God. They are born into the family of God and become new

creatures in Christ Jesus. Thus, they love the brethren. Most folks know that there are suckers that grow up from the true vine. These sap the strength from the true vine and must be cut off, so that the true vine will have all the strength needed to bear more fruit. They add nothing to the true vine. I was born in W. Va., and down there we had large wild grape vines that grew to be enormous in the trees. One would think by their looks that they were going to bear a lot of good fruit, but they bear such little grapes, and are so very difficult to harvest, that they become almost useless. So it is with would-be children of God. If they persist in their own will, they may expect to be set aside. To purge means: To cleanse of sin and all impurities, anything undesirable, and to become clean and pure. God chastens us to get us to see ourselves sometimes, as He wants us to go to heaven where He is, not willing that any should perish. So the object of purging is production, getting one clean so that he may bear more fruit. "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

There are many going about in the world deceiving poor souls into thinking they are bearing fruit for God, when they are filling their storehouses with the filthy lucre of this world.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you." It would seem to me that if everyone that took the name of Christ and obeyed the above commandment, that God would have a very large family here on earth. But the devil goeth about seeking whom he may devour.

In the 5th chapter of Isaiah we read of another vineyard. The Israelites were God's moral vineyard. He did many mighty wonders for them, still they were called a stiffnecked people, and God at times wanted to slay them all, but Moses interceded for them and God spared them. "My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?" Isa. 5:1-4. You can read the rest if you wish, but destruction and desolation came to that vineyard.

In Matthew 21:33-43, Jesus, giving a parable, said: "There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country. And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent

other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the Lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him their fruits in their seasons. Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof." This was spoken to the Jewish nation who had killed the prophets, and all that God had sent to them. Last of all, they killed His Son and the Kingdom of God was given to the Gentiles. This should be an example to us, that we should not trample the Word of God under our feet. If America would repent and turn to God again, we would be spared awhile longer. I'm afraid we have gone too far already, and God's wrath is upon us for destruction.

Friends, this salvation is too valuable to be cast aside and trampled on. There is too much at stake. If you should gain the whole world and lose your soul, what profit would it be to you? "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented." Luke 16:19-25. What profit did riches do that man in hell? He was calling to Abraham for mercy now, but there is no mercy beyond the grave. If you wait until you are cast into hell to call for mercy, you will be sadly disappointed.

Folks don't seem to fear hell, or maybe they think it isn't a very bad place after all. If you are one of those that think thus, I would like for you to try a little experiment. Put your hand in a flame of fire for a little while. One of your senses will tell you right quick to pull it out, and what pain you will suffer! You can do something about fire in this life, but in the hereafter, you will have no control or choice. You will just have to suffer the awful torments of those flames in eternity—never an end, but forever and ever! Jesus said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get into the kingdom of God. Do you see what happened to the above-mentioned rich man? He had no mercy for Lazarus when on this

earth, but now the tables were turned and he was wanting Lazarus to bring a drop of water on the tip of his finger to cool his tongue. Folks, the rich man is still there today, and always will be.—Earl B. Bliss

“Values Clarification?”



Christian men and women should be fully aware of what their children are being taught in school. I believe that the Lord would have us become more aware of how the devil is luring today's children and young people out into the world.

I would like to bring to your attention a program that is being taught nationwide in public schools. It is called “Values Clarification.” I don't know how many are aware of this program or what it constitutes, but I hope and pray that I may be able to enlighten you about it.

First, I want to tell you who created this program and what they believe. A group calling themselves “Humanists” are the founders. They believe that there is no God. In their estimation, man is the supreme being. Secondly, they believe that there are no absolute morals. Your morals, they say, depend on each individual situation.

This program is taught in most all of the grades. Before your child is very old, he will probably take a test and such questions as these will be asked: Do you believe in God? Do you have a Bible in your home? Does your family pray before meals? Do your parents fight? What do they fight about? Would you date a married man? Would you take dope?

This invasion of your child's morals and your family's privacy may not sound too bad to you, but this is only the beginning of it. Your child is brainwashed to the point that he has no absolute morals, and then he is programmed so that his morals depend on the situation. I will attempt to explain and give examples to you.

In the values clarification program, a sociologist has what is called the “Magic Circle.” The students are told to form a circle, and the sociologist says, “Now, who are we going to help today?” One student is chosen and put in the center of the circle. All of the other students take turns telling what they dislike about that person. Naturally this would make one very confused, embarrassed, and would make one wonder about his ideas of morality that have been taught him by his parents.

Now to the point of how they are taught or programmed; that morals depend on the situation. On tests, they ask such questions as, “Are you a lying Larry who lies all of the time or are you an Honest Harry who tells the truth, even if it hurts someone else?” The child will look at the question and think, “I don't lie all the time but I don't want to hurt anyone, consequently, it would depend on the situation whether or not I lie.”

The humanists have created what they call “group therapy.” In this, they gather around and discuss problems and what one would do if he were in a certain situation. An example: You are on the bank of a river full of alligators. Your boy friend is on the opposite bank. There is only one ferry that runs from your side of the bank to your boy friend's side. The

man who runs the ferry says that he will take you across the river only if you will commit an immoral act with him. What do you do? Naturally, the solution is, if that's the only way to get to your boy friend, you must yield.

I heard of an instance in one of these group therapy sessions in which a 14-year-old girl was reduced to tears and ridicule by her peers because she would not arrive at the unanimous conclusion of her classmates. She stuck with her opinion of what was right in one of these immoral problems and was brought to shame in their estimation. Suppose she hadn't been strong willed? What would happen to one weak in his faith?

Certainly we cannot be too careful in guiding our children, teaching them the absolute right way, and taking an interest in them. We need wisdom from above in order to rear children without having regrets when they are grown.

You may say, “If all this is so prevalent in our schools, why don't we know about it?” For one reason, the children are told not to tell their parents what goes on in this program. Hasn't the world grown corrupt? You may ask, “Why don't our school board members, principals, city, and state lawmakers rise up against this?” The answer is this: They may want to but are fearful of losing federal funds. They will sell children's minds and morals for the almighty dollar.

In closing, I want to urge all parents to take time for their children, encourage them to talk to you about their problems at school. As Solomon asked for wisdom to guide the people, let us ask for wisdom to guide our children.

—Wayne Murphey

A Debtor



I earnestly solicit the prayers of all the saints. I have always exercised great caution concerning going into debt, and had succeeded thus far in life, as I thought, in incurring but very little of it. I learned recently, however, that an enormous debt was resting upon me. A few evenings ago, while reading the following text, the Holy Spirit in a definite manner made me feel the enormity of the debt I owe to man. It will take me all my life to pay it. “I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians, both to the wise, and the unwise.” Rom. 1:14.

By reading the contexts you will learn that the debt Paul owed to every class of mankind was the preaching of the gospel to them. Brethren in the ministry, we are in debt; and the debt we owe is the preaching of the gospel to every creature. May the Lord help us to pay all we owe to each and every one. It is sometimes good for some people to get in debt. It makes them move industriously and energetically; so I thought I would call to your mind the fact that you are in debt. A considerable part of my work is in humble homes in rural districts where the people are poor and unlearned but honest. This text tells me I am debtor to both the wise and unwise. So I am ready and eager, as much as in me is, to pay the debt I owe to all. Praise the Lord! O brethren, let us go forth into the great harvest field and thrust in the sickle with our might, so that when the Lord of the harvest comes, we will have many sheaves to present unto Him as the fruit of

our labor. Let us so work on, and toil on, that when we have reached the end of our labors, we can say, I have paid it all, I am clear from the blood of all men.

—C. E. Orr

FAITH AND VICTORY

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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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; II 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.

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EDITORIALS



GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ "who was delivered for our offenses, and raised again for our justification."

The empty tomb is a testimony that our Lord and Saviour was raised from the dead, that He is alive and reigning on His mediatorial throne at the right hand of the Father according to the divine plan. The Scriptures declare that ten days after His resurrection He ascended to heaven from Mt. Olivet with His disciples as eye-witnesses. Then forty days later, on the day of Pentecost, Jesus fulfilled His promise in sending the Holy Spirit as a Comforter to abide with His church forever and to empower His disciples to carry the good news of salvation to the whole world.

Jesus said to the sorrowing Martha whose brother had died, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" John 11:25, 26. Jesus Christ is not only the resurrection for the physical body but also the resurrection for the inner man — the soul — which is "dead in trespasses and sins." The true believer in Christ is resurrected from the dead state of sin and made a new creature in Christ. Old things pass away, and all things become new. Jesus said, "The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead [spiritually] shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." John 5:25.

