

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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Guthrie, Oklahoma

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### God's Horn of Plenty

Behold and see on every side  
God's horn of holy blessing:  
A horn of plenty multiplied  
Upon us sweetly pressing.

We thank Him for abounding grace  
Triumphantly bestowing,  
That we might run the Christian race  
With joy a river flowing.

From out His e'er extended hand  
Comes favor upon favor:  
A measure weighed by His command  
Not to recede nor waver.

Unthankful hearts will scan in vain  
The scope of all His doing;  
Because their goal is earthly gain  
While His is hearts renewing.

The poor in spirit, docile, meek,  
His kingdom will be sharing,  
Rejoicing as they ever seek  
His face and holy bearing.

This hidden wisdom He preferred  
Defies man's apprehensions:  
"Eye has not seen, ear has not heard"  
For man God's great intentions.

But to the hungry, thirsty heart  
There comes a revelation  
The Holy Spirit will impart:  
A full and free salvation.

A horn of plenty doth unfold,  
A copious, rich outpouring  
Of everlasting wealth untold  
For Heaven's rich upstoring.

Oh, praise the Lord for eyes to see  
The things that He has given:  
The richness of His blessings free  
From God and out of Heaven.

—Leslie C. Busbee

### Awake, America, Awake!

We, as a people, are living in a virtual jungle, where sin and sinners are waxing bold. Juvenile delinquency is on the increase. Murders, robberies, muggings, and rapes are on every hand. Homosexuals who should hide in shame are growing bolder. There are no morals or modesty among the multitudes.

In the face of these sinful conditions, the world and the so-called Church stand confused, not knowing what to do. The majority of the people, including church members, couldn't care less what God's Word demands. We hear over the air waves and from the modern pulpit a social gospel that has but little meaning, for it just entertains. It neither disturbs anyone, nor challenges them to change their ways and live a different life.

Someone has asked, "Where are the people that used to stand for something?" And I ask, "Where are the preachers that preach anything for which to stand?" Never has there been a time when a full gospel is needed like now: a gospel of sound doctrine that convinces and convicts of sins, instructs in righteousness, and is soul-food for all who hear.

Yet, in the face of these conditions, the so-called Church has, as it were, folded its arms and taken a back seat and just whispers, when it should be bold and its voice loud, and its witness very definite.

**Awake, America, Awake!** We are living in the last days. Eternity draws near, in which we must meet a just God in judgment to give an account of how we have lived in this life, which is the dressing room for eternity.

Self-righteousness will not avail; church membership is not enough; neither is being religious or being baptized for the remission of sin, as some teach. Christ says we must be born again of the water and the Spirit. Water here stands for being born of the Word, the blood of Christ, and for faith that believes He (God) will do what He said He would do; that is, save us, justify us, and free us from the sin business.

We are living in a day when almost everyone seems to believe he will make heaven his home, but Christ Jesus says there will be few saved compared to the multitudes that are lost. Christ asked a question, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" What does this say to you? It says to me, there will be

very little faith on the earth when He returns; everything is working against it.

Religion is very popular, and it is said there is an increase of religious faith. Many say that if we are sincere in what we believe, we will be all right. This is a trick of the devil. Don't be fooled! The Word of God declares that salvation is obtained through Christ alone. Are you actually a child of God, saved and living for God with all your very being? If not, think, act, and do what God's Word requires. If you do love God and His truth, then ask God for grace to enable you to stand for the truth. May God bless His Word, is my prayer.

—Carl P. Burton

## Be Friendly

"A man that hath friends must show himself friendly." To be effectual as soul winners in the kingdom of our Master we must have and show a disposition to care for others. Jesus by example when He trod this earth, proved to us that one of the secrets of His success, was His self-denying spirit and a love for others.

I believe Jesus was friendly, for He always had a word of cheer and encouragement for everybody. Even those whom the disciples and Pharisees would have condemned, Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more." Again we see how Jesus received the little children and took them up in His arms, when the disciples said to send them away. Let us not forget the dear children for they will remember those who notice them and are friendly toward them.

Jesus surely had a friendly feeling for all; and ought not we, His ambassadors, manifest the same feeling toward the world that we may win souls? We cannot let the sunshine of heaven beam forth to the lives of others, unless we let it out in some way.

"Finally be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous." I Pet. 3:8. To show our courtesy we may sometimes have to sacrifice our plans or perhaps do something that we do not particularly enjoy, but follow the apostle Paul's example, "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak, I am made all things unto all men that I might by all means save some" (I Cor. 9:22), and we shall be abundantly rewarded.

Sometimes God's saints may get to enjoying each other so much that they forget to speak to the stranger, give him a hearty hand-shake and ask him to return to meeting. True, God's children enjoy conversing together, but could we not let our visiting go a little while until we have done our duty to the stranger and let him know we care for him? I have heard people remark after having attended services somewhere, "I don't care much to go back there again, I stood for quite a while and not one spoke to me." Perhaps I hear someone say, "Well, I'm not naturally friendly and sociable and it is so hard to try to talk to strangers." If this be true, you need cultivation and training all the more along that line, and the way to advance is to exercise. God will help us for we are obeying a part of His Word.

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Heb. 13:2. If we would have friends or win people to the Lord we must

show ourselves friendly and by being courteous and hospitable even to strangers who may come to our homes, we are wielding an influence for good over them, thus scattering seeds of righteousness which will germinate in after days or years.

As ministers of the gospel we must show forth the love and sympathy in our hearts for our fellow creatures. As fathers, mothers, neighbors, and friends, we need such power of influence as to enable us to win people by our words of love and good will.

Does it not many times lift a load from some way-worn traveler to have someone else manifest a feeling to him that they enter in with him and help share his burden? How it cheers the heart to actually feel that some one feels for you. Do you know the world is dying for a little bit of love? Let us scatter the sunshine of heaven in every nook and corner we have opportunity, thus cheering and making our fellow beings feel a little of the love of Jesus. It is drawing, it is convincing and it really makes us feel better in our own soul too, to let some of the happiness within us, out to others. Be friendly. "He that winneth souls is wise."

—E. C. Heald

## "Be Thou An Example"



These words of the apostle Paul to young Timothy have been forcibly impressed upon my mind—"Be thou an example."

Timothy was a young man who had set his heart to do the will of God. The church at Ephesus—a large congregation of about one thousand persons—had been left in his charge by Paul, his fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ. In a congregation of this size there was great danger of erroneous doctrine creeping in among the members, especially since they had not long since turned from their heathen worship to serve the living God. Many of them were unacquainted with the true beauties and virtues of a Christian life, therefore, many things were yet to be learned. Satan, who is ever on the alert, was ready to take advantage of the situation, and impose upon them false teachers of the Word who would lead the new converts astray. Paul well knew the existing state of affairs and although Timothy was only a young minister, yet Paul's confidence in him is shown in the charge he committed to his trust (I Tim. 1:18).

What a sacred charge this was! No doubt, Timothy felt that a great responsibility rested upon him as he went in and out among the believers at that place—a thousand persons beholding him, watching his conduct, his manner of speech, and above all, his devotion to God in his daily life. Was not this a responsible position? No wonder, then, that Paul exhorted him to be an example.

The question naturally arises, Of what was he exhorted to be an example? "Of the believers," we read in King James' Version of the Bible; but in the Revised Version it is rendered thus: "Be thou an ensample to them that believe." All those professing godliness are naturally supposed to be examples before the unbeliever. They are supposed to live above sin and so display the Christlikeness in their lives that those with whom they associate will be convinced that they have

"been with Christ, and learned of him." Such characteristics the Ephesian saints were supposed to have possessed. But the exhortation given to Timothy was to be an example before those who themselves were examples.

The same Scripture comes down to us who are professing to be the children of God today. "Be thou an ensample to them that believe in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity." Let us examine ourselves in the light of this Scripture and see if we are the proper examples on the lines mentioned.

"In word"—is our conversation all that it should be? Is it seasoned with grace inasmuch that it is edifying to the hearers? Is it devoid of lightness? Does our conversation really measure to the Bible standard? Can the non-professors with whom we may associate daily note a difference in the manner of their conversation and ours? Dear ones, it should be so.

"In manner of life"—is our conduct always becoming to one professing godliness? Do we behave ourselves in a Christlike manner? Is the attitude we hold toward our brothers and sisters such that on-lookers will be convinced of brotherly love existing in our hearts? Let us see to it that in every respect our conduct is not reproachful to one professing such a high and holy calling as the saints of God.

