

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



Volume 56, No. 10

56th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

January, 1979

### New Year Purpose—1979

Now through the summer, through the fall  
The present year has rolled  
Into the winter's chilling pall  
A New Year to unfold.

A solemn thought to us it brings:  
The fleetingness of time,  
The dark decay of earthly things—  
A warning seems to chime:

Fear God, O mortal man, and yield  
Thy heart and life to Him;  
Let all thy grief and pain be healed,  
Thine eyes no more to dim.

Rejoice in this, His gospel day,  
The fulness of His grace:  
And walk the high and holy way  
That leads to His embrace.

Look not on earth's delusive charms  
With covetous desire;  
Fall back into His loving arms;  
Let God thy soul inspire.

Make this a year of His delight,  
A year of jubilee;  
Oh, take your stand for truth and right;  
Walk in His liberty.

Be not unwise, but understand  
The perfect will of God;  
Submit to His divine command  
While on this earth you trod.

Let ev'ry year that doth transpire  
Be filled with service true,  
While in thy bosom holy fire  
Preserves thee ever new.

This New Year offers prospects bright  
The future days to guild:  
The vict'ry for the truth and right  
That Christ our Lord hath willed.

—Leslie C. Busbee

### Looking at Eternal Things

The treasures of this world fade away; its pleasures are transitory; its beauties soon decay; all that we see and cherish and love wither at our feet as faded flowers and perish with the using, and we are left alone to mourn our loss. With aching hearts we look back to the joys, the pleasures, and the beautiful things of yesterday. Oh, how many sad things we experience!—how many heartaches, how many woes, how many disappointments, how many partings! We have no sooner gathered life's beautiful things than we lose them again. All this reminds us that all that we see is temporal. The world passes away and all within it, and we must look elsewhere for something to satisfy our longing, weary, burdened souls. And it is best that it should be so; for if these dear ones, these dear things, and these earthly pleasures, were never to decay, then we should never look above this world. But God, in His infinite love for us, bids us look above, where there is eternal joy, everlasting peace, and unending companionship.

*"He would have that world seem brighter,  
Where alone is perfect rest."*

And as our souls look away to heaven and to God, we are lost in admiration of the beautiful things we behold: Heaven, with its streets of gold, its eternal sunshine, its everlasting bliss, its unnumbered hosts of angels and loved ones, the harp and crown of gold, and Jesus our blessed Redeemer seated at the right hand of God waiting for those whom He has purchased by His precious blood. While over the gateway of that beautiful city we read the glad welcome, "WHOSOEVER WILL MAY COME." Oh, then how gladly we turn away from the things of this life! We cry out for the living God, and our longing, fainting souls drink of the things that are eternal. As we surrender ourselves to the arms of our loving heavenly Father, down from the eternal world come streams of joy, of peace, and of glory, that are much deeper, richer, and sweeter than the things of earth; and our souls are lifted to a higher plane, midway between this world and heaven. We then live in a new atmosphere, a new kingdom, and a new world. Then how sweet is life! Oh the sweetness of sitting at the Saviour's feet, learning of Him, listening to the whispers of His love, casting on Him all our care, sorrows, and burdens, filled with His spirit, kept

by His grace, delighting ourselves in His service; comforted, encouraged, strengthened and blest by living in His favor and abiding in His presence! Oh, what peace, what joy, what glory in living in harmony with His blessed will, with all the world behind us and ourselves consecrated to live and die for Him! Oh, how it pays to live for God. 'Tis heaven below; 'tis paradise restored.

Beloved, do you now feel the thrill of love in your bosom as you realize His presence? Is your heart full of His love? Have you an abiding peace? Are you reigning in this life? Is the Word of God sweet to your soul? Have you a satisfying portion?

Oh, how many dear souls go through this life of temptations, trials, and sorrows, without the grace of God. How sad, how dreary, how lonely such a life! Beloved, God wills that you be happy and full of joy, but you must not look to this world for that which will satisfy your hungry soul. Look up. Look at the things that are eternal. Set your affections on things above. Live only with the glory of God and heaven in view, and all your life will be sweet and useful. —W. J. Henry

## Living in the Most Holy Place

Oh, precious saints have you, one and all, entered into the Most Holy place? If so, are you still abiding there? Remember He said, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7. It is the Father's good pleasure to give unto us the kingdom. The apostle Peter wrote, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue." 2 Peter 1:3. When Jesus said, "It is finished," and returned unto the Father, the way into the Most Holy place was opened. "And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." Matt. 27:51.