With reference to the general literal resurrection Jesus said, "For the hour is coming, in the which ALL that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28, 29. Jesus also gave His disciples this promise: "Because I live, ye shall live also." John 14:19. The Apostle Paul writes: "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." 1 Cor. 15:22, 23. Again Paul says: "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [not ascend before] them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [before the righteous living ascend] then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them [the resurrected saints] in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." 1 Thess. 4:14-17. Praise God for this blessed hope of the righteous!

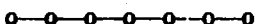
The foregoing description of the end of this world for the saints leaves no time, place or need for a supposed literal millennial reign of Christ.



Beautiful springtime has arrived in our area and all vegetation is bursting forth with new life according to God's ordained plan. All creation speaks eloquently of God, but the multitudes are dull of hearing and do not hear Him.



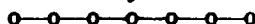
About one-half of the Seventh Edition of the book, "God's Gracious Dealings," is off the press. We hope to get this edition shipped to the bindery by the 15th of April to have the cloth covers put on. The books should be in stock at this office by the first of June.



Bro. Hammond to Return to the Philippines . . .

Bro. George Hammond, who is now in Wisconsin, plans to leave, Lord willing, on March 28, 1978, from Chicago by plane for the Philippines to do more missionary work with the native brethren. He was over there in the summers of 1976 and 1977. Perhaps he will be there several months this time. Pray the Lord to give him a safe and profitable trip, and to anoint him with the Holy Spirit to present the Bible truths to the believers to the end that they may be established and settled in the present truth.

The native brethren in the Philippines are in the process of enlarging their chapel at Cauayan to use at their annual campmeeting which will begin on the 12th of April. They would appreciate any financial help to meet the high cost of this building project. Pray that many souls will be saved during these special meetings that will be held while Bro. George Hammond is in that needy field.



Bro. and Sister James Huskey and a number of others in several cars left Guthrie on March 12 to do missionary work and pass out Spanish literature in the interior of Mexico, going as far as the area northwest of Mexico City. They are expected to return home by the last of March.



The week prior to Easter, Bro. Mart Samons of West Virginia held a meeting at Loranger, La.



Our sympathy and prayers are extended to and for the bereaved relatives of Brother O'neal Pratt, minister of Holly Hill, S. Carolina, who departed this life on March 12, 1978.



A Note of Thanks from Bro. Cecil Carver . . .

Bro. Cecil Carver of Jena, La., who had recently suffered some heart attacks, takes this means to express his sincere thanks and appreciation to the saints for their prayers, phone calls, letters, cards, and words of encouragement during this affliction. On March 22nd he stated that he was having very little chest pain and believed the Lord had undertaken for him. He was up and around, but taking it easy in

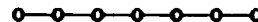
order to conserve his strength. Pray for his complete restoration.

Continue to pray also for Bro. Max Williamson, pastor at Baton Rouge, La., who has been having some heart trouble.

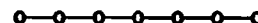


Wedding Scheduled in Goulds, Florida . . .

Bro. Charles L. Chandler and Sister Diann E. Cox will be united in marriage, Lord willing, on Saturday, April 15, 1978, at the Church of God chapel in Goulds, Fla., with Bro. Herschel Hargrave officiating. Bro. Chandler is a young minister, and this young couple desires your prayers that their lives together will be for the glory of God.



Bro. Kenneth Probst held a week's meeting preceding Easter Sunday at the 23rd Street chapel of the Church of God in Oklahoma City. This writer and his wife were privileged to be in two nights of those services, and the Word was preached clear and definite.



Ministers Called to Their Eternal Home . . .

In the last two months, four of the ministers of the Church of God, most of whom were elderly, have finished their earthly labors and gone Home to rest. They are: Bro. Manyles Gaines of Tulsa, Okla., Bro. O'neal Pratt of Holly Hill, S. Carolina, Sister Nellie Poulos of Enid, Okla., and Bro. Ira D. Stover of Tulsa, Okla. May our heavenly Father comfort and sustain all the bereaved relatives as well as the saints to whom they were endeared by their years of service in the gospel work. Our loss is truly heaven's gain, but who will fill these vacant offices in the church on earth? We pray that many young saints will consecrate to hear and answer God's call to the ministry of the Word, and fill these vacant places in the ranks. "How shall they hear without a preacher?"

Of the above-named ministers, perhaps Brother Ira Stover was the most active in the gospel work over a period of more than 56 years, preaching the gospel from coast to coast and holding pastorates in several cities. He was the pastor here at Guthrie, Okla., for seven years—from March 19, 1959, to May 8, 1966—and resigned because of ill health. Later, they moved to Tulsa, Okla., to be near their son Bob Stover and his family.

Bro. Ira and Sister Ruby Stover, who had observed their 54th wedding anniversary in 1977, went to California last November after his sister Edith Wittenborn had fallen and broken her hip at the Sunset Guest Home on the Church Campground at Pacolma. While there, Bro. Stover was not feeling well and apparently suffered some strokes. Later, he was removed to the home of Lawrence and Ruthe Taylor at Kingsburg, Calif., where he departed this life to be with the Lord on March 22, 1978, at the age of 77 years. The body was returned to Sapulpa, Okla., for the funeral service and interment on the 27th of March with Bro. Ostis B. Wilson officiating, assisted by others. The many floral offerings and

the large attendance at the services witnessed to the high esteem and respect that he held. Since Brother Stover was so widely known in the Church, the memories of his faithful labors will linger long in the hearts of the saints. May the Lord especially bless and comfort Sister Ruby Stover in these days of readjustment. Her address is: 6304 S. 97th West Ave., Tulsa, Oklahoma 74131.

Another shipment of 5,000 pounds of printing paper was received from the paper mill in the month of March. Every effort is being made to increase the flow of gospel literature to this perishing world with the prayer and hope that many more precious souls will be rescued from the clutches of sin and Satan before time runs out. We certainly appreciate our faithful co-workers and all those of you who are praying for us and making financial contributions to advance this gospel literature ministry. Let us continue to hold up the shield of faith and remain steadfast at our post of duty. There is surely a crown of life that fadeth not away awaiting every holy and faithful soul.

—Lawrence Pruitt

OBITUARIES

Ole O. Lowe was born on Sept. 21, 1889, in Fayetteville, Ark., to William and Mary Lowe. He entered into rest on Feb. 26, 1978, from Willard, Mo., at the age of 88 years.

Bro. Ole embraced the truth in his early years and died leaving a testimony of strong faith in God.

He is survived by two sons, Gerry Lowe, Springfield, Mo., and Harry Lowe, Greenwood, Ark., five daughters, Ruby Davison, Willard, Mo., Violet Harmon, Portland, Ore., Virginia Harmon, Overland Park, Ks., Dorothy Hanson, Humansville, Mo., and Mary Cooksey, Shawnee Mission, Ks.; one sister, Elsie Starling, Kansas City, Ks.; 26 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Bros. Richard Madden, Murphy Allen, and Leslie Busbee. Interment was in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens, Springfield, Mo.

Sister Nellie Jane (Whiting) Poulos was born in Butler, Mo., March 24, 1890, and departed this life in Enid, Okla., March 17, 1978, one week before she reached her 88th birthday. She was one of four children born to James Madison Whiting and Clara Etta Whiting. The early years of her life she lived with her parents in Missouri and Kansas.

In 1928, she moved to California, settling at San Bernardino where she met and later married Gus Poulos on October 14, 1928. To this union was born one son and two daughters. In 1940, they moved to Highland, Calif., where they lived until the death of her husband, Bro. Gus Poulos, in 1965. After this, she moved to Shawnee, Okla., and in 1974 to Enid, Okla., where she lived until her death.

Sister Nellie, as she was so well known, was a member of the Church of God. She was first saved at the early age of six. Then at the age of 14 she was sancti-

fied, since which time she lived for, and enjoyed a constant walk with God. Sis. Nellie and her parents met the Church of God saints at Carthage, Mo., and found them to be the people for whom they had been looking. Since that time she felt at home with them. In 1921, she felt a definite call to the ministry. She later became active and served the Lord and the church in this capacity for many years doing what she could. Her life was one of faith through which God performed miracles. Sis. Nellie's book entitled, *Life's Story and Healings* tells of many times when God heard and answered prayer. Living and witnessing for the truth was a reality in her life.