"In love"—do we manifest the love of God in our daily lives, that great love through the virtue of which we have been delivered from our sins and made partakers of the divine nature? Do we have love one for another? Have we a deep, yearning love for the souls of men who are lost in sin and heathen darkness? Oh, let us open our hearts to God that they may be channels through which His great love can flow more and more to those to whom it is yet unknown. Surely we can be more of an example on this line.

"In faith"—do we possess the simple, definite faith in God that a little child does in its earthly parent who has never practiced deceit? Do we honor the Lord as we should by believing His Word and appropriating His promises to our individual selves, as promises which *cannot* be broken? We read in His Word that "without faith it is impossible to please him."

Last, but not least, "In purity"—are our lives examples of Christian purity? Do they measure to the Bible standard in this respect? Are our words, our thoughts, our hearts as pure as God would have them? They can be so, and they should be so. Nothing short of this will meet with His approval.

Now, let us ask ourselves this question, Am I an example of the believers? Is my life such that I may be regarded as an example to the believers? If it is not, by the help of God it can be made so. Let us take heed to ourselves and to the doctrine, and continue in them, that we may be the means of saving both ourselves and them that are affected by our influence in this world.

—Elsie Egermeier

A dissatisfied walk on earth never ends in heaven. Wherever God is there is heaven, and wherever heaven is, there the soul is satisfied; consequently, to walk with God satisfies the soul. It is only when man chooses his own way and walks apart from God that life becomes dissatisfactory.

—C. E. Orr

## Why Some Are Not Sanctified



First: Because they are not yet justified. Sanctification is an experience subsequent to regeneration; hence, a person who is not justified cannot be sanctified.

Second: Because they are living in known disobedience or neglect. If they will not obey God they cannot be sanctified, neither can they obtain the experience if they wilfully neglect their duty. A sanctified life is a Christian life with nothing left out. They cannot neglect prayer, reading the Bible, testimony, or any other duty knowingly and keep a good experience.

Third: Because they have some inward, secret rebellion to God's will. Outwardly they may appear very zealous and spiritual; in fact, they may try to increase in some Christian graces: but increased activity alone will not do; the inner secret will must be entirely surrendered. We might feel a call to go abroad as a missionary and instead of yielding, try to be more useful at home. God must have His way with us; and, if any secret rebellion is in the heart, it must be purged away. I am not speaking of feelings—feelings may rebel, and do rebel, but it is at the will, the purpose, that God looks.

Secret rebellion is a lack of consecration. Some are not consecrated financially. Everything must be yielded to God. Every penny is His, and every acre of ground. Could we withhold anything and be fully consecrated? No. Hence, if God has not His way with our means, we cannot be sanctified.

Some have their children between them and God. They are willing for God to use their children to a certain extent, but some things they do not want them to do. Dear parents, surrender them to God's will. His will can be nothing but good, both for them and for you.

Some are a little ashamed to come out boldly for the truth and bear the persecution that may follow. Of such, Jesus is ashamed. Dear reader, let nothing hinder you from possessing the glorious experience of entire sanctification. It is the fullness of grace, but it takes all we have to obtain it. Search out every hindering cause and ask God to remove it. It is your blood-bought privilege to dwell in spiritual Canaan and eat of its goodly fruit.

—R. L. B.

## FAITH IS THE EVIDENCE

In Mark 11:24, Jesus commanded us to believe that we receive the things for which we pray, at the time we pray, without waiting to see or feel them; and on this condition He promises, "ye shall have them." You received Christ for your Saviour without seeing Him. You likewise believed on the authority of God's Word, that you were forgiven before you felt forgiven. Nothing else is faith, for "Faith is the evidence of things not seen." As soon as the blessing we take by faith is manifested, faith for that blessing ends.

—F. F. Bosworth

Drawing nearer to God includes getting a deeper consciousness of our own nothingness. The Lord helped me to feel my helplessness, inasmuch that I saw I was helpless to realize my helplessness unless God helped me by His Spirit to realize it.

—C. E. Orr

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

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

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**EDITORIALS**

In this month of November we observe **Thanksgiving Day**, the national holiday set aside by the Government to render thanks and praise to God for the bountiful harvest of food and all the temporal and spiritual blessings from the gracious hand of the Giver of all good gifts. The observance of this day originated with the New England colonists, and has been observed annually since President Lincoln's proclamation in the year of 1863.

To the child of God, every day is a day of thanksgiving, but it is also well that the nation as a whole still recognizes and observes this annual day of thanksgiving, at least in a nominal way. How much better it would be if every individual would honor and praise God with his whole heart!

One of the evil traits of mankind in these last days as recorded in 2 Tim. 3:2 is that of being "unthankful." Many people are like the hog which eats the acorns under the oak tree and never looks up to see where they are coming from. Jesus cleansed ten lepers, but only one returned to give Him thanks. "And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger." Luke 17:17, 18. Let us render thanks unto our heavenly Father at all times, "for praise is comely for the upright." Psalms 33:1.

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

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

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The last of September, Sister Mildred (Dolly) Brown, who had worked here in the Lord's Print Shop for the past 3¾ years, informed us that she desired to be relieved of her duties here. May the Lord reward her for her faithful years of service, and direct her future course in life.

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Bro. Bob and Sister Irma Gayle Saltee, workers here at the Lord's Print Shop, were blessed on Sept.

27, 1978, with a baby daughter whose name is Karen Kay. Mother and daughter are doing well.

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The Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting will be held, Lord willing, here at Guthrie, Okla., from December 22 to 31, 1978. Since the Christian school will be in session on Friday, Dec. 22, the first service of the meeting will be on Friday night, Dec. 22. Further announcement will appear in the December issue of this paper.

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Sister LaVonda Sharp, the daughter of Brother Donald and Sister Lois (Whipple) Sharp of Myrtle, Mo., came to work here at the office in the mailing department on Oct. 9th. Her mother had worked here many years ago. LaVonda is adapting to the work very well, and we appreciate our young folks who consecrate their services to the Lord's work. The Lord of the harvest will surely reward every sacrifice for His cause and precious souls.

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#### Ministers' Meeting Very Profitable . . .

The three-day General Ministers' Meeting, beginning here at Guthrie, Okla., on Oct. 17th, was well attended by more than 100 ministers and gospel workers from over the United States. Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, Bro. Herschel Hargrave of Goulds, Fla., acted as the moderator and Bro. Ed Wilson of Oklahoma City as secretary. The questions and matters submitted during the sessions were dealt with in a scriptural and prayerful manner which resulted in a mutual benefit for all concerned. We are pleased to report that the powers of darkness were overruled by the Spirit and power of God. As the convocation neared its close, a number of ministers remarked that it was one of the best ministers' meetings that they had ever attended. All praise is due unto the leadership of the Holy Spirit who is the Presiding Officer of the Church in this gracious gospel day.

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Word was received that Sister Helen Allen of Garfield, Arkansas, departed this life to be with the Lord on October 11, 1978, after a long illness. May the Lord comfort the family in a special way in their bereavement.

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#### Church of God Guest Home Purchased . . .

The Oklahoma State Association of the Church of God purchased on Oct. 13, 1978, the nice, four-bedroom home with five acres, one-half mile from Guthrie, Okla., to be used as a Boarding or Guest Home for elderly members of the Church. Even beside the financial response by loan and gifts before the purchase, the Church had to secure a conventional loan of \$36,000 at 10% interest in order to close the transaction. The church should get possession of the property by the end of November or perhaps sooner. There is a need for a Christian couple (husband and wife) to volunteer their services for a nominal allowance and living quarters to manage the Home under

the direction of the church trustees. If you are interested in working for the Lord in this capacity, please send your application in care of the undersigned trustee. The saints who desire to reside in the Home may send their requests for further information and prices to the undersigned or to the secretary-treasurer, Brother Bob Saltee, 916 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. —L. D. Pruitt, State Trustee

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#### The Path of Life School Is Progressing . . .

The Christian school, which began here in the city of Guthrie, Okla., in September, is advancing very well under the direction of the principal and teachers. The enrollment has increased to fourteen students. On behalf of the school, we express our sincere thanks to all those who have contributed to its financial support as well as your prayers. Free-will offerings for that purpose may be sent to Bro. and Sister Wayne Murphey, 1210 W. Noble, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044.

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The gospel work is progressing in the Philippine Islands under the efforts of the following brethren with whom Bro. Hammond labored there: Policarpo Encabo, Cel Candelas, Sam Graneta, Alberto Jover, and Matias S. Tanguan, as well as others not named.

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We were pleased to have Bro. Ostis and Sister Evelyn Wilson of Jefferson, Oregon, with us in our home during the week of the ministers' meeting. Brother Wilson preached here at Guthrie on Sunday morning, Oct. 22, and then went to Shawnee, Okla., for two services.