When the Holy Spirit came to His temple, the Church, the 120 disciples were filled with His Spirit and entered into the Most Holy Place. The great plan of salvation has been working ever since to perfect His saints and to get us ready to enter the portals of Glory when we leave this world, either at death or when He comes to take His Bride to eternal rest. We are told, "To go on unto perfection." To be caught up with Him at His coming, we must be like Him. In order to be like Him we must be overcomers. In each letter written to the seven churches or congregations in chapters two and three of the book of Revelation, the promise of eternal things is "to him that overcometh." To be an overcomer is not easy, because we have the powers of hell to fight. We must be like our brother Paul, and fight a good fight and keep the faith. We cannot do this in our own strength; we must have power from on high to be an overcomer.

Ever since the children of Israel left Egypt, there have been two classes of professed followers of God: those who were the true children of Abraham by birth and the "mixed multitude" who left Egypt to go to the promised land. Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." Without an up-to-date "born again" experience, we cannot please God. We will be of the "mixed multitude," always making trouble in the camp of spiritual Israel.

The true children of God love Him and keep His commandments. The first commandment is, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind." Matt. 22:37. When this commandment is fulfilled in our hearts, we desire to please Him above everything else in this world. The apostle Paul said, "This one thing I do." Dear ones, the one thing that we must be more careful to do than anything else is to please Him in every way possible. If we lose our "first love" we begin to cool off, and lose our desire to do those things which are pleasing in His sight.

Oh, let us all open our hearts to Him who knows all things, and take an inventory of our lives and see to which class we belong! If you love God with all your heart, you will love all His Word, and be glad and rejoice when you hear the truth which reveals that which displeases Him in your life. But if you are a member of the "mixed multitude," you will make excuses and have your own way. True children of God are always glad when they see wherein they can measure up.

By walking in all the "light as he is in the light" and "with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Cor. 3:18), we shall soon travel on through the Holy Place up Mount Zion until we reach that Most Holy Place. For the law of the house is that the top of this Mountain shall be Most Holy unto the Lord. "This is the law of the house; upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house." Ezek. 43:12.

Oh, dear ones, you that are slow to hear, slow to understand, slow to obey: following Jesus, yes, perhaps, but following afar off as Peter did, think of the great mercy and love of God, and of Christ His Son who paid the price that you might live, yes, live forever with Him. Humble yourselves and repent of your stubborn ways, and walk with the pure and holy, and be ready when He calls you home to Glory.

When we break one of God's commandments we sin: "for sin is the transgression of the law." I John 3:4b. We are commanded to "love God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind": to be holy. What God commands us to do, He gives us power to do. We are commanded to abstain from all appearance of evil. If your experience is up-to-date, you will relish, hunger, and thirst for more and more of the Word of God and have an amen in your soul to all the truth.

Dear ones, the transgression of just one of God's commandments, if not dealt with and let remain in the camp of the saints, will spread, and thousands will fall. Read Deut. 17:2-7. "If there be found among you any [just one] . . . that hath wrought wickedness in the sight of the Lord thy God, in transgressing his covenant, . . . then shalt thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, . . . and shalt stone them with stones, till they die."

Just a few days after the children of Israel had received the Old Covenant "the mixt multitude . . . fell a lusting" (Num. 11:4) and brought sin into the camp. This was in the thirteenth century before Christ. God's men was extended to the mixed multitude until the days of Nehemiah, for almost one thousand years. "And a

Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man." Gen. 6:3. He is willing to suffer with us and give us time to wake up and see ourselves, but remember the time is coming when He shall say it is enough.

Remember the parable of the tares and the wheat of Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43. We shall quote verses 39-42, "The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

The time for this to be fulfilled is very near. Oh, take warning! Are you a member of the mixed multitude? Are your life, your actions, the way you dress, your words an offense to those who are living in the Most Holy Place, and to the Lord, whom you profess to serve? Notice the above Scriptures. You do not have to commit iniquity to be cast into the lake of fire. All you need to do is to be an offense to those who love you and are praying for you.

If you belong to the class of the "mixed multitude" and have been born again, you surely must have "left your first love" and today you are not careful to please Him in all things. This sin of losing one's first love has caused more of God's children to backslide than all the other sins combined which have caused man to leave the narrow path. The sin of losing the first love after the wedding day has caused more divorces than all the other failures of married life.

If you do not belong to the class of the "mixed multitude," you will obey Jer. 6:16; "Thus sayeth the Lord, Stand ye in the ways [your ways, God has only one way] and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." Those who belong to the "mixed multitude" will say, "we will not walk therein."