Survivors include: one son, T. Gus Poulos, Orange, Calif.; two daughters, Mrs. Jay (Ruth) Wright, San Bernardino, Calif., and Mrs. James (Esther) Hardy, Plymouth, Ind.; one sister, Mrs. Edith Sturgis, San Bernardino, Calif.; nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren as well as a host of saints and friends.

A funeral service was held at the Henninger-Allen Chapel in Enid, Okla., with Sister Fern Stubblefield, Bro. Curtis Williams, and Bro. Willie Murphey officiating. Another service was held in San Bernardino, Calif., conducted by Bro. Ostis Wilson, and interment was in the Mt. View Cemetery, San Bernardino, beside her husband.

Ira David Stover, the eighth child of William H. and Mary E. Stover, was born August 16, 1900 at Lincoln, Nebraska, and went home to be with the Lord on March 22, 1978, at the home of Lawrence and Ruth Taylor at Kingsburg, California, at the age of 77 years, 7 months, and 6 days.

In 1901, the family moved to Greeley, Colorado, where he spent his early childhood. It was there that they came in contact with the Church of God and its teachings which were gladly embraced, and he continued to love this truth throughout his life.

The family moved to California in 1913. In 1920, Brother Stover sought the Lord for a personal experience of salvation and was born again by a spiritual birth into the Church of God where he remained faithful in his covenant with God to the end of his life.

Not long after he was saved he felt the call of God to the ministry. He answered that call and was faithful as a minister of God for 57 years.

During those years he pastored in Oklahoma City, then in Oregon, then in Los Angeles, Pomona, and Dinuba, California, then in Anthony, Kansas, and in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Guthrie was his last pastorate and he served this church for about seven years. In 1966, failing health forced him to give up pastoring, as he was no longer able for the strenuous responsibilities and duties which go along with pastoring a church. However, he never lost his burden for the church and for souls, and he travelled far and wide across this great land in evangelistic meetings and administering to individual souls throughout the length and breadth of the country in their needs, problems, and sicknesses. He kept going just as long as he was able, and said he would rather wear out than to rust out.

On December 9, 1923, he and Ruby E. Trimble were joined in holy matrimony in Oklahoma City, and to this union one son was born. This marriage held firm through 54 years plus, and they still loved each other. Immediately

after their marriage they started out together in the work of the Lord and were an effective team in this work, working heart in heart, soul in soul, hand in hand, side by side throughout their lives together. Brother Stover's burning desire was to rescue perishing souls and warn all to flee from sin and serve the Lord.

For the past few years he has had his home at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and his home church has been the Sapulpa Road Church of God where Bro. Richard Madden is the pastor.

He is survived by his wife, Ruby, of the home; one son, Robert, of Tulsa, Okla.; two sisters, Lydia Stark of Corona, Calif., and Edith Wittenborn of Pacoima, Calif.; one brother, George Daniel Stover of Burbank, Calif.; four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Four sisters preceded him in death.

The funeral service was held on March 27, 1978, at the Smith Funeral Chapel in Sapulpa, Okla., with Bro. Ostis Wilson officiating, assisted by Bro. Richard Madden and Bro. Lewis Williams. Interment was in the Green Hill Memorial Gardens, Sapulpa, Okla., until the general resurrection.

Note of Deep Appreciation

Words cannot express our heartfelt appreciation for all the kindness shown to us during the illness and departure of our dear loved one. The words of comfort spoken, the offerings of money given, the floral arrangements, cards, phone calls, food, and the many other deeds of love have deeply touched our hearts. The ministers and singers who helped in the service, and those who came from far and near to help share with us our great loss made this event easier to bear.

We are thankful for all Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Ruthe Taylor did for us in taking us into their home and helping to care for dear Ira (Stover) until his passing. May the Lord reward each one in a special way, is our prayer.

—Sis. Ruby Stover, Bob, Margaret, and children

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Carl Dennis McClain was born on February 1, 1944, at Pana, Ill., and departed this life on March 2, 1978, at Elkhaville, Ill.

Survivors include his mother, Sister Vivian McClain of Muskogee, Oklahoma; four sisters, and many other relatives.

The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Richard Madden, and interment was in the Rosemond Grove Cemetery, Rosemond, Ill.

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Note of Appreciation

I do thank all the saints, and loved ones, for their many kindnesses shown me during the sickness and death of my dear, loving companion, Bro. M. Gaines. The many cards, telegrams, donations, visits, calls, and prayers are all deeply appreciated. I suffered a great loss but I have a great consolation to know he is with our Saviour. I do appreciate the three lovely years that we shared and I shall always cherish those happy memories. He was so appreciative for whatever was done for him. Our loss is heaven's gain.

—Sis. Theresa Gaines, Tulsa, Ok.

—“One needs not to understand or even enjoy an experience to give thanks for it.”

Campmeeting Dates for 1978

Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates in 1978, and more complete announcements of each meeting will be made in later issues:—

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, Oklahoma—May 26 to June 4.

Holly Hill, N. Carolina—June 2 to 11.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 9 to 18.

Tulsa, Oklahoma—June 9 to 18.

Green Bank, W. Virginia—June 9 to 18.

Hammond, Louisiana—June 24 to July 2.

Oakland, California—June 23 to July 2.

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico—July 3 to 9.

Akron, Ohio—Will not be held this year.

Fresno, California—July 7 to 16.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri—July 21 to 30.

Myrtle, Missouri—August 2 to 9.

Bakersfield, California—August 4 to 13.

Boley, Oklahoma—August 18 to 27.

California State at Pacoima—August 25 to Sept. 3.

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NEOSHO, MO. MEETING REPORT

The saints here are still rejoicing in the good truths that went forth in our meeting held from Feb. 26th to March 5th. In our Wednesday night prayer meeting many of the saints expressed the good that they had received from the meeting.

There was some altar work and much good done otherwise. I am sure it was ordered from above.

We appreciate all the ones that labored in the meeting and all those who came. Brother Tom Melot preached on Sunday, one week before the meeting began, and then was with us on the last week-end of the meeting. We appreciated his burden, prayers and labors.

Bro. Leslie Busbee was with us for six nights' services. The Lord certainly blessed him in giving out the truths. Our son, Jim McMillian, brought one good message and Sister Ruth Murphey brought the last message on Sunday night.

We invite all these dear ones to come back and be with us when they can. We are still hungry for more truths. Pray for us that we will hold what we have gained. We give thanks to God for all that was accomplished. We desire you to pray for us here.

—Bro. T. V. McMillian

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BOLEY, OKLA., SPRING MEETING

Lord willing, the annual Spring meeting at Boley, Okla., will convene Sunday, April 30th and continue through May 7, 1978, with services nightly at 7:30 p.m. There will be all-day services both Sundays.

We extend a warm welcome to all to attend this meeting. Come praying that the Lord will work in our midst, that an outpouring of the Holy Spirit will be felt in the meeting, anointing the Word of God, and causing

souls to weep their way to the Cross and be saved. The day is far spent and time is running out. Let us do our best to gather in the lost before too late.

For further information contact Sis. Ora Spears, Rt. No. 1, Boley, Okla. 74829, phone 918-667-3376, or Sis. Katherine Williams, 905 N.E. 15th St., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73104, phone 405-235-2270.

SPRING MEETING IN GOULDS, FLA.

The spring meeting of the Church of God at Goulds, Fla., will be held, Lord willing, from April 14 through April 23, 1978. All nations are welcome to these services. The saints are urged to come and help lift up the banner of salvation through Jesus Christ—the only hope for mankind.

For further information, contact the pastor, Brother H. H. Hargrave, 22345 S. W. 117th Place, Goulds, Fla. 33170, phone (305) 247-4102.

GOSPEL SINGING AND ALL-DAY SERVICES

The saints at Springfield, Mo., plan to have a gospel singing on Saturday night of April 29, 1978, and all-day services on Sunday, the 30th, at their chapel located at 718 N. Kansas. Come and be with us for the singing and plan to stay for the all-day services on Sunday.

—The Saints at Springfield, Mo.

Prayer Requests

Texas—"My left arm and shoulder are partially paralyzed. Also my left knee pained me, and then I fell on it. . . . God has healed me of very severe afflictions. He can heal me completely. . . . Do remember all my children and their companions and loved ones who need help from the Lord. God knows each need."

—Sister Velda Ellis

Va.—"I have cataracts on my eyes . . . I am sick, please pray for me."