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Bro. Mart Samons of Green Bank, W. Va., is holding a meeting this week of Oct. 22 to 29 at the N. E. 23rd Street Church of God chapel in Oklahoma City. During this same time Bro. Curtis Williams of Morehead, Ky., is preaching at the nightly services in Enid, Okla. Brother Tom Melot of Guthrie, Okla., is also preaching this week in Dayton, Ohio. We pray and trust that much lasting good will be accomplished in all these gospel services.

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Twenty years ago, in October, 1958, this writer resigned his foreman's position with a local printing plant and began working full time here in the Lord's Print Shop. We have been happy and contented in the service of the Master over the years, as there is no other work more important than endeavoring to reach souls with the soul-saving gospel of Jesus Christ. The eternal destiny of precious souls is at stake. It is a matter of eternal life or eternal death for all of mankind, whether they accept or reject the gospel message.

I am your servant still firmly trusting God's promises for healing in order to carry on, and up to the present He has given me daily strength to work long hours in the office. I surely want to be faithful at my post and finish my course with joy. Your continued prayers are much appreciated.

—Lawrence Pruitt

## In Memorial

**Robert Garland Parish, Sr.**, was born Feb. 8, 1896, in Wichita, Kansas, and passed away Oct. 5, 1978, at the age of 82 years. His survivors include his wife, two sons, one daughter, 18 grandchildren and great grandchildren, and other relatives.

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**Clifford Dave Myles**, the youngest child of George and Earnestine Myles, was born August 23, 1936, in Hoffman, Okla., and departed this life October 13, 1978, in Wichita, Kansas, at the age of 42 years. During his illness he sought the Lord for salvation. He is survived by a wife, four sons, one daughter, his mother, two grandchildren, four sisters, one brother, and other relatives.

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**Sister Ardella Bailey**, daughter of the late Alex and Ivory Mullins, was born May 22, 1922, and departed this life September 1, 1978, at her home in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She accepted the Lord as her personal Saviour as a young woman and was faithful at her parting. She is survived by her husband, Dudley Bailey, six daughters, and many other relatives.

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### ASSEMBLY MEETING AT HAMMOND, LA.

The annual assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held as usual on the Church of God campgrounds in Hammond, La., just off 109 White Street, beginning on Sunday, Nov. 19, 1978, and continuing through Sunday, November 26.

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

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

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

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

—Bro. Bob Forbes

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

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### CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, on the campground in Pacoima, Calif., December 22 through December 31, 1978.

We request your earnest prayers. We are looking to the Lord for special blessings in this meeting. If you are burdened of the Lord for this meeting, we hope to see

you here. The chapel address is: 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif., phone (213) 899-9021.

For more information or assistance, contact Bro. Robert Sherman, phone (213) 896-7593, or Bro. James Pierro, 11316 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima, Calif., phone (213) 896-5331.

—Wynema Clay

## Prayer Requests

Mich.—“Please continue to pray for my father who is 82 years of age. He suffers with his stomach. Pray that he can eat so he can gain strength.”

—Sis. Olive Getterson

Ind.—“Please pray for my eyes. I have glaucoma and cataracts on both eyes. Pray the Lord to heal my hearing.”

—Sis. Lettie West (94 years of age)

Pa.—“Please pray for my husband who had a stroke in Feb. and needs a lot of care. I am bothered with heart trouble.”

—Mrs. W. E. Yoder

La.—“I have crippling arthritis. My joints are enlarging and are very painful. I have stomach trouble and headaches. . . . I am thankful for all God has done for me. . . . Pray for me.”

—Mrs. Beulah Johnson

Miss.—“Both of us are in bad shape. I have swelling in my body. . . . Pray for us.”

—Dorothy, and my brother, Warner Bridges

Ark.—Keep holding on for our dear Sis. Anschultz. She is very afflicted and not able to be out of bed. Her trust is firmly in the Lord.

La.—“I have had a fall and suffered a lot, but our dear heavenly Father has been very near and dear to me. He has taken good care of me and I am much better. . . . I will appreciate your prayers.”

—Sis. Elma Forbes

Mo.—“I am sick and wish you would pray for me. . . . I have arthritis, sinus, and many other things wrong with me. . . . God said He wouldn't let more come upon us than we could bear, but would make a way of escape.”

—Pansy Golden

God is still healing His children today. Faith is the key that brings healing to us. We know that God does hear and answer our prayers.

My granddaughter, Connie Sorrell, is with us today through prayer. She had a severe case of toxic poison in her body and her limbs were swollen. Because she had not taken the doctor's medication, the doctor warned her that she would go into convulsions when labor started, and that she and also the baby might not live. The very next day she went into labor, but through prayer, she delivered her baby on Oct. 15th, yet she was in a critical condition. On Oct. 17th her husband signed a release of responsibility to the hospital and doctor, and brought her home. On the evening of Oct. 18th the ministers here in Guthrie at the ministers' meeting had a special agreement of prayer for her. Others were praying for her also. She passed the crisis that evening. The next day her blood pressure was down and she began to be normal again. We thank God for sparing her to us and for giving them a precious little boy who weighed 6 lbs. and 8 oz. They named him Lyndall Dwane Sorrell. This is my first great grandchild.

—Sis. A. Marie Miles

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

Dear ones: Greetings to one and all in Jesus' sweet name. Sister Panchita Escobar writes from Ojos Negros, Mexico, that she is ill and needs much prayer. She is very weak.

Those receiving childrens' material in Mexico wrote and gratefully acknowledged the preparation of them. The material had not yet arrived in South America, but the love shown in the preparation of the material was gratefully accepted and appreciated. About 40 tracts are ready for photographing and printing as of today. Orders for those we have on hand are being filled as they come in. It is the Lord's work and I desire to be faithful to Him.

Clothing can no longer be sent to Mexico via transport. Pray with me that other arrangements can be made.

Christian love,

—Sis. Opal Kelly, 919 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044, writing also for Bro. and Sis. Mayarino Escobar, Ap. Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa. Mexico.

### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (Sept. 21)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, each dear one in the Print Shop, and the dear saints everywhere in America: We send our loving greetings to you again in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you very much for your kind letter, and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude. "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation." Psa. 68:19. By the grace of God we are all going on well with progress in the work of the Lord, keeping victory over sin and Satan each day.

It is still raining here every day. The seven days in the third week of September were our national festival days, and on those days we conducted open-air meetings and road meetings in several streets and corners throughout Kerala State. God gave us some wonderful road meetings, and at Kodassery near Trichur, a rowdy Communist man came to the altar repenting and got saved. Many Catholics also got saved, and a few backsliders came to the feet of Christ again. Near Kottarakara, while I was preaching on the roadside in a village, a drunk man came to the altar weeping with a broken heart and he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. We thank the Lord for these new precious souls whom God visited through His Word.

My younger brother, Philip, was married on Sept. 11, 1978, in our Bethel Chapel at Karikkom, and the marriage service was conducted by this writer. Philip returned to Saudi Arabia on Sept. 20th to work. May God bless his new married life, is our prayer.

God helped us to build a new chapel at Vilangara for the saints in that area, and Lord willing, it will be opened for service on Sept. 30th. The Sapulpa Road Church of God in Oklahoma donated the money for this chapel and we appreciate this great contribution. We plan to have our monthly meeting in this new chapel on the same day. We urgently need three more new chapels like this, and we are trusting God for the

means for them. We hope God will open the way for them through some unknown ways.

Dear brother, we earnestly continue to pray for your complete healing, and also for the solving of all your special problems. My wife sends her love to all the dear ones there.

Yours in His service,

—John Varghese

### NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (Sept. 19)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints of the Most High: Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus, our great Saviour in whom all God's fullness dwelleth. Praise Him forever!

I thank the Lord for His travelling mercies which I enjoyed. The return flight to my country of Nigeria in West Africa was smooth and peaceful, which of course was never doubted, being borne in the Lord's wing of perfect safety. I am aware that the saints of the living God in the United States did petition the Lord for my safety which truly came my way both in the air and on the land. Amen.