Oh, dear ones, we love you! Our main burden is for those among us who are walking afar off. Oh, come closer to Him who loves you with an everlasting love. Oh, wake up, time is running out; soon it will be too late to repent and do the first works. Surrender your will unto Him. Present your body a living sacrifice. Seek Him with all your hearts before it is too late. We want to meet you in the Glory world.

Your Brother in Him,

—H. P. Huskey

Salvation is the only true adornment: therefore, the one which everyone must seek to obtain and that which God alone can give. This will shine forth with the fruits of the Spirit in true loveliness, and cause us to greatly glorify Him in good works, which come spontaneously from the hidden man of the heart, and make us a diadem of beauty in the sight of God. A heart thus filled with God will have no room, need, nor desire for the vain, worldly, outward adornments.—J. W. Byers

It is your privilege to be full of joy. "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing." "These things have I spoken unto you that my joy might remain in you and that your joy might be full." John 15:11. It is your privilege to "have all joy" and to be "full of joy." The apostle says, "Rejoice always." It is your privilege to rejoice constantly.

—C. E. Orr

## Brotherly Love

The writer to the Hebrews says, "Let brotherly love continue." It begins as soon as a person is born again. I John 3:14 says, "He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." John also says, "We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren"; and in I John 4:7,8, he tells us, "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God, and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." Also verse 20 shows that it is impossible to be saved and not have brotherly love. Charity, which means the love of God, suffereth long and is kind. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

It is well to remember the means God used in getting us to give up sin and error. How in many cases it was some of His children He used, who were filled with the real melting love of God, and we saw they loved us and cared for our souls. We were enabled to put confidence in them, saw they were our real friends, thus they were enabled to lead us into the truth.

Too, it is impossible for the church to prosper in any locality, without brotherly love continuing. Where brotherly love abounds there is no room for coldness or suspicion to stay. Neither can "the accuser of the brethren" be successful in accomplishing his object of getting the brethren to lose confidence in one another, and so breaking the unity of the Spirit. "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." So a person whose heart is filled with brotherly love will not use the tongue in backbiting.

We are told in Matt. 18:15; "If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone." It does not say to go first and tell the church, nor does it say tell the world, but tell him, the one who has trespassed against you. Brotherly love and wisdom are needed in speaking of the faults of others. In the second chapter of Galatians Paul speaks of Peter being worthy to be blamed, but Paul's object in writing to the Galatians was to get them free from desiring to be under the law, to show them the truth of the gospel and to get them to walk in the light of it. He did not speak thus of Peter, only as God was glorified in his making mention of this circumstance. This is far different from merely loving to magnify the faults of others, with a desire to do them an injury. "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor." "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man and able also to bridle the whole body."

"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, pitiful, be courteous."

—C. H. Tubbs

### CRAMPED QUARTERS

There was more room

For Jesus in the manger

Than his manhood found

Later at Jerusalem.

—William Walter De Bolt

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

# FAITH AND VICTORY

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

**Notice to subscribers:** Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your Zip Code number. The post office now charges 25¢ to notify us of each change of address.

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

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, one year .....\$ .35  
Single copy, three years .....\$1.00  
Roll of 4 papers to one address, one year...\$1.00

Write for prices on larger quantities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P.O. Box 518 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044  
Office Phone 282-1479 Home Phone 282-2262

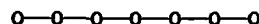
"God usually speaks in a 'still, small voice,' and hence to hear Him one must necessarily come very near to Him. God has a secret place in which He tells His secrets. It is only those who 'dwell in the secret place of the most high' who can know the secrets of the Lord."

# EDITORIALS



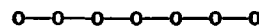
**HAPPY NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS,** and may this year of 1979 hold for you many blessings for soul and body in the service of the Lord!

As the old year of 1978 fades away, we think of the battles and victories in this Christian warfare during the past year and set up another "Ebenezer" stone with the inscription, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." All praise unto Him! As we look toward the dawning of the new year of 1979, we thank God for the victories of the past and believe that He will continue to fight our battles, solve our problems, and guide our souls aright as we commit ourselves into His hands. God's way is always best, so let us ever follow His directions, and remain faithful at our post of duty until we reach that final, glorious haven of rest.