—Mary Poceus

Canada—"The doctors have given me up. Please pray for me."

—Sophia Krueger

Ore.—"We have painful arthritis, but God keeps us going. . . . Remember us in prayer, as we remember all who need Him each day."

—Doris and Bill Busch

W. Va.—"I fell, and I believe that I may have cracked some bones, as my hip is very painful. Pray for me, as I have been suffering."

—Queen Luzader

Ohio—Remember Bro. and Sis. Ray Key in prayers, as they are not well in body.

Mich.—Remember Sis. Ether Hines in prayer. She tried to get into her wheelchair and forgot to put on the brakes. She fell on her back and hurt her spine. She said the bone felt like it was broken. She needs healing. Bro. Hines is not well. Remember both of these dear soldiers of the cross. They dearly love the Lord and His truths.

La.—"Pray for my nephew who is very poorly in body . . . He has to wear a pace maker."

—Effie Miller

Okla.—"Pray for me and my dear afflicted daughter. She can't talk and let you know anything. My heart just breaks about it and I can't help it. I love her very much and feel so sorry for her. The Bible says God is no respecter of persons and what He does for others He will

do for all. I can't understand that, so do keep praying for us both."

—Venia Ledbetter

Va.—"Remember me in prayer. I have bursitis in my arm and internal pains. Pray for my husband who has pains in his heart, kidneys, and legs. He hasn't been able to work for 18 months. My son has been having trouble with his back. Pray for us. I believe in your prayers and teachings."

—Violet Gibson

Be encouraged to pray for your healing. God still heals today. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day and for ever." Heb. 13:8. He healed when He walked the shores of Galilee and is healing today. God has healed me and has healed others when prayer was offered. I visited a sister one morning who had been suffering with kidney stones and had passed gravel. The Lord had touched her at different times, but it would come back. That morning we knelt in prayer and prayed earnestly for her complete healing. God did that for her, and even a year later she testified of complete healing.

A couple years ago I was sitting beside a sister in services. She whispered to me that she was awful sick at her stomach, so I prayed for her silently. Later, she whispered to me that the Lord had touched her. Oh, how wonderful our God is to us at any hour of the day or night!

I was reared to look to God for the healing of my body. My parents never gave me one drop of medicine. I reared my children without giving them a drop of medicine. Today, in my older days, my trust is still in the Lord. He will see me through to the end. Some might say they wish they had a background of trusting God. But, dear ones, having faith in God is something you don't inherit. It's good to have examples around you, but you still have to have a personal faith in God to receive from Him. Your faith can be strong in God for healing, or for anything, even if you were only saved yesterday. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. So faith comes from reading God's Word and believing it.

—Sis. Marie Miles

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (March 7)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus to the saints of God everywhere.

Thank you for your letter dated Jan. 31, 1978. Its enclosures were received with immense thanks to God.

The gospel light chases out darkness. Those who seek Jesus are finding Him. Andrew heard John the Baptist say, "Behold the Lamb of God," and immediately he went out and found Him. Jesus found Philip and said unto him, "Follow me." (John 1:43). *Finding* implies a diligent and concentrated search. "Seek and ye shall find." Jesus sought and found Philip, but it is evident that Philip must have sought for Jesus also, for he said to Nathanael, "We have found him." (John 1:45). Through the mobile evangelism, in which we have been actively engaged since the beginning of the year, many souls have been rescued from sin and spiritual darkness. They now walk with us in Zion. Praise God!

Leaving Obetim, where we had camped for three days of successful meetings, we moved to Benekuku-Obiogo where we also camped for three days of public preaching and personal witnessing. Benekuku-Obiogo is

a village on the bank of Ase Creek with a population of about 800 inhabitants. All speak the Ukwuani language of the Bendel Ibo. An encouraging number of souls repented of their sins and entered the kingdom of God's dear Son to sigh and weep no more. "We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write."

We left Kwale, Nigeria, on Feb. 10th for Umuguma-Owerri to welcome the chosen of the Lord. Among the saints today are those who were dealt with by the Holy Spirit directly without any known human instrumentality, and they became His there and then as Philip did. The Lord Himself gathered and established the fold at Umuguma-Owerri. Bro. Benson Oparaji, the leader of the group, is a plain man, slow in arriving at a decision, reluctant to act on his own initiative, and preferring the Holy Spirit to guide him in the truth. The Master needs the man of foresight as well as the one of insight. The group at Umuguma-Owerri wallowed ignorantly in captivity of false religion in expectation of a better hope. When it did arrive, they offered a tribute of praise to the Great Deliverer who brought them out from the pangs of sectism and deceit.

Obetim and Benekuku-Obiogo have been assigned a shepherd to each, while Umuguma-Owerri will be visited at frequent intervals for more perfect instruction of the doctrines of the Church of God.

Bro. B. Ben Taylor wrote to advise that all is well with the congregations at Tombia and Port Harcourt. He needs the scheduled evangelization of Riverine towns to take place when the schools are out on holidays. We shall at that time preach the redemptive message at Port Harcourt.

Bro. Nse B. Umanah wrote some time ago. I am needed over there to resolve a matter which will make for the unity and restoration of harmony among all the brethren of Cross River State. . . .

Abbi congregation went into an association with worldly churches when I was away in America, a decision they took privily to secure worldly popularity. The church at Pergamos in the book of Revelation compromised with false teachers and was ruined by false doctrine. Jesus said to them, "But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling-block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. So hast thou them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate. Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth." Rev. 2:14-16. Abbi, this is YOU! If you have an ear, hear what the Spirit saith unto YOU!

Yours for the Gospel truth,

—Titus U. E. Enu, pastor

REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO, AND SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

Dear Ones: Sis. Sandra Whitson and I had a safe trip to Mexico, thanks to God. We were in services the first Sunday (Feb. 26) with Sis. Edith Lara and congregation and the Lord blessed. We arrived at Ojos Negros that night and visited nearly all the ones in the congregation Monday. All seemed encouraged and glad we had

come. Wednesday we went to San Diego for things hard to get in Mexico, did some washing, and were in service there that night. We had planned to return to Ojos Negros Friday but had said "Lord willing." By Saturday night the report was that 11,000 were homeless in Tiajuana and eighty-percent of Ensenada was under water. It had rained almost ever since we had arrived and Bro. Mayarino said it had already rained for two months.

On Sunday we were in services in San Diego both a.m. and p.m. This was always the closest congregation to us when we were in Mexico. They all were so very kind to me when I was so very ill with the flu several years ago, and endeared themselves to us through that and many other kindnesses they have shown. Monday morning we contacted the Highway Patrol and were told that by being careful we could make it through Tiajuana. We made it fine and were on our way to Ojos Negros by 4 or 5 p.m. We had thought the road dangerous as we went out, but as we returned, it was hazardous. We were thankful to the Lord for a safe trip to Ojos Negros. Wednesday we had the mid-week service at 10 a.m., then the children's service at 3 p.m. Only local people could come, but the Lord blessed with good services.

Since it looks almost impossible for us to be back here for campmeeting in July, and there's much to do in preparation, we started those preparations yesterday while there are several to work.

We have prayed much with the young couple here concerning the work which, at times, could be discouraging, especially, if we thought we would have to answer for every soul who refused to serve God. Though we are made sad that many do refuse, we are glad that each is given his own choice. There is one thing I would like to mention concerning the mission here. When the late Bro. Harland Smith bought the lots, he paid \$80.00 for the two together. He was glad to get them for so reasonable a price. Ojos Negros is growing and learning more of the ways of the world and has a form of government, and perhaps, under Mexico Government too, is re-selling all lots and in order to be able to hold these lots, \$1,200.00 must be paid. It can be made in payments over a period of time, but must be paid or the church will lose the mission. I feel it is not the responsibility on the part of the young couple here to fully pay this off though they plan to pay all they can. If anyone is impressed of the Lord to share this burden, I am sure the Lord will bless them for the help they extend.

Sis. Edith Lara has the campmeeting in Patzcuaro on March 19-26. The Escabars feel a responsibility to help in Patzcuaro, so we feel the Lord will be pleased for us to help also. It will be according to the will of the Lord where we will go from there, when, etc. Pray earnestly for the work as a whole in all foreign fields, and for each earnest effort put forth to reach souls. We need your continual prayers for the interim of this mission for the Lord.

We brought many Spanish tracts to distribute as a result of their being printed this past year. Pray that God will bless their contents to honest and seeking hearts.