We have cause to thank the Lord for having lived to participate in the campmeetings of the year 1978, convened and assembled in the United States of America, to feed and nourish the souls with spiritual food from the Throne of God. Chastening or disciplinary messages also came down which were meant to invite our attention to the spiritual life which should be lived. Rather than resent the discipline we should welcome it and be better for it. "My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." Heb. 12:5-13). No true son ever grows up uncorrected by his father. For if you had no experience of the correction which all sons have to bear, you might well doubt the legitimacy of your sonship. God corrects us all our days for our own benefit, to teach us His holiness. Obviously, no "chastening" seems pleasant at the time; it is in fact unpleasant. Yet when it is all over, we can see that it has quietly produced the fruit of real goodness in the characters of those who have accepted it in the right spirit. We have received a stinging rebuke because we have left our first love. Christ warns us to remember, repent, and return. We should not ignore the warning, but repent. The Laodicean church which neglected to heed that advice was cast from the presence of God. Islamic invaders swept into the city and utterly destroyed it. The rich church of the Laodiceans lay in ruin and death came to slumbering saints. Christ, in the Revelation, warns of lack of devotion, encouraging them to seek spiritual gold, raiment, and eye salve from God. He accuses them of spiritual pride, but at the same time extends His gracious invitation (Rev. 3:20). It is indeed sad to see the One who gave His life for the church standing outside, desiring entrance. The fruit of the Spirit is faithfulness to our calling, and in this age of slumbering saints and dying sinners this fruit needs cultivation more than any other.

The ancient prophet Joel quotes God, "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten." (Joel 2:25). Amen. This is a parable of our lives. There are seasons of deep distress and affliction that sometimes eat all the usefulness of our lives away. Yet, the



promise is that God will restore those locust years if we endure. "Bear what you have to bear as 'chastening'; as God's dealing with you as sons. Submit to a heavenly Father's discipline, and learn how to live."

I express my gratitude to God for enabling me through participation in the year's campmeetings to meet for the first time Bro. John Varghese from India, some of the Canadian brethren and a Brother from Mexico. We have now parted from each other to our different nations of origin or residence, but soon shall meet at the feet of Jesus to part no more, Hallelujah!

The Lord, without doubting, will in a very big way, bless all who in honest and sincere love received me, co-operated and gave gifts. You have not done it in vain. The Lord knows the height of my appreciation and joy which I am at a loss to find words for suitable description of all that the saints have done to keep me comfortable and encouraged. Praise God for His wonderful family in the United States which we pray Him to keep intact!

**Transportation:** The only gospel van in use in this nation has long since gone off the road, because the engine was ruined. This has inevitably brought to a halt temporarily all the scheduled evangelistic meetings aimed at reaching the hungry souls with redemptive messages of our great Saviour. What actually is needed for dependable operation is a stronger, roomy vehicle of long life span. Until this is provided, saints are requested to join us in prayer for provision of a fund to repair the old van, possibly buy a new engine to make it last for a while. This writer is as a result held up from undertaking missionary visits to far away congregations within and outside the Bendel State.

Yours for souls,

—Titus Enu

**Postscript (Sept. 24)**—At 12 noon on Sept. 19th, my father passed. He died in my hometown of Abbi. I am once again in the same year thrown into another funeral expense. My mother passed on March 20th. I am trusting the Lord for provision to meet the financial commitment of this occasion.

Yours in Him,

—Titus Enu

#### MISSION LETTER FROM BAJA CFA., MEXICO

Patzcuaro, Mexico—Dear saints and friends: In the precious name of our Saviour and King we greet each one. . . . Oh, how grateful we are that Jesus came and made the way for us to be freed from that principle of sin and able to live a sinless life, pleasing to our God!

We felt it was time to write that we are endeavoring to be faithful in our little corner of the world; to be representatives of the Church Jesus bought with His own blood; to teach freedom and pardon from sin in this life that results in a joy and peace that nothing else can give. We continue to have services on Sunday, Wednesday night, and the young people's meetings and the children's meetings. We have times that we feel there is not the progress and interest that we would like to see, but I remember what the Lord showed me several years ago—that what He wanted was steadfastness and obedience more than an outward show of progress. This has helped me so much, and I do want to be faithful and be led by His Holy Spirit, so that souls will have the opportunity to hear His Word, and through it have a knowledge that could bring them to salvation. We are so grateful for

those who are saved and are witnesses in this place for the Lord. Some have problems and heartaches for their loved ones in sin, and some even have some persecutions.

Recently, we went over to Ojos Negros, Mexico, to be with them in services. We found most of them well over there. Sis. Panchita was very weak and has no appetite, but she was encouraged. The saints there seemed happy to see us and the Lord blessed His Word. It was about "Time"—the time the Lord gives us to prepare to meet Him.

One sister, Lupe, has a little boy who had an operation to take some tumors from his head, and evidently there are more. The doctor says that it is affecting other parts of his body. He can't walk now, but seems normal in all other ways. He cries day and night with pain in the left leg. The father is not saved, and Sis. Lupe surely needs your prayers for herself and for her child. He must be eight or nine years of age.

We visited two families in the Valle de Trinidad. One family had a problem, . . . and the other family seemed discouraged because of the unfaithfulness of some who call themselves children of God. We tried to encourage them to call mightily on God for themselves. We ask an interest in your prayers for these needs. They are real to them and they are endeavoring to serve the Lord.

We want to thank each one of you for your interest and concern for us and the work here in Mexico. It is your work also, for we are "workers together" in the Lord. We do want to be faithful to the Holy Spirit that the cause of the Lord might go forward.

May God bless and encourage your hearts in Him.

—Sis. Edith (Cole) Lara

#### SCHEDULED FOR MISSION TO NIGERIA

Oklahoma.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, Sis. Marie, and saints scattered here and abroad: Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As some of you know, I have had a desire to labor in the gospel on the mission fields of Nigeria, West Africa. I have talked about it much, but never applied for a visa to enter that country until about June of this year. I heard that it was almost impossible to get a visa to that country . . . as a missionary or gospel worker.

Bro. Titus Enu sent me a letter inviting me to come and labor with him in the gospel. His letter and my answer to his letter had to be incorporated in my visa application. I could not say I was entering as a "tourist," . . . and to say I was entering as a gospel worker in response to the letter would have meant a refusal. I tussled with this situation for several days, and finally one day I sat bolt upright in my bed, and said out loud to myself, "I am going to enter Nigeria as an ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ from the United States of America." I had God's answer, and it is always the truth. Joy bells were ringing in my heart. Reason would have told me that I wouldn't get the visa with such an answer, but I was compelled to make this the test as to whether I would go or not. I settled it to the point that if I didn't get the visa, I would never try again. Also that if I didn't get it, I wouldn't cry, trusting God's wisdom above my desire. If I did get the visa, then I could be assured that God's approval and blessing would be upon me on this trip.



I responded to the "Macedonian call," and will you believe it, I received a 90-day visa. They tell me that this is the maximum length of time given. I have the privilege of applying for an extension of time if I feel it needful to stay longer, and I am sure I will get it if it is the will of the Lord for me to do so.

There is a consecration involved in this venture even unto death. I realize the hazards involved, and that it is possible I will never return, but I am fully persuaded that it is the will of the Lord for me to go. I desire your prayers that the will of God be accomplished on this trip, that the Lord will keep me faithful under all circumstances, make me a blessing to everyone whom my path crosses, and give a safe return.

I leave Oklahoma City at 7 a.m. on Dec., 19th, to arrive in Lagos, Nigeria, at 12:50 p.m., Dec. 20th. If anyone would care to write to me, my address will be: Sis. Dorothy Keiser, c/o Titus U. E. Enu, P. O. Box 33, Kwale, Nigeria, West Africa.

As ever in His service, —Sis. Dorothy Keiser

#### AN EXPLANATION

I am writing this to help those who are puzzled to better understand why I am living in Guthrie, Okla., and my wife in a Rest Home in Pacoima, Calif. Wife became helpless in the spring of 1976. From then on, until Sept. 18th, about seven months, I had the care of her, being up about every two hours through the night. As I was subject to colds in that damp climate, we knew that this couldn't last unless God performed a miracle. If I became helpless, she would be put in a hospital. Therefore, we and the saints of Orland, Calif., thought it best for her to enter the Home in Pacoima. On the morning of Sept. 18th, James Reynolds granted us the privilege of using his large van with his two sisters-in-law driving the 500 miles to Pacoima.

Before we both decided to sell out in Orland, I made the trip by bus. At first it took about 24 hours, which was a very tiresome trip for one of my age. Then before I left Orland, the Bus Company changed the time of the arrival of bus at Orland, making it impossible for me to get to Pacoima in one day, unless I would arrive in there around midnight. So from then on, it took me a good part of two days to make the trip by staying over at Fresno with Bro. and Sis. Harvey Cones. Now while I am here it is not as hard as it was there to visit Wife when I go by plane. Now I can get a round trip ticket to Los Angeles for \$122.00, which I intend to do. That way, I can visit Wife about as often as I did in California.