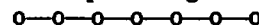


Through the blessings of the Lord during the past year, He has enabled us and our faithful co-workers (eleven in all) to print and mail out many thousands of pages of gospel literature in all directions to this perishing world. Much more literature needs to go out, and as long as the Lord extends time we will endeavor to increase the flow of the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. Pray that the gospel seed will germinate, grow, and produce fruit for the Master in a multitude of hungry hearts over the world. One sows the seed, another waters, but God must give the increase. Let us be faithful workers together with Him and one another.

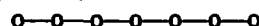
Another shipment of 10,000 pounds of printing paper is scheduled for delivery at the Lord's Print Shop in the month of January, 1979. Pray the Lord to supply every temporal and spiritual need of this literature ministry as we face the unknown and untried future.



This January issue is going to the press and into the mail just prior to, or at the beginning of, the 72nd annual Oklahoma Assembly meeting here in Guthrie on December 22nd. A large attendance from many states is expected if the weather remains favorable, and we surely anticipate the presence and power of God in the preaching of His Word.



At this office there are in stock about 400 different titles of English gospel tracts and a number in Spanish to be sent free in limited quantities for careful and prayerful distribution. Where prices are quoted, they are at cost or below. Write for a free 4-ounce sample to read and pass on, or enclose in your letters. One gospel tract may result in the salvation of many souls.



Many of our readers would like to know the dates of the Church of God campmeetings for the year of 1979 so they can pre-arrange their vacations to attend these meetings. Those who have this in-

formation, please send in the campmeeting dates by Feb. 15, 1979, so we can publish the entire list in the coming March issue.

The date of the next National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, is **July 20th to 29th, 1979**. Watch for other coming campmeeting dates in the March issue.

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

#### Very Profitable Meeting in the South . . .

The Lord graciously granted the privilege again to this writer and his wife Maybelle to attend the Hammond, La., Assembly Meeting during Thanksgiving week. Enroute we visited Bro. Lee Whitley, our longtime friend and brother in the Lord, at Marshall, Texas. That day, Nov. 18, was our 45th wedding anniversary. On the next Sunday morning we enjoyed the worship service and the fellowship of the congregation at Shreveport, La., where Brother Clifford Wilson is the pastor.

The Hammond meeting was well attended by many out-of-state saints and ministers, as well as the local and in-state people. The Word was preached with holy anointing and conviction. Many souls were saved and sanctified, accompanied by much rejoicing and praises to God in the camp. It was an outstanding meeting, and we enjoyed worshipping the Lord together again with the saints in that area. Of course, we also appreciated our stay and visit with our children, grandchildren, and great grandson who live near Hammond.

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

#### Philippine Mission Work Advancing . . .

The gospel work is moving forward in the Islands of the Philippines although the area was hit recently by a terrible typhoon with heavy rain which did great damage. Several thousand gospel tracts were recently printed in the Cebuano language of the Philippines and mailed to Bros. Alberto Jover and Policarpo Encabo for free distribution. These brethren plan to hold a campmeeting there in the near future. Bro. Cel Candelas has a weekly gospel radio broadcast by which he endeavors to reach the people with the gospel. An order for Ilocano language New Testaments has been placed in order to supply the gospel workers with God's Word to distribute to hungry souls who speak that dialect in the Philippines.

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

#### Church of God Guest Home To Open . . .

The opening of the Church Guest Home here at Guthrie, Okla., has been delayed. However, it is now planned to open about Dec. 21st, just prior to the Oklahoma Assembly meeting, with Sis. Mildred (Dolly) Brown as the caretaker until such time that a qualified and concerned Christian couple (husband and wife) is provided. Elderly, able-bodied members of the Church anywhere who desire to reside at the Home or want more information should send their request to the secretary-treasurer, Bro. Bob Sallee, 916 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044, who will refer the requests to the Trustee Board. The Home is still

in need of contributions of living room furniture, single beds, chests of drawers, dressers, washer and electric dryer, and supplies for the kitchen and dining room. Let us co-operate to provide an ideal Christian Home for our able-bodied elderly saints.

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

Word was received that Sister Della Anschultz of Grubbs, Ark., departed this life to be with the Lord on Dec. 16, 1978. She had fought the good fight of faith in her affliction, and the crown is won. May the Lord comfort the relatives and saints in their bereavement.

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

Bro. George Hammond arrived in Guthrie from Wisconsin on Dec. 13th, and has been helping with various maintenance jobs around the shop and office. His labors and concern for all phases of God's work are certainly appreciated.

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

This writer is still standing on God's promise that "with His [Jesus] stripes we are healed." Regardless of symptoms, sight or feelings, I praise the Lord for healing. Please pray that our faith fail not, and that every imposition of the enemy will be defeated.