Yours for gaining souls to the Lord in Mexico,
Bro. Mayarino, Sis. Panchita Escabar, Apartado Postal No. 284, Ensenada, Baja Calif., Mexico and Sisters Sandra Whitson and Opal Kelly, 919 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044.

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

Kerala, S. India (March 14)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and the dear saints everywhere in the States: We send our loving greetings to all of you in the sweetest name of Jesus Christ who promised, "I will come again, and receive you unto my self; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3.

Thank you very much for your encouraging letter dated March 1st, and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude. "For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death." Psalms 48:14.

After the campmeetings here, the church was edified and very much encouraged. Each believer felt the great responsibility to do the Lord's work as quickly as possible in winning souls to Christ. The field is ripe for harvesting. God showed us a village last week by the name of Nadukkunnu. Last Sunday night we conducted a meeting in a Catholic home there that was opened to us and we are glad to report that the father of that home got saved in that meeting. May God open the eyes of many Catholics in these days to see the Bible truths. We plan to go over there for continuous work to teach them the truth and establish a work for God.

I am glad to note that Bro. Hammond is planning to go to the Philippines again. May God bless him abundantly. Also, we continue to pray for Bro. Madden and his precious work for the Lord. Surely, we miss him here.

Thank you very much for your sponsoring letter for my wife Saramma which will enable her, I believe, to get her passport soon. If it is the will of God for both of us to come over there, He will supply the funds for it. If not, we are more than glad to submit to the will of God and say amen to His wish. We leave it for His appointed time. I will let you know when she gets her passport.

We earnestly pray for your complete healing in order to do the Lord's work.

With love and prayers, —John Varghese

MISSIONARIES DESIRE TO COME TO THE U.S.

Bro. Titus Enu, native missionary in Nigeria, and Bro. and Sis. John Varghese, native missionaries in India, have expressed a desire to come to the States to attend the campmeetings this summer. Indications are very strong that the Lord is going to grant their desires. In fact, the Lord through His people has already supplied sufficient means to purchase a round trip plane ticket for Bro. Enu from Nigeria. Application for his visa will be made at once, so he can arrive here before the first campmeeting starts on May 26.

It will cost at least \$2500.00 for the round trip plane ticket for Bro. and Sis. John Varghese, and only about one-fourth of that amount has been received for that purpose. Pray about their coming, too, and if the Lord burdens you to help in this worthy cause, please forward your offering promptly to the Missionary Fund at this office, stating what it is for, and we will start proceedings to get their clearance papers which will likely require several weeks.

Also, the Lord needs volunteers with a car to take these native missionaries to the campmeetings over the country. Who will answer this call?—L. D. Pruitt, editor

From the Mail Box . . .

Mo.—Dear Ones at the Print Shop: . . . As I was driving along this morning I was looking to God in prayer to help me be willing to just submit everything—my will, my way, my life, whatever it may hold, to Him. We never know what a day will bring forth, and many times, the unexpected happens suddenly to us. Sometimes I find the flesh wants to draw back, and I think I want it "this way." But when I face the situation, I realize that if I get my own way, that doesn't make me happy. I really don't know what's best for me. It isn't in man to direct his own steps. Also God's ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts than our thoughts. (Isa. 55:8,9). He has a purpose and a plan for our lives, and if we complain or want it otherwise, we're telling God that we think we know more than He does. I pray God to keep me humble and submissive to His will, with a ready, "Amen Lord, Thy will be done."

I thank the Lord for the victory He has given me in my soul, and for the cleansing that makes Him so real, so close, even here in this life. It's so wonderful to have such a kind Heavenly Father who cares so much for us, that even the hairs of our head are numbered . . . !

We trust all are encouraged there and I can visualize how happy you must be in the work of the Lord. No doubt, burdens and afflictions can weigh us down sometimes, but His everlasting arms are underneath to bear us up. We know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord. Praise His holy name! Keep encouraged and ever keep heaven in view.

We do appreciate Bro. Leslie Busbee coming here to Neosho to hold us a meeting. We all enjoyed eating at Father's table and I believe we could all say we have grown a little from it. Thank the Lord!

I do desire an interest in your prayers, as I want to make heaven my home and also help others.

—Mildred McIntosh

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Calif.—I receive the *Faith and Victory* paper all the time and it is such a blessing to me. I have been with the Church of God since 1935; I am so glad to find someone who still stands for the Truth. . . . This paper is like taking Christ into your arms. I weep many happy tears every time I get it. I want to come to Guthrie, Okla., to campmeeting before I die. I hope all is well there and pray that I continue holding on to God to the end.

—Vivian Field

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Ohio—Dear Saints: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. To this positive verse of Scripture, by His grace, I am a witness to the one holy way, the truth of God's Word, the gospel of Jesus Christ and His greatness. (Eph. 1:17-23; Col. 1:10-22). Praise our Lord!

In brief, I would like to tell of our Lord's faithfulness to His people in answering our prayers. I have had a request before the Lord for more than a year, for His will to be done concerning the continuation of beyond the fifteen years I have labored here in Akron. I am aware of the subtlety and cunning ways of the devil, always presenting an easy way out of the path of duty, but knowing this decision means life or death (spiritually) with me, so then by faith and obedience I must be sure of His voice of approval of the conclusion of my work here, or to carry on.

As He spoke to His disciples, "Have faith in God," the still, small voice of assurance whispered, "Ye have done what you could." Praise His name! So in a few months, my post of duty here in Akron will be filled.

Pray for me.

—Sis. Hazel Clark

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La.—Dear Sis. Marie: We trust this finds all of you well and much encouraged in the Lord. We do appreciate each one there and pray much for you. . . .

We are very encouraged to go right on for God. It would be very foolish to sell our souls for the fleeting things of this life. I am so thankful for salvation and all the rich, rich prizes that go along with it. What a treasure chest I've found! It seems my heart cannot contain the joy I feel this morning. Praise our God! . . .

We're so thankful that Sis. LaVern (Manuel) is home again. We have really enjoyed Bro. and Sis. H. Probst being with us while she was away. The messages he brought have really stirred me. I can see that we are in the last of the last days.

I am so thankful for a saved family. Our boys are still encouraged and say that they're determined to live right, but only through careful and prayerful living will we ever make it to heaven.

Do pray for us.

—Connie Flynn

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Okla.—Dear Sister Miles: Please continue sending the monthly issue of the *Faith and Victory* paper. I receive so many blessings from reading the words of the precious saints. What a wonderful Saviour we have that saves us from our sins and plants His love into our hearts, causing us to love everybody; saint and sinner! Also, we want to help those in need. I love the Lord with all my heart and pray every day that the dear Lord will keep us safe, for the devil is busy to cause the downfall of God's saints. We have a fight on our hands but God and the saints will win. Praise God forever! May God bless you richly for all the wonderful work that all of you are doing at Faith Publishing House.

—Elma Ethington

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Ala.—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . We often pray for all the workers at the Print Shop. We realize and appreciate the sacrifices each one has made to spread the gospel, but God has promised rewards both in this life and in eternal life!

We always enjoy receiving the *Faith and Victory* and studying the *Bible Lessons* in Sunday school. They are both a big encouragement.

The Lord has been very good to us! I'm reminded of the verse in Psalms 116:12,13: "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord." Truly we do want to praise the Lord for His goodness to us by glorifying Him with lives that are pleasing in His sight. I appreciate the Lord's loving and merciful dealings with me. I want to be more like Him in manifesting compassion, patience, and love toward others. . . .

—Marshall and Melonie Whitson

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Tex.—Greetings in the name of Jesus, the One who gave His life that we might live. Such love cannot be fathomed and we must have that kind of love so we can give our lives to Him to use to His glory in the way He sees fit. We are His, and have been bought with the price of blood.

I'm still saved, sanctified, and pressing the battle on in His name, with victory in my soul. He placed the members in His body as it pleased Him. My greatest desire is to do what I do to glorify God and be pleasing in His sight. . . .

You are helping many people through tracts, papers, booklets, and everything you do. I have enjoyed the *Faith and Victory* paper very much. I do not put it down until I have read it through. It always has food for my soul and there is a good scriptural blessing in it. Praise the good Lord.

—Nellie Lovell

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Tex.— . . . We are sending our prayers up with all the saints that God will completely heal you soon, Bro. Lawrence.

We are still praising God for His mercies to us. We are still able to get about in a chair and a walker. Lee is better now and back at work.