I believe in being led by the Holy Spirit, and I know without a doubt that God wanted me in Guthrie. For how long, I do not know; and of late it is clear why God wants me here. Dear ones, be agreed that Wife may be healed. God knows that I love her.

When I moved here last November, we had hoped to move Wife to the Golden Rule Home at Shawnee, Okla., but so far there is no room vacant.

I thank God for a close walk with Him. May God bless all of you dear saints.

Your Brother, —H. P. Huskey

## From the Mail Box . . .

Ind.—Dear saints: Greetings in the most precious name on earth.

Please pray for my eyes. I have glaucoma and cataracts on both eyes. The cataracts are very bad. I am trusting the Lord for my eyes. I have also become deaf and hear only what is said real close to me. I can't hear what goes on in my room. They told me it is good not to hear the things that go on in this Home. I pray the Lord to heal my hearing for the good I need to hear. Please put a request in the paper for my eyes and hearing trouble. The Lord can give me the seeing and hearing that He sees fit for me to have. I say from my heart, "Lord, Thy will be done." It will be wonderful when He says, "Come home."

I pray for every saint all over the world, for all the workers there and for the work to keep going on until Jesus comes for His own.

I was 94 years of age the first day of last April, 1978. Dear old Sis. Essie Wilson and I were born the same day.

Your sister in Christ, —Lettie West

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Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I am sending you . . . to help in any way needed. We love the work you are doing and we want to help.

May the Lord bless you and yours.

—Ed and Ruth Upton

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## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Wash.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. We surely do appreciate the Lord. He says He will never leave us nor forsake us, as the song says, "No, never alone; He promised never to leave me, never to leave me alone." I have found this to be true in my experiences. He's always right there when we call on Him. I am thankful for His shed blood that cleanses us from our sins, as St. John said, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." Praise His holy name forever!

We do pray for you there and for the work.

Christian love, —Sister Violet Thomas

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Calif.—Dear saints: I feel impressed to testify of God's goodness to me. I thank Him for how He has guided my life, and has led me aright in the major decisions of my life. I thank Him for giving me a wonderful companion and a healthy, happy, young son. He has healed me of numerous ailments. His blessings to me have been so numerous that I can't begin to tell all, but I do want to tell a few things to God's glory.

I want especially to glorify God by relating two incidents in which I was wonderfully healed. The first occurred in the fall of 1969, when I was a freshman in college, living in the dormitory on the campus, some 80 miles from where my parents lived. I had been asthmatic since about the age of eight, and subject to severe attacks of asthma. One day that fall, I had caught a cold and sore throat. Unfortunately, I didn't care for myself properly at the time, and the cold soon developed into a case of asthma. The asthma became

so severe that I could scarcely breathe and was coughing up blood from my lungs. I didn't immediately realize the seriousness of my plight, so I called no one. However, some of the other girls in the dorm would come to my room to see how I was, and the campus housing coordinators were soon notified that I was dangerously ill and refusing medical treatment. Alarmed at the prospect of my possibly dying in the dormitory, they called my parents to inform them of the situation. Soon after, my pastor, Bro. Trotter, was called to come and pray for me. When he arrived, there were about a half dozen girls from the dorm in my room, along with the housing coordinator. They asked if they should leave while he prayed for me. He told them, no, that they were free to stay. He then anointed me with oil and prayed for me. In just a few minutes my breathing became a great deal easier, and I stopped coughing up blood. A few days thereafter I was completely well, and have never had an asthma attack since! What a mighty God we serve! Truly, it is marvelous what He can and will do for His children.

The second incident I wish to relate occurred in the spring of 1976, when I was teaching school, just a few months before I was to be married. As is well known, California was in the midst of a great drought that year, and there seemed to have been an unusually large amount of pollen in the air at that time. It was this situation, no doubt, that helped to bring on a bad spell of sinus allergy. I would feel pretty well in the mornings, but as the day progressed my breathing would become more and more laborious, until by the time school was out I could barely breathe well enough to walk slowly out to my car and drive home. As a result, I missed many days of work. This situation dragged on for some three weeks or more. As I would take to my bed for several days at a time, I began to seek God earnestly in this matter. One day, when I had called the school secretary to notify her that I was again ill and would need a substitute, she asked me if I was taking anything for my sinus. After telling her, no, I later began to ponder on how best to handle this perplexing situation. Since the school district was still paying a substitute on my behalf, the principal and superintendent would be entitled to know that everything possible was being done to speed my recovery. I knew that if I told them I was trusting God for my healing, and yet continued to be sick, they would probably think I was very foolish, or some kind of religious fanatic. I might add here, that my classroom aide was suffering from an affliction similar to mine, and every night she would go home and take her medicine. The medicine would help her breathe easier, but would cause her heart to race so fast that she could hardly sleep. She would spend a good part of the night sitting up in a chair, coughing. As a result, she would be very tired and worn out when she came to work each day. So I knew that medicine wasn't the answer, either. In view of all these circumstances, I felt that I would either have to submit wholly to the Lord and His will in the matter (even if it meant resigning my position), or else see a doctor, as my employers had a right to demand that I should. I chose to put my case in God's hands. After I had searched my life and God had shown me some areas where He wanted me to move up, I became willing to trust Him, even if it meant the loss of my job. The only thing that remained to be done then was to call

for the elders of the church (as we are commanded in James 5:13), and be anointed and prayed for. My pastor, Bro. Trotter, was out of town at that time, so I called Bro. and Sis. Philip Matthews. They came, talked with me for some time, and then anointed and prayed for me. I want to say that God touched my body right away, and very soon I was back at work completely well. Praise God! It was marvelous. My aide was still coming to work tired and weary, but I just had to testify to her that I was healed! Since that time I have never had another attack of sinus.

Through my affliction, God taught me some precious lessons, and I am convinced that He will never fail one who wholly trusts in Him.

Yours in Christ,

—Gloria Dyer

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Okla.—I thank the Lord for salvation, and for His goodness and severity. I love the Lord because He first loved me. I can say I am happy, redeemed and free because the Lord is so very good to me.

On June 4, 1978, the Lord saw fit to take my husband Home, after a long illness. God had been with us and never left us alone. Many times at services and at home, my husband would seemingly leave this world, but our heavenly Father would bring him back. The saints prayed earnestly for him and the Lord heard and answered prayers. I thank God for how He supplied me with strength, faith, endurance, and grace. Many times, when those severe attacks came on him, I would be at home alone (with God). The Lord would bring the 46th Psalm to me. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." I would beg God for mercy and He would come quickly, touch my husband's body and raise him up. Thank God!

I also want to truly thank God for instantly healing my body last month. I had an affliction on my body about six months. I had prayed for my healing often. I would get better for a while, but it would soon come back. One night, after going to bed, I was lying there talking to the Lord about my afflictions. The Lord spoke to me and said, "Lay hands on and pray." I obeyed and poured out my heart to God. He instantly healed me, removed the soreness, restored the color, and I was completely healed. Thank God!

"It is no secret what God can do. What He's done for others, He'll do for you." My past experiences have increased my faith, and I know God does hear and answer the prayers of His trusting children.

Pray for me that I may be found spotless before Him.

—Sis. Ophelia Campbell

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Indiana—Dear Sis. Miles: We appreciate your good, encouraging letters, and I enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper so very much.

I suffered a stroke on June 7th. I had a very severe headache that day and the pain was so severe that my left eye seemed as though it would burst. We had retired for the night, and shortly afterwards I turned really sick, and said to my husband, "Oh, I am so sick." That was the last thing I remembered. He turned on the light, and saw there was something definitely wrong with me, as I was unconscious. I was rushed to the hospital. Several of my family were called. I don't think anyone had much hope for my life. After a thorough examination, the doctors said my trouble was a cerebral thrombosis (or a

stroke). I knew nothing of what happened, as I was unconscious for three days. My husband stayed with me during those days. He called some good Christian friends who can really pray, and Sis. Brown called your office for prayer. God really heard and answered in my behalf.

God has done a wonderful thing for me by sparing my life, and it seems that people who know me are amazed that I have made the progress I have in recovering. I tell them it is in answer to prayer. I believe that God had a purpose in all that has happened to me.

As soon as I felt able, I asked permission to hand out some good gospel tracts that you sent me, and I witnessed to people I would never have had the opportunity to witness to otherwise.

It is from the depths of my heart that I thank God, and give Him all the praise, and glory for restoring me as He has. I am gaining strength daily, and I know that God has done what was impossible for human help to accomplish without His mighty power. I also realize the importance of knowing for sure that our account is settled with God, for in an unconscious condition, as I was, if all my sins had not been under the blood, it could have been too late. I thank God He has brought me through the dangers of the past and it is my desire to live true to Him.