—Lawrence Pruitt

—————o—————

## In Memorial

**Sister Zenola Ruth Knight**, the daughter of James A. Jones, Sr., and Cordelia R. Philips, was born Dec. 6, 1914, in Wagoner, Okla., and departed this life Nov. 10, 1978, in Akron, Ohio, at the age of 63 years.

In Sept., 1941, she was married to Earl P. Knight who preceded her in death.

Sister Zenola was a loving and devoted mother, sister, grandmother, and a true friend to all who knew her. She accepted the Lord at an early age. In her last testimony she exhorted the saints "to keep the way clear because one never knows when he will be called away." She was a real prayer warrior and bore a burden for lost souls. She served faithfully here in Akron in the kitchen for the campmeetings and other special meetings for more than thirty years, and would often say, "Just doing my duty."

She leaves to mourn their loss: three sons, Kenneth A., Akron, Ohio, Earl Paul, Jr., Burbank, Calif., and William P., Marion, Ohio; four daughters, Cordelia E. Gullledge, Akron, Ohio, Lela R. Hobbs, Rialto, Calif., Maxine D. Browne, and Juanekee J. Fuller, both of Akron, Ohio; two foster daughters, Shirley A. Browne and Juanita M. Browne, both of Akron, Ohio; three brothers, Leonard E. Jones, Los Angeles, Calif., Robert L. Jones, Glendale, Calif., and James Jones, Jr., Akron, Ohio; two sisters, Mrs. Lucy M. Chambliss, and Mrs. Sue R. Jones; a dear sister-in-law, Mrs. Ola C. Jones, all of Akron, Ohio; 20 grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Mart Samons, assisted by others. Interment was in the Mount Peace Cemetery.

**Carl Ray Key**, son of Elihu and Lucy Key, was born August 10, 1898, in Grant County, Indiana, and passed from this life on November 12, 1978, from his home in Springfield, Ohio, at the age of 80 years, three months and two days.

He was united in Marriage on Nov. 15, 1969, to Sis. Nellie Bethel with whom he was living at the time of his death, and was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by Sis. Key and her family, as he was counted a faithful husband, father, and grandfather.

He leaves behind his wife, Sis. Nellie Key; two brothers, Ralph Key of Dayton, Ohio, and Richard Key of Bradford, Ohio; two sisters, Mrs. Hazel Vannatta of Boise City, Okla., and Mrs. Mary Duceka of Dayton, Ohio; one stepbrother, Linn E. Miller of Lebanon, Ohio, and two step sisters, Hazel Weidner and Ethel Miller, both of Dayton, Ohio; four step sons, Edwin, Richard, James Earl, and Larry Bethel; one stepdaughter, Joann Turner, and ten stepgrandchildren.

Bro. Key was a man of God, well known, loved, respected, and appreciated by the saints of God in the Louisiana area; having come into the Hammond-Loranger area in 1936. He was united in marriage in Nov. 1936 to Sis. Katherine Watson (who preceded him in death on Aug. 1st, 1966.) Together they labored as faithful ministers of the gospel, pastoring both at Hammond and Oak Grove congregations for many years. Their lives and labors in the work of the Lord touched many people in these parts, and surrounding areas.

Funeral services were conducted by Sis. LaVern Manuel, Bros. Cecil Carver, Max Williamson and Bob Forbes, with burial in the Oak Grove Church of God Cemetery near Loranger, Louisiana.

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

**Margaret Helen (Benson) Cable** was born January 5, 1926, at Aurora, Missouri, and departed this life December 3, 1978, at Fresno, California, at the age of 51 years, 10 months, and 29 days.

On June 9, 1946, she was united in marriage with Stephen Cable and to this union one daughter was born.

Margaret accepted the Lord as her Saviour and Guide at an early age and kept her eyes on God to the end, living for Him daily, and doing many good works in helping others. She was a loving and devoted daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother.

She is survived by her husband, Stephen Cable; one daughter, Mrs. Violet Watson, and two grandchildren, George and Diane Watson, all of Mehama, Oregon, also her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Benson, of Stayton, Oregon and a number of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the Weddle Funeral Chapel in Stayton, Oregon, by Charles Elwell and Otis Wilson. Interment was in the Fox Valley Cemetery at Lyons, Oregon.

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

**Sister Lettie (Fortner) West**, formerly of Lovington, Ill., departed this life at Terre Haute, Ind., on Dec. 5, 1978, at the age of 94 years. Her husband, James West, died in 1973.