—The L. L. Whitleys

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Ala.—Dear Sis. Marie: The swift passing of time is a constant reminder that one day soon we will have to stand before God and give an account of the deeds done in this body. (Rom. 2:1-6).

My desire is to know more of His Word and be more like Him each day He permits me to remain here in this world, and to daily be a help to those around me.

Please remember me and my loved ones, especially the ones who are not saved.

—Leora Frink

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Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



Okla.—I want to tell of my Saviour's love, and yet, can tongue tell of His wondrous love? The comfort of His presence has been with us in the furnace of affliction. He has taught us precious lessons of faith and patience. On the 6th day of January I took the flu and was in bed three weeks. I could only be up long enough to get a drink and wait on myself for two of the three weeks. I called the saints at Neosho for prayer but the roads were so bad no one could come. (May the Lord richly bless those dear ones for their prayers, letters, and phone calls.) Bro. Vada McMillian came down as soon as the roads were passable. By that time the dear Lord had helped me so I could stay up for a little while. Dear ones, I count every minute of the time a joy for the precious lessons I learned. The Lord knew the desire of my heart to draw closer to Him. I say amen to His way and will.

I felt like the Lord had given a definite touch yet I began to hurt so in my back and a place swelled out almost as large as my hand, it felt like. I called for prayer, and praise the dear Lord, the swelling went down!

For some time I had had a place on my throat that was getting larger. It would bother me, at times, in swallowing. One Saturday the place swelled again on my back and hurt very much. . . . The Lord knew my heart and saw my need. He sent Bro. Austin and Sis. Idabelle McMillian by on their way home to Neosho from Coffeyville, Kansas, where they had been in services. . . . They anointed and prayed the prayer of faith and God did touch and heal. My back has not bothered me since. The devil tried to bring back the

place on my throat but I said, "I know I'm healed!" All praise, honor, and glory to our Great Physician, I'm still healed today!

Dear ones, we say we believe God can save our souls, yet many say they don't have faith for healing. The Word says, "Without faith it is impossible to please God." He tells us to live by faith. God made the world and all therein. Can we not trust Him for body and soul?

About a month ago, I had been outside and the soles of my shoes were wet and my feet were cold. I came in and set my right foot on the warmer rail of the wood heating stove. Because the sole of my slipper was wet, my foot slipped down between the rail and stove. The stove had a good fire in it. My foot was fastened. I was off balance and I knew if my foot did not come loose my leg would be broken. In my mind I said, "Lord, help me!" I felt a pressure from under my foot and my foot just slipped out very easily. I did not have a burn or hurt. Oh, how I do thank and praise our dear Saviour! He is our help in every time of need.

Our all-day service was coming so . . . I was cooking food to take for our dinner. I started up the concrete steps onto the porch. Both hands were full of bottles, etc. At the bottom step I fell up those steps. Of course bottles flew out of my hands, but not a one was broken, nor did I have any bones broken. I was shaken up, but got up praising the Lord for His mercy. I went to the meeting and was much blessed in my soul and encouraged to press on. Isn't it precious to know we have a guardian angel with us to help and to turn to in every need?

May the Lord bless each one of His children, wherever they are and whatever the need. The Lord is there to help us.
—Sis. Doris Bowers

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Calif.—Dear Sis. Marie: We are thankful for the love of God in our hearts and His blessings to us. . . . I had a breaking out on the inside of my hands. It was troublesome, especially having to have my hands in water so much. We called upon the Lord and He heard and delivered me from it. On the back of my hands there was an itching. I don't know if it was nerves or not, but they were sore and looked bad for quite some time. Thank the Lord He has healed them! Once in a while they itch some, which may be nerves, but the Lord healed the sores.

I had a hurting in my heel on the left foot. It became so painful I could hardly walk on it at times, but praise the Lord, He has healed it, also. The Lord never allows anything except it be for our good. Praise God! It will work for our good if we allow it. We have surely learned to fight the devil in this furnace. The devil surely is strong in coming against us, but thank God, He has all power, and when the devil is rebuked in the faith, he has to leave. A couple of times lately, the Lord has impressed me to use the anointing oil and the suffering left immediately. How we praise the Lord!

We can testify that many times the Lord comes to our aid for my husband, Bro. Gene (Harmon). His suffering is very severe at times and it would look like he couldn't stand anymore, but God has never forsaken us. We are in the furnace of affliction but we are learning through it. We feel the Lord is perfecting us for His work.

A few evenings ago, Bro. Gene felt so very weak. I helped him on the bed and his pulse was very weak. We prayed, claiming his life, and new strength came and his pulse became stronger. We are having trials and tests that we may not always understand, but it all will work for our good if we let it. . . .

We do want to thank all the saints who have prayed and are praying for us. Their prayers are not in vain. We sometimes become very weary in body but the Lord lifts us up, encourages us and touches my husband so we can get a little more rest. Oh, God is so good to us! We do love and appreciate His dealings with us.

Much Christian love,

—Bro. Gene and Sis. Loretta Harmon

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N. C.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings in the name of the Lord. Praise His holy name! A name worthy to be praised. All glory is due to Him. Thank God for the truth, for that is what has made us free. (John 8:32; Gal. 5:1.) Praise the Lord for salvation!

We received your letter and it was just what we needed for our souls. We sometimes pray asking God to give us food for our souls, and He does. Praise the Lord for this! "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness," but through faith He will give us what we need. Thank the Lord for His goodness!

We are now going through a trial of faith. To begin with, my husband (Jimmie) is a construction worker. He can't work when it is bad weather. He has tried getting other jobs but they didn't work out.

The Lord then brought to our mind, "Be contented with such things as ye have." We became contented and He did bless. He gave us everything we needed. During this time, my husband crushed and broke his foot and toe. With God's help we were able to bear this also. "What a Mighty God We Serve!" Please pray for my husband that he will be able to go back to work.

Continue to pray for us because God really lives in our souls today. We know through faith, fasting, and praying God can move mountains. Praise His holy name!

—Bro. and Sis. Jimmie McDonald

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Ark.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Our love for the Lord and His kingdom is growing. We are thankful for His blessings to us, and the answers of prayers that we see take place. We have no higher goal in life than to be a faithful servant and a vessel of honor for our Lord.

Last Thursday morning, around 3 a.m., I awoke with intense pains. Some said later that the symptoms favored kidney stones. Several of the saints here were called, and after a long session of praying, the Lord undertook and all pain left. They haven't been felt since. I was able to go to work without any problems, only feeling a little weak. We surely thank the Lord.

About two weeks ago I received the enclosed letter from Africa. . . . I felt that perhaps the letter might be sent to one of the brethren in that area and this man might be contacted. I am praying for this man's salvation.

Mother Loftis has been having some restless nights lately. Continue to remember her for complete healing. We continue to petition the Lord for our dear Brother Lawrence and all the Print Shop family. Our prayer is: "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make

his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Numbers 6:24-26. —Doug Walters

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Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie: I am so very glad Sis. Margaret Eck wrote her experiences in the book, *Lest We Forget*. I know this will be an encouragement to us younger ones. We know Jesus is the same today as He was then. . . .

Also, I would like to say our son Mike is improving. The open places on his leg are getting smaller and we are looking to God to completely heal them up and stop all drainage. The doctor said his leg would always drain. We know God can heal completely. Do keep praying for Mike.

Sister Marie, I would like to thank you for all your hard work in putting out the Junior Sunday school papers, especially the last two quarters on Revelation. I am teaching the Junior class here at Neosho and you make it all so plain for the children to understand. I get much good from them myself. . . . I find they have many real spiritual blessing in them. . . . May God richly bless you for your labors. —Esther Hightower

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La.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I received your good letter and appreciated it. I appreciate you, Sis. Maybelle, Sis. Marie, and all the workers there. I know God will reward all of you for your labor of love toward Him. You are on our prayer list. I know the responsibility is great and your work is important because no doubt many souls will be contacted through the printed pages.

The Lord has been good to all of us. I am still thanking Him for how He removed the growth I had on my ear a little over a year ago, also stopping this place on my body from draining. The saints here were praying, also prayer was requested there in Guthrie. I do appreciate all the prayers of the saints and what the Lord has done for me.

We are living in such an evil time it seems with all the preaching we have, some are falling away, which is sad. I don't see anything for which to give up. The world is getting worse and the devil has only sorrow and woe.

Sis. LaVern Manuel brought a good message using the text in Revelation about Satan knowing his time is short, and that he is putting pressure upon the young, middle aged and old, trying in these last days to get everyone he can to give up the race. I want to go all the way with the Lord. By His help and grace we can, as others have.