Please pray for me and my faithful husband that God will be with us the rest of our lives, as He has for over 53 years.

—Golden Brewer

(Editor's note: We appreciate the Sister's faith that she had in God. He honors our faith, even if it's small faith. But we teach and lift up complete trust in God without the aid of man through medication, which is the Bible teaching. Jesus many times said, "According to your faith be it unto you." Matt. 9:29. Faith brings to us those things of which we have need. God loves for us to have great faith which glorifies Him. We do not want to condemn anyone for his amount of faith, but we want to encourage all to have great faith in God, and when we understand that this pleases God, we want to do it.)

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Calif.—Dear Sis. Marie: We greet you in Jesus' precious name—that name we love because it means so much to us. We find Him a very present help in time of need. . . .

We want to thank the Lord for healing my left arm. For a long period of time it just seemed numb and every once in a while it would tingle like it was asleep, but the Lord healed it. He just took my mind off it and when I thought about it again, it was healed. Bro. Gene had a little growth on his neck and it kind of hung down, but we prayed and the Lord healed it. It went down gradually. We do appreciate the Lord's healing this affliction and all the many things He does for us. . . .

May God bless you richly.

Our love and prayer,

—Bro. Gene and Sis. Loretta Harmon

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Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie: I appreciate the saints, especially the workers in the Print Shop. My prayers are for all of you.

I want to thank the Lord for all He has done for me. Oh, how precious He is in mercies and goodness!

Last April, I was so very sick, and really I didn't think I was going to live. I called the saints for prayer, and within an hour I had relief. At that time I thought I was having a heart attack, but later I became very congested and ran a high fever and my lungs were very sore, so I believe I had pneumonia. The Lord was so good in bringing me through and was such a very present help. I found myself searching my life, but I felt clear before the Lord and was so thankful I could say, "Lord, your will be done." Oh, if souls would just realize what a mighty God we serve! Nothing is too large nor too small, if we keep our faith and trust in God. Praise His name!

—Sis. Ferne Laub

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Wash.—Dear ones who work at the Lord's Print Shop and all the saints of God scattered abroad, I greet you in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: to shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night." Psalms 92:1,2. I can say that the dear Lord has been good to me. To Him be all the honor and praise.

I enjoy reading all the testimonies and all the other writings in the *Faith and Victory* paper. One of my favorite songs is, "I Will Praise Him, Hallelujah," and there are also many other good songs.

—Sis. Martha Ruhl

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La.—Dear Sis. Marie: I am thankful Jesus ever sought after me and saved me before it was too late. I do want to live for Him and die for Him. We can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengtheneth us. We can do nothing without Him.

We were glad to get your encouraging letter, also the October *Faith and Victory* paper yesterday. I enjoyed the good articles and testimonies. . . . I also enjoy *The Beautiful Way* papers and approve of the article you wrote for the primary lesson (Dec. 24th) about not having a Christmas tree. . . . It also seems there needs to be more put in the paper about men wearing short sleeves. I know they have heard it preached against. I've always tried to measure up to what the ministers of God preach, if it's in the pulpit or by the printed page. The desire of my heart is to be the example the Lord would have me to be that I might be a help to someone along life's way. The dear saints have had so much patience with me and have helped me so very much.

Remember us in prayer that we endure unto the end. We are praying for you and yours, and also for Bro. Lawrence. We are looking forward to his healing. Sis. Nora Reeves has been sorely afflicted, but God has given her a touch and she is much better. The saints down here have been so faithful to go and help her in every way they can. Sis. Dora Doolittle has worked very hard there to help them. I trust the Lord will reward her fourfold. Sis. Nora has trusted the Lord completely.

Sis. Maurie Lee is very poorly. She needs help from the Lord. Pray for her.

My grandson, Glenn LaCroix, was working at a job during Christmas 1977. The employees decided to have a party and exchange gifts. So he drew names with them, thinking it would be a nice get-together. He

later heard that it was going to be a drinking party. He hardly knew what to do, so he decided to go and exchange gifts and come home. When he got there, his boss met him and invited him to take a drink of liquor, but Glenn told him he didn't drink. He just kept insisting, but Glenn kept refusing, telling him, "No, I don't drink." He got his gift and left.

The next day, when he went back to work, his boss came to him and said he was sorry for insisting on him drinking the night before. He said he could hardly sleep all night for his insisting on him drinking. He apologized and said he was sorry. He told Glenn, "That is what's the matter with the world today, too much drinking. If everyone were like you, this world would be a better place in which to live."

It surely pays to live for the Lord and stand by Bible convictions. It was the Lord who helped Glenn to resist temptation. I'm so thankful for the few who will stand true and resist the devil and the temptations he presents. May God bless the young folks who are endeavoring to live for the Lord, is our prayer. "Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross!"

—Effie Miller

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Penn.—Dear saints: I am healed, glory to God! The Lord witnessed to me different times that He would heal me, but He let me know He wanted to test my love for Him. I had so many lessons to learn. Heb. 5:8, "Though he were a son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered." He suffered for us. Why can't we suffer and wait for Him? So many people draw back when it comes to suffering. Oh, what would it be had not Christ suffered on the cross?

It would take time to go into the nature of my affliction, but I suffered with this for four years. Different times I felt like I couldn't stand it any longer. But the dear Lord was faithful not to allow anymore than I could bear. My husband and different ones said discouraging things to me, as they knew I was trusting the Lord. The devil painted pictures of despair. I am so ashamed I even listened to him. I needed to learn how to resist him steadfastly. Satan does not care how much you resist him, as long as you do not resist him "steadfast in the faith."

I am still thinking of the many lessons I learned. I learned to wait on Him. As I waited, I drew nearer to His side. Oh, the world has no idea of the blessings we derive by waiting on the Lord. "The God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." I Peter 5:10. "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him." 2 Tim. 2:12. "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps." I Peter 2:21.

I tell this to encourage all to "trust on." He will, is able, and wants to deliver you after the lessons are learned. "And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?" Luke 18:7.

Oh, thank the Lord for His ways of dealing with us. I surely want to be found doing His will at all times. Pray for me.

Christian love,

—Virginia Myers

Calif.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings in the name and love of our Lord Jesus Christ. I think of you often and pray for your healing. May God give you strength to carry on.

I have been afflicted in body for some time now, but God is blessing me in my soul. Oh, praise God for His goodness to His trusting children. "The blessing of the Lord maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow thereto." Bless the Lord! Words cannot express the peace and contentment in my soul.

Do pray for me and my family.

Your Brother in Christ,

—James Kutra

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

Ala.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings of heavenly love. We are very grateful today for a Saviour that is "more than life to me." Surely our Lord came that we might have life, and that we might have it "more abundantly."

Lately, I have been musing often on a very important crisis in my life, nearly fourteen years ago. I was unsaved and out on a canoeing venture one Sunday morning. As we were rowing in forty feet of water, the canoe overturned and I lost my life-jacket upon hitting the water. I could not count the many times I went under the water and struggled up again to catch hold of something to preserve my life. The Lord had mercy upon me and rescued my life. About one year later, the Lord gave me eternal life by saving my lost soul. It seems that with every heartbeat there is a prayer of thankfulness and holy awe before God for His great love wherewith He loved us. Surely, "In His favor is eternal life." He preserved my mortal life so that He could give me His greatest desire for mankind—eternal life. We are yet striving to gain that most coveted prize, and we must strive lawfully, or be rejected in the end.

Thank you, dear Sis. Marie, and others who are so faithful, for your care for the saints, and to keep us informed one of another. We are grateful for your sacrifices and labours of love. We likewise earnestly covet your prayers that the Lord would prosper His work for His glory alone. We agree very quickly with our adversary, as God reminds us of our insufficiency, for we know that it is God alone who is all-sufficient.

Our trust and confidence are in Him.

In the love and fear of God,

—Beverly Reed

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

Texas—Dear Sis. Marie: My dear Lord and Master is so precious and blesses me each day. I thank Him every day for all His love and goodness.

I do hope you and all there at the Print Shop are well, and that God is blessing each of you and the work there.

I haven't felt very well for about two or three weeks. . . . Please have prayer for me for the fever, and also for a sinus condition, as I've had it for a long time. . . .

May God bless and keep all of you.

Christian love,

—Mrs. Lessie Speed

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

Ohio—Dear Brother Lawrence: I trust you are prospering in the grace of God and enjoying His blessings daily. I thank the Lord for His love and concern toward His creation. I love the Lord and desire to keep faithful and make heaven my eternal home when this life has ended.