I desire your prayers for the sinus condition that bothers me so much at times. It affects my eyes and causes my head to hurt when I use my eyes quite a lot on my job. . . . —Kenneth Flynn

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Mo.—It seems the devil is working very hard in these days but God says, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," and He hasn't.

It seemed that I already had a heavy load on my mind but the devil didn't think so. He thought of something even greater with which to weigh me down. It was a real blow and my mind was so taken up with grief and disappointment that I was nearly down in bed. I wanted to just sit and think. I didn't want to

work. I would sleep all night and by eight o'clock I would go back to bed and sleep until around 10 o'clock, then after dinner I would sleep an hour and a half or so. This was unusual for me. I usually can't sleep in the day even if I lie down. Sometimes I would take a short nap in my chair. This lasted three or four months. I kept encouraged to trust God even though my mind was on my troubles. It seemed that each day was worse. I seemed in a stupor.

On the first day of February God impressed me strongly that I needed help. I felt that if I would pray I would get it. I knelt and prayed. I was completely healed. Now I can think of other things. I was not sleepy and had a desire to work. My strength came back. The next day I cleaned most of my kitchen and have been strong in body since. Although I am still burdened, I don't carry all the load. Jesus is holding the heavy end of the load. I thank God daily for His goodness to me. Just in a second I was a new person.

I have had many wonderful experiences. I would not want to live one minute without God and not knowing that I was doing my best to please Him. This is what it will take to have faith in Him. I have some other healings but will wait until some other time to send them in. When God does anything for us, let us send in our testimony to encourage others. Some of us don't hear very much, except through the paper.

Pray for me.

—Sis. Goldie Knapp

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W. Va.—Dear Saints: Most of you know we are living in Green Bank, West Va., now. The Lord has been so very precious to us since moving here. Before coming here, Mart and I both almost had a complete nervous breakdown. I feel it was brought on by not using wisdom and not taking care of our bodies. Sometimes, if we aren't careful, we can get under a spirit of feeling we have to be going or doing something all the time. God only expects our reasonable service. The enemy is out to destroy us. He doesn't care how he does it. We may feel we are doing God service when we aren't at all. Before the Lord stopped us, our bodies were almost completely run down. When I would lie down and close my eyes at night, my body would feel like it was still running. The Lord had mercy on us because we were honest in what we were doing. When we both got in this condition, we had to stop.

Our son Toney and his family had just moved to Nowata, Okla., so we felt it would be good for us to leave our home in Kentucky and spend a few weeks with them. They were very good to us and seemed to understand what we needed. I felt like I needed to be alone and Mart felt like he just couldn't be alone. So, Mart spent a lot of time with Toney at the barber shop. I would just stay at home. Before we went out there my mind was just in a whirl and I couldn't stop it. After we went to Oklahoma my mind just went blank. I feel that was the way God had of healing my nerves.

Before we went to Oklahoma we had already found out the Lord wanted us to move to West Va., but we both knew we needed a healing touch. By the time we got ready to move, my nerves were completely healed. The W. Va., campmeeting was scheduled to start about 10 or 12 days after we moved. There was so much to do in getting ready for the meeting. Mart went on to the Holly

Hill, S. Carolina, campmeeting, but I stayed home to get our house ready for the campmeeting. I painted two rooms, plus the bathroom, and I managed the cooking for the whole campmeeting without a relapse of my nerves. I do thank the Lord for His mercy to us.

It was rather hard to settle down all at once and not travel much after moving to Green Bank, and too, we were so far away from all our children. But I've been real content just knowing we're in the will of God.

We are very thankful for the little congregation at Green Bank. They have proven to be a real blessing to us in many ways. We've watched some of them get saved, grow, and get established in this precious truth. It blesses our souls to see them so eager to hear the truth and measure to it. The Lord added a couple more to the congregation in January. They are doing real well, for which we are thankful. The Lord is dealing with others also.

Seven years ago, when the folks got saved here, they met in the homes to worship. About a year later, they purchased an old building with six rooms and bath upstairs and three rooms downstairs. They took two rooms for a chapel downstairs. The old building was only three feet from the main highway which was very dangerous. We are very thankful how the Lord has protected the saints from getting hurt. We know much prayer has gone up to Him in their behalf. We had tried to buy land on which to build a chapel, but no one wanted to sell, so we just kept looking to the Lord to work something out for us. We really didn't have any money to buy with, but we would have gone in debt if we could have found something suitable. There have been several wrecks here at the curve where the old chapel is situated. One man had a wreck and got stirred up enough to go around and have a petition signed up to get us out of there. He didn't know God was using him to provide the saints property on which to build a new chapel in which to worship. The State got in touch with us and said they were going to buy our chapel and wanted to know when they could meet with the trustees. We told them any time would be all right with us. Mart knew they owned a piece of land about one-half mile south of us and he asked them if they would consider letting us have it on which to build a chapel. They talked it over and said they would. Everything is about taken care of, and, the Lord willing, we plan to start building the new chapel in April. Surely, the Lord worked this out for us. They gave us much more for our chapel than the saints paid, plus the piece of ground on which to build. We have some money to start our chapel now, but if we had taken things in our own hands, we wouldn't have had any. It pays to pray and wait on God. He is more interested in us having another place of worship than we are.

I was talking to our postmaster and told him the State had bought our chapel. His sister is the one who sold it to the saints. He said she had gone to the State and tried to sell it to them before she sold it to the saints, but they wouldn't talk to her about it. She was letting them have it cheaper than she did the saints. We feel the Lord had it planned this way before we ever bought the place. We just give Him all the praise and glory for it.

We would appreciate the saints' continued prayers for us. We would like to have the chapel ready for our

campmeeting which starts June 9, 1978, but it will depend on how much help we get. We would appreciate anyone who feels a burden to come and help us in any way. Some have expressed that they wanted to help on it. Also, some said they would like to come and help us build it, so however the Lord leads, we know it will be appreciated.

Most of all, we desire the saints to pray for us that we will build just exactly what the Lord wants. We want to be able to feel His presence in it as we have in our little, humble place we are in now. Without Him we could not accomplish anything.

We desire the saints to pray for us that we will have wisdom to deal with the souls around about us. We surely wouldn't want to hinder one soul. We know they are all precious in God's sight.

Different ones have been sick this winter with the flu, but God has been faithful to heal each one. Thank the Lord! We want to thank each of the saints who has prayed for us concerning getting another chapel. God has answered your prayers.

—Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons
P.O. Box 127, Green Bank, W. Va. 24944

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Ark.—Dear Sis. Marie and workers: I trust this finds all of you encouraged to press onward and upward. I know there is nothing worth turning back to in this old world. I am thankful for salvation! I can look back on my past life and see how the Lord has protected me from many things. I can see His mercy that He has shown to me, even before I was saved. I am thankful for the privilege of knowing the truth. I could have been like many others are today—deceived. The Lord is so merciful.

I John 3:18 says, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." I want to show the Lord that I love Him in my deeds, not just in what I say. The Lord looks into our hearts and sees and know all about us, no matter what we may say.

I want to thank the Lord for how He touched me when I had trouble with my nerves almost two years ago. I couldn't eat well while I was at Myrtle, Mo., but the Lord touched me after I got home. There are many other things to thank our precious Lord for. . . .

Christian love, —Lisa Loftis

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Okla.—Dear Sis. Miles and saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear, precious name, who delivers us from all our trials and tests of life. Surely He is a comfort to our hearts when we need Him.

I thank God that I am His child and that I can benefit from the spiritual inheritances that He has promised to His dear children.

In writing the following poem, little did I realize (until I had finished) that it was my own experience of a few days ago.

I was heavily burdened with a test. (My husband was under the burden with me.) In asking the Lord to comfort my heart with a Scripture, He led me to James the first chapter. By the time I had read the 4th verse, the burden was lifted. And not only that, while meditating on His precious Word, the Lord spoke comforting words to my heart, as a mother would do in comforting her child.

I am so unworthy of God's love and faithfulness to me. I ever desire to be in His will. Please remember us in your prayers.

"What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer."
What a comfort to know Jesus,
Who doth help our burdens share.

He, who is our Great Redeemer,
Cares about His children's plight.
Just take hold—He's ready, waiting
To dispel the darkest night.

Just tell Jesus, and remember
Trials come to make you strong.
He, the Comforter will guide you,
Thru the night that's dark and long.