I feel it is my duty to witness for the Lord for what He has done for me. He has brought me through, and given victory over, a condition that was upon my

hands. I never went to a doctor, but I came to the conclusion that I had industrial dermatitis which bothered me a great deal of the time. I'm sure the coolant that I use on my job was the cause of my condition. The company didn't insist on my going to the company doctor. I had witnessed to the nurse of my trust in God quite a while back and she seemed to honor my conviction, for which I am thankful. My hands are all cleared up, for which I give God all the praise. I don't remember missing a day's work while I was suffering with this condition. Also, God has healed me of other afflictions over the past few months.

I want to live so that my life will witness for God. I know there are hard places to go through and disappointments in this life, but God will be with us and give us the victory if we keep our faith and trust in Him. The devil is not letting up, but is working day and night at his job to cast down, accuse, and discourage us if we will give place for these things. Thanks be to our God of heaven, who is able to take us through and give grace so we can overcome in these testing times.

Recently, God did a marvelous work in a home that the devil was destroying. My nephew, Jim, and his wife, Dorothy, who have four children, had been backslidden for several years and the devil was ready, it seemed, to strike the fatal blow, but God came on the scene and wrought a mighty deliverance in their lives. He saved both Jim and Dorothy. What a change took place in their lives, and only they could tell of this great deliverance better than anyone else! They have been faithful in coming to meeting and bringing their children. It has been a real blessing to the congregation.

Dear Bro. Ray Key had a bad fall yesterday (Oct. 9th) while he was away from home. I think they said he had gone to get a haircut. He broke the frame on his glasses and got a bad cut above his left eye. His nose was bruised and red, and his knees were skinned up some. He refused medical aid. That evening the cut above his eye was closed up nicely. Bro. Key is past eighty years of age and is failing. Pray much for Bro. and Sis. Key.

I desire prayer for a great niece of mine who has been in the hospital 18 times this year. She has sugar diabetes. Her name is Brenda Neff and she is going on 15 years of age. She seems to be such a sweet girl.

I trust God is supplying the needs for the work being done there in the Print Shop. May God bless you, Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, and all the co-workers there at the Lord's Print Shop. We pray for you, Brother Lawrence, and know that God does all things well. Keep encouraged and press the battle on for truth and right. Pray for us.

—Bro. Earl Sharp

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear saints: I enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper so very much. The testimonies are so good.

I want to tell a little experience I had recently. I was here alone for the day and wanted to feel the closeness of God in my presence. As I went about my work with a prayer in my heart, I said, "Oh, Lord, I wish you'd speak to me today." I didn't want to do all the talking; I wanted Him to speak to me. He then spoke so plainly to my heart and said, "I speak through my Word." That

really did thrill my heart, and since that time I've been taking more time to read the Bible and it is more real to me than ever before.

We are living in perplexing times, but as we have our faith and trust anchored in God, He will see us through with victory. Praise His name!

—Sis. Thelma Busbee

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** Please explain I Cor. 14:34, 35 in your Question and Answer Column.

**Answer:** We will first insert the full text of I Cor. 14:34, 35. "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

In answering this question it may be necessary to make a negative approach and discuss first what we feel it does not mean. We will insert a text from I Cor. 11:5 by the same writer. "But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoreth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven." The fact that Paul here specifies the condition or attire the woman should be in when she prays or prophesies is sufficient evidence that what he said in I Cor. 14:34, 35 was not referring to her participating in the worship of God along with others, both men and women. Again in Acts 21:8-9 we read of Paul and his company going to the house of Philip the evangelist and verse 9 says, "And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy." Again we read in Acts 2:17, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, . . ." God said this and we would surely not debate with Him regardless of what tradition we may have come under. Again in Phil. 4:3 we read, "And I intreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel . . ." This is Paul again and he mentions that he had women laboring with him in the gospel.

All this sums up to the fact that when Paul wrote 1st Cor. 14:34, 35 he had no intention of excluding women from participating in public worship in whatever way or capacity the Spirit led and inspired them to do, but he was speaking in this place of something specific.

Before we pass on from this point let us consider one other thing. What is prophesying? In I Cor. 14:3 we read, "But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, exhortation, and comfort." Surely we could not identify this with any other activity than the preaching of the gospel. And when God said (Acts 2:17) that in the last days (this last age of time or the Holy Ghost dispensation) He would pour out of His Spirit upon all flesh and the daughters would prophesy as well as the sons, we conclude that it was in the mind of God to make use of the women in preaching the gospel as well as the men in this dispensation of time.

I will insert some quotations from the comments of Adam Clark on I Cor. 14:34, 35 as to what it means and what is under consideration in this instruction.

Quote: "It is evident from the context that the apostle refers here to asking questions and to what we call dictating in the assemblies. It was permitted to any man to ask questions, to object, altercation, attempt to refute, etc., in the synagogue; but this liberty was not allowed to any woman. St. Paul confirms this in reference also to the Christian Church; he orders them to keep silence: and, if they wished to learn any thing let them inquire of their husbands at home: . . . This by no means intimated that when a woman received any particular influence from God to enable her to teach, that she was not to obey that influence; on the contrary she was to obey it, and the apostle lays down directions in Chap. 11 for regulating her personal appearance when thus employed. All that the apostle opposes here is their questioning, finding fault, disputing, etc. in the Christian Church, as the Jewish men were permitted to do in their synagogues; together with the attempts to usurp any authority over the man, by setting up their judgment in opposition to them; for the apostle has in view, especially, acts of disobedience, arrogance, etc., of which no woman would be guilty who was under the influence of the Spirit of God.

"To be under obedience, as also saith the law is a reference to Gen. 3:16: 'Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.' From this it is evident that it was the disorderly and disobedient that the apostle had in view; and not any of those on whom God had poured out His Spirit." End of quote.

## Confidence and Love Between Parent and Child

Many parents feel sad and lament the fact that their children fail to confide in them. The cause often lies in the fact that parents fail to confide in their children, from their infancy.

The first question a child asks, should be answered with love, confidence, and consideration showing a real interest in the question asked. Then when the first question comes regarding the principle of life, and how it began, and how imparted to us, the confidence of the child should be the first consideration. Take the child into your confidence and make him feel it, then as he opens his heart to you and tells you what puzzles his mind, do not laugh at nor evade his question, nor put him off, but treat him with due consideration and his question as if it meant much, which it does, to him. Be considerate of him and confide in him and he in turn will confide in you. As you impart to him the needed knowledge, and show an interest in him and his questions, he will begin to impart to you some outside information, and this gives you the opportunity of correcting any improper teaching or impure thoughts or ideas which he has received from others, who would pollute his mind and destroy the purity of his heart. This takes carefulness and daily watching; also much research on your part to be prepared to give him correct answers to his questions, that your answers may not be misleading or need correction as he grows older.

You will someday use great care with him when he enters his studies for his business career. In later years it may take much faith, love, and prayers to bring him back to you and your God after he has strayed. If this same carefulness could be exercised from infancy to manhood, it would surely cause him to grow up in the love and fear of God and in purity of body and mind. If the same care that is lavished on the physical would also be extended on the moral and spiritual, we surely would have a generation of pure-minded boys and girls. If you maintain the love and confidence of the children from their infancy to their maturity, they will never see the time that they can get along without your counsel and guidance; and as they honor and love their parents so they will superiors everywhere; and with the same honor and respect, coupled with reverence, they will serve the God of their parents. Long after their parents are silent in the grave, their counsel will fashion, govern, and mold the lives of the children, and of the children's children. What legacies can be handed down from generation to generation! What purity of mind and heart! Then with the grace of God, the children will be ornaments to society, models of the kingdom of God, and polished stones in the city of God.

Children, as well as older people, want someone in whom to confide. When their thoughts and life are influenced and started right, there will be very little danger but what they will grow to be wise and useful men and women. Would that parents could see the necessity of cultivating their own minds and lives, in order that they might be the proper help and influence in their children's lives. Many children simply *grow up*; they should be *trained up*.

Often the child's life is spoiled in the beginning by wrong influences coming against it and by not receiving the proper care and instructions against those influences. A tree which is inclined to grow wrong is propped up to *make it grow straight*, so a child must be continually trained and taught that it may grow right.

With diligence on our part, as parents, together with the grace and love of God, surely the children can be kept in the way they should go. The evil surrounds them on every hand, and parents must exercise great care and diligence to counteract the outside influences that come against the child and destroy its purity. The outside influence would have no lasting effect if the proper care and counsel were given to the child. As a general thing this training will tide him over these influences, until he is able to stand and decide for himself. The parental training is as the prop supporting him until he is able to stand in his own merit and principles. Where will he get his foundation of principle and purity if it is not given him by his parents? While he is naturally inclined to evil, the inclination can be greatly overcome if proper training is begun in his very infancy and continued as he grows to maturity. Then let us strive to gain and keep the confidence of our children and see that we give them ours.

—J. M. Byers

"Believe that we have received the things we pray for, at the time we pray, in the 'confidence' which is to be steadfast and unwavering, until God changes the blessing we have taken from its invisible to its visible form."

## TEMPTATION

**Temptation:** Alluring, enticing, the state of being tempted. A song says, "Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin; each victory will help you some other to win."

It is not a sin to be tempted. Christ was tempted in all points as we are, but He did not yield to the Tempter. Instead, He said, "Get thee behind me, Satan."

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." James 1:12. According to the foregoing Scripture, we find that temptation is something to be endured, not something to be enjoyed, but to be endured, something to resist, to stand against and to oppose.

To be tempted is to be enticed to do wrong. Jesus taught His disciples to pray, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Matt. 6:13. No, it is not a sin to be tempted, but it is a trial or test, and sometimes the test is hard, but we have the promise that the Lord will not let us be tempted above that we are able, but will with the temptation make a way of escape that we may be able to bear it.

James tells us in the beginning of his letter (James 1:2-4), "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." By close observation we find that the joy is not in the temptation, but in knowing what the temptation will work out for those who endure. Paul tells us that, "No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." Heb. 12:11.

While the purpose of temptation is to try one's faith and stability, yet "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: but every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." James 1:13-15. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezek. 18:4b.

No, it is not a sin to be tempted, for Christ was tempted of the devil, but He overcame the devil because He would not yield to any of his suggestions, nor stoop to accept any of his offers. Where the sin comes in is when one yields to the evil allurements. "Heaven is a holy place . . . sin can never enter there." "Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you." James 4:7b, 8a.

We are all exhorted by the Word of God to flee also youthful lusts that war against the soul. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Proverbs 4:23.

I cannot conceive the idea that it is God's plan for anyone to just expose himself to temptation, but he should watch and pray lest he be ensnared by the wiles of the devil. Gird up the loins of your mind, use the Sword of the Spirit, and keep ready to fight the enemy of your soul. That is how Jesus overcame, and He left His words of encouragement, saying that, "As I have

overcome, so shall ye overcome." He is the One who can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, as He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16. God said to the Apostle Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee." Blessed is the man that endures to the end.

—Ulysses Phillips

## Why Should We Weep?

Why should we weep when our loved ones fall asleep?  
What makes our hearts to fill with pain and agony,  
so deep?

When we know and feel for sure that they have gone  
to rest,

And are folded safely in the arms of Jesus' loving breast?

What makes us feel so sad and lone, and our eyes to fill  
with tears?

For they lived closely by our side for many happy years.  
Why not to the Father say, "Thy will be done; Thou  
knowest what is best.

Lord, give us grace this race to run, 'till we reach the  
home of rest"?

This vain world is not our home, but far beyond the skies  
Is a resting place prepared in the land of paradise.

So now, dear Lord, dry my tear-filled eyes.

Why should I weep, why should I sigh?

Dear Lord, dry up my tears, and dry my dampened face,  
And let me hear consoling words while resting in Your  
grace.

That I may say as Thou has said, "Not my will, Lord, but  
Thine be done,"

When this short earthly race is run.

—Ulysses Phillips

## Readiness of God to Forgive

(Psalms 86:5)

It seems a good thing for David to feel the Spirit lead him in his writing of this beautiful verse, "For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee." This came from the inspiration of God and filled a need in the heart of David at the same time, since he was assured of the glorious forgiveness of the Lord. David had experienced deep guilt and sorrow for the sin. He had fallen from a moral and spiritual status into the gulf of sorrow and despair. He realized the sheer pain of a soul slain by the breaking of the holy commandments and the eventual separation from God and His love. David had experienced the role of the sinner as he returned to the Father for forgiveness and renewal of fellowship. Not only did David find God ready to forgive, but equally ready to accept him again. David found that the Lord had enough forgiveness for any and all sinners. His mercy and patience are described so graciously as being in a state of plenty or having more grace and mercy than required to share accurate empathy, full sympathy, and bring about total acceptance of the sinner and leave room in the heart of God to allow the person that was



forgiven to grow within the love and framework of God's plenteous mercy.

David not only found a splendid God with whom he could gain genuine empathy and counsel, but also a Lord God who would accept any individual that had fallen from grace on the terms of genuine repentance. He related the fact that the Lord would accept all that call upon Him. The fact that God in the person of Jesus Christ will accept any and all sinners and forgive them is a precious promise that speaks for the continuous process of forgiven persons becoming a part of the Church of God. These forgiven persons comprise the Christians that work to promulgate their claim of forgiveness to the world which needs to know that God cares and will forgive freely.

—Monty Neal

## Forget the Past

The past! Ah, how many regrets there are, how many things have happened which we would gladly recall! But the past is past; no thought, no endeavor of ours can bring it back to us again; it is gone forever. What a load of sorrow we sometimes bear of which we could be relieved (at least, in part) if we could learn to look upon the past as *past*, and know that vain regrets will neither redeem the past, brighten the present, nor help the future.

Are you mourning over the past? Have you made mistakes that have nearly broken your heart, and you feel that life is not worth the living? But ah, it *is* worth living. You can profit by past failures and make a glorious success. No matter what your faults have been, or how badly you have blundered, be thankful that you have now learned a better way, instead of wasting precious time over that which you cannot help. Remember the old adage, "Failures are stepping-stones to success."

Life is short and time is fleeting. All of us have made mistakes, but shall we let them discourage us? Would it not be better to rise with new courage, thank God and our friends for pointing out our defects, and make these lessons a means of a nobler life, greater success, and more glorious victories? Others have failed but through renewed courage have conquered; we, too, though having failed many times can make a success of life and of service to God and can cast around us an influence that will inspire others who have failed to renew their efforts, to hope in God, to forget the past, and take advantage of present opportunities.

*That little word unkindly spoken,  
That tender heart so nearly broken,  
Those loving words we might have said  
To lift a weary, fainting head—  
It was not done, oh, vain regret!  
But can not we the past forget,  
Bravely wipe the tears away,  
And live a better life today?  
Oh, let us rise in strength and power,  
And let no shadow dim the morrow.  
Oh, may we ever courage take  
And just forget each past mistake!*

—A. Tuttle

"Happy is the Christian who can trust God by giving thanks even when everything looks black."

## The Peril of Failure

"Myriads of lives with magnificent possibilities have been utter failures because men and women have not gone promptly to duty at the Divine call. They were intended to fill certain places. God made them for these places and qualified them for them; but when they were summoned to their work they excused themselves on one plea or another, and buried their talents in the earth. Let us train ourselves to obey every call of God, lest in our hesitancy, distrust, or disobedience, we fail of the mission for which we were made, and meet the doom of the useless in God's universe."

How true these words are! Doubtless there are many of God's dear children who are hesitating and doubting concerning some important step the Lord is trying to lead them to take. They long to peer into the future and see just what would be the result should they take such a step, or they desire to wait just a little longer until circumstances are more favorable. Some get self before them instead of Jesus, and as they view this frail specter, which indeed is only weakness and insufficiency unless animated and controlled by the Spirit of God, they decide that they are unable to attempt such a task, and so bury their talent and fail to do God's will, forgetting that Jesus is a tender, loving Shepherd who always goes before and pleads to carry every burden. Thus these fearful, halting ones become dwarfed and disobedient, and God can only leave them to their doom.

"Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Isa. 48:17,18.

—P. Winters

## Roses and Thorns

Just as the rosebush bears both roses and thorns, so life brings its disappointments and its joys. God has made the thorns to grow with the roses, because He would teach us to be careful in obtaining and enjoying these momentary blessings.

What would life be without roses? On the other hand, should we handle them so carefully if their stems were thornless? Life's thorns remind us to be appreciative, by the contrast of pleasure and pain.

Then, while admiring the beauties of the roses, do not become too highly enraptured; bear in mind that among them there are thorns. And when you have been pricked by disappointments, do not become utterly disheartened, but remember that the same thorny bush will, in its season, bear beautiful roses. God has created both: roses to bloom for your encouragement; thorns, lest you should be "exalted above measure."

Your disappointments as well as your joys are for your highest good. His grace is sufficient for you.

—F. W. H.

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