He will never, ne'er forsake you
Tho' it seems He's far away.
He is there to fight your battle
If you'll yield to Him and pray.

Christ will speak a work of comfort
To your heart when it's in pain,
Saying, "I am with you always."
Do not think your prayer's in vain.

It is well to know that Jesus
Is the Great I AM who cares.
"What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer."

—Sis. Patricia Rhodes

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Okla.—Dear saints: I want to testify to the Lord's goodness to me through the past year. This afternoon I have been reading some inspiring testimonies on healing and they were such an encouragement to me. I feel I should pass on my experiences, hoping they will prove a blessing to someone else.

The winter of '76-'77 I had terrible sinus trouble and was so miserable for days at a time. My nights were so restless and I couldn't take care of the home like I wanted. It was such a trial to me and Toney, my husband. We began to worry. I wondered if we would have to move to a different climate or do something to help solve the problem. But the Lord was faithful to remind us He is our problem-bearer and our Healer.

When the cool weather began in the fall of 1977, I began to have the same trouble. It looked like we were in for another bad winter. It was even more of a concern to us since I was expecting our second child and we knew I needed extra strength that I didn't have and couldn't seem to build up. So we felt inspired to pray for complete healing. We wrote for, and requested special prayer. The Lord did not fail but cleared my sinuses and I have felt stronger this winter than I have in several years. We know it was the healing power of God.

The Lord has also done wonderful things for our small son, Chad. For a little over two years he would have hard convulsions when he would get a fever. Almost a year and a half ago he had a bad gland infection and had convulsions with it. We had a real battle, but just trusted the Lord. He touched him and Chad hasn't had so much as a fever since.

We are thankful we can testify from personal experiences how real our Lord is to us. —Jeanie Samons

Wash.—Dear Sister Marie and all: We do thank and praise the Lord for all He does for us. He just recently healed my body of an affliction that I had been troubled with since Christmas. We owe our all to Him. He gave His all for us.

I pray for the work there daily and for all who labor there to get the gospel out. Wish I could do more, but the Lord knows. I am thankful for the *Faith and Victory* paper each month, also the tracts and books I get from time to time. I love the Lord and the truth. It is more precious than rubies and fine gold. We are told to "Buy the truth, and sell it not." Prov. 23:23.

—Sister Violet Thomas

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Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie: We are very well and I am happy in my soul, still love Jesus and desire to be and do all I can for Him.

I am very thankful for how He has helped in this affliction of arthritis. I have been bothered very little with it all winter. I surely thank God and give Him all praise. Our blessings could never be numbered. Pray for each of us. . . .

—Zella Dollins and sons

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Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: The Lord's Supper—How should it be done?—By each person breaking a small piece from a cracker or bread or what (?); by each person using a small individual glass for the fruit of the vine? Can the method as Christ did it in the Bible be changed even though the meaning is the same? Some people dip bread in a glass of juice. Is this all right? How often should the Lord's Supper be taken?

Answer: First, let me say that we could not change the method as Christ delivered it to us in the Bible and the meaning still be the same. It is the most sacred and sublime of all the ordinances and should not be tampered with or changed in any manner. Every part of this ordinance signifies some particular part in redemption and we lose that signification and reality if we change any part of it in any way.

In I Cor. 10:16,17 we read, "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread." It appears evident to me that the real communion of the body and blood of the Lord among believers could not be signified in any other way than by all of them partaking of one loaf and one cup representing the body and blood of the Lord. Paul makes it clear in I Cor. 10:17 quoted above that all believers, though they be many, are one bread and one body because they are all partakers of that one Bread. A number of small individual glasses and a number of small individual wafers or pieces of bread may be a proper signification of sectism and division, or maybe of individualism, but not of the unity and oneness of believers as they partake of that one bread and one body or bread.

In I Cor. 12:13 we read, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, . . . and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." Again this can only be properly signified by our drinking of the one cup containing the emblem of Christ's blood.

In I Cor. 11:23,24 we read, ". . . the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." As Jesus held that bread in His hand and presented it to them, He announced that it was His body broken for them, which breaking took place only a few hours after that in His crucifixion on the cross. How could His body being broken be signified by a number of individual wafers or pieces of bread separated from the loaf by the minister and passed out to the communicants? It could not. When one bread (loaf) is passed and each communicant breaks off a bit he is reminded to remember the body which was broken for him. It is the same with the cup containing the emblem of the blood of Christ which was shed for the remission of sins, and we all drink of it together and thus have communion with one another in the Spirit as well as with Christ.

I know of no Scripture which tells how often we should observe the Lord's Supper. In I Cor. 11:26 it says, "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." It does not say how often; it just says, "As often." Acts 20:7 says, "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread. . . ." Some have supposed from this that the Lord's Supper should be observed every Sunday when Christians come together to worship God. I do not see any particular point in this inasmuch as it is said in Acts 2:46 that they broke bread daily from house to house. Why then would we not conclude that it should be observed every day and from house to house because the early Jerusalem converts did that, as to say it should be done every Sunday because one Scripture says the disciples came together to break bread on the first day of the week? In John the 20th chapter we have two instances of the disciples meeting on the first day of the week (verses 19 and 26), but in neither of these instances does it mention breaking of bread. I agree that perhaps saints should observe this ordinance more often than we do in order to keep the sacrifice of Jesus in our behalf more fresh in our minds but I know of no scripture which tells how often to do it.

As saints observe this holy, sacred, sublime ordinance in the spirit they are drawn closer to Christ and His sufferings and sacrifice than perhaps at any other time or in any other thing they do, and it all becomes more real to them. As a verse in one of our songs says, "Borne away in mind and spirit to that solemn awful scene of Mount Calvary's sacred summit where we see the crimson stream, flowing from the side of Jesus that has washed us snowy white; Here we seem in awe to compass round the reeking cross tonight." Not only so, but we are drawn closer to each other also as we in the spirit partake of that one bread (the body of the Lord which was broken for us) and drink of that one cup (the blood of Jesus which was shed for the remission of our sins). As we all together partake of the body and blood of the Lord (in symbol), His grace and love flows from

heart to heart and we are knit together in love in heart. "Our souls in fellowship embrace and live in sweet communion." In this ordinance is represented to us one of the grandest themes of all Holy Writ—the unity of God's people in the spirit and the oneness it produces in them, and my exhortation to all saints is to observe it as often as they have opportunity and observe it in the spirit and just exactly like it has been given to us, for therein is the clearest representation.

TIME



Time is swiftly passing by. The time from our birth until death is very short, even if we live to be 70 or 80 years of age. What are we doing with the time God is giving us? Are we idling our time away with the things of this world, such as building houses or mansions on this earth as if we thought we would live here in this world forever? Or are we laying up our treasures in heaven, such as giving money, talents, and time to God for use in His service? Is our heart on cars, land, cattle and the pleasures of this life, such as movies, the sports world, etc.? Most people talk about sports these days. Are we spending our time telling jokes, or listening to them? Do we listen to people gossip, or do we sometimes gossip ourselves? Time is fast passing with each one of us in this time world so we should all be up and doing while we can. We should read and study the Bible daily. We must find time to pray in our secret closets. The Bible tells us to "pray without ceasing," I Thess. 5:17. This means to pray deep in your heart, even when you are at work on the job, at school, or as a housewife, doing the many tasks that one finds to do daily. The housewife will have a continual prayer in her heart.

Have you asked anyone to come to see you and spend a few days? Has someone asked you to spend some time with them? It could be your last month on earth that they are asking you to spend with them, or even your last week, or maybe your last day, or had you thought it could even be your last hour? You see, time in this world is very valuable to us. We should see that we spend time wisely.

We should pray daily to God for wisdom that we will be able to win others to Christ, also that we know how to be an encouragement to them. We should pray for courage, that we will always look straight ahead to Jesus and to heaven, not looking to the left or right. When sickness, trials, afflictions, or persecutions come our way, we should pray for strength that we will be strong both in body and soul for His sake. We should pray for patience that we will wait upon the Lord in everything. We should pray for love, because God is love. We should pray for faith that we will believe the Bible is true, and that we have been born again, and that we are His children. Jesus asks the question, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8. We must have faith to believe His promises and that He will fulfill everyone of them.

Let us all spend the time God has given us wisely. We want to work for Him in any way we can. Soon our time will be gone and we will all be in eternity where there will be no time. Let each one of us use our time to the glory of God.

—Sis. Pearlene Whitson