Sister West had served the Lord many years, and her testimony and witness for the Lord has been an inspiration to many people.

Survivors include three sons, three daughters, two brothers, three sisters, and many other relatives.

Funeral services were held in Lovington, Ill., and burial was in the Hampton Cemetery near Sullivan, Illinois.

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

**Sister Mae Bell Jennings** was born on July 28, 1899, in Hickman, Kentucky, and departed this life to be with the Lord on November 9, 1978, in Arkansas City, Kansas, at the age of 78 years.

She was a devout saint of God for many years and faithful to the end. She is survived by one adopted son, two brothers, one sister, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren as well as other relatives.

—Shirley Knight

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

**Sister Vena S. Sell** was born in Compton, Ark., on Aug. 9, 1911, and departed this life from Neosho, Mo. to be with the Lord on Dec. 4, 1978, after a long illness at the age of 67 years.

Sister Sell was a member of the Church of God in Neosho, Mo., and passed away with strong faith and confidence in God.

Survivors include her devoted husband, Bro. Ralph Sell of the home, two daughters, two brothers, six sisters, and many other relatives.

Funeral services were held at the Clark Chapel of Memories, Neosho, Mo., with Bros. Vada McMillian and Austin McMillian officiating. Burial was in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery.

o

#### MEETING REPORT FROM GOULDS, FLA.

The saints at Goulds, Fla., are still giving thanks and praise to God for sending an anointed meeting, messenger, and family our way. The meeting was held in September, 1978. The Lord sent through Bro. Ed Wilson inspiring and challenging messages on the (universal) Church of God. We are still reaping benefits of a sharper, keener vision of the blameless church.

As a part of the body of Christ, we desire your prayers that we keep the standard the way Christ always has it set up in doctrine and principles. All that feel a leading to be in our meeting can pray and look forward, Lord willing, to a spring meeting to be announced later.

—Sis. Aleda Riley, Sec.

o

#### GAZE ON THE FACE OF CHRIST

I have read of a great artist who always kept a number of beautiful gems on his easel—sapphires, emeralds, rubies. When asked the reason, he said that there was a danger of his colors being faded by usage, and his eye getting toned down so that the tints would lose their brilliance. So, he kept his eyes toned up by constantly referring to these original colors that could not fade.

Oh brother, did you know that there is danger of toning down by looking at the things that fade? We must keep our eyes on the things that never change. Let us gaze often into the face of Christ. Let the brilliance of the crucified, but ever-living Christ tone up our vision, intoxicate our whole heart and life; let us never tone down, slow down; never allow the vision to grow dim.

—Unknown

## Prayer Requests



Canada—"My sister, Betty, seems to be worse with arthritis and many nights she can't sleep because of the pain. We are serving God to the best of our knowledge and I believe He will heal her. . . . We covet your prayers." [She also had some unspoken requests]—Agathe Friesen

Mich.—"Thank you for putting the request in the *Faith and Victory* paper for my father's healing. He does feel much better. The Lord has helped him so very much. We are thankful for it and for all the dear ones that have been praying. . . . I would like for you to remember my mother, as she needs a healing touch on her face and ears. She has a sore on her face that won't heal. The one on her foot is healed. Thank the Lord! Her ears really bother her, and she has a hearing problem. We know that Jesus cares and still heals."

—Sis. Olive Gettersson

Miss.—Remember Sis. Ethel Lowery in prayer for a serious nervous condition. She has some other problems that she wants the Lord to work out.

Calif.—"Pray for a sore on Bro. Gene Harmon's neck. It doesn't heal and it is where his shirt collar rubs it. . . . He has nerve chills often and is very frail. He has suffered much, but he is fighting the good fight of faith."

—Sis. Loretta Harmon

Calif.—"If the Lord wills, we plan to open a school in Orland the last of January . . . We have eight children of the saints and eight more who possibly will want to come. Pray for us especially the first six months as that will be the hardest to get started, but we will need prayer all the time."

—Sis. Loretta Harmon

Canada—"I have been suffering for many months with back troubles . . . I have not been to work since September. We are trusting the Lord for complete healing. Please pray for me. . . ."

—Bro. George Schroeder

Calif.—Remember Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbott in prayer. They are both very frail, but Bro. Sam Abbott has special need at this time. They are precious saints of God and have been in the ministry for many years.

There are a number of saints who are in need of prayer. They are fighting the good fight of faith and we deeply appreciate each one. Some might wonder why they are not healed immediately, but God lets His children be tested and tried. They are to be examples before the world in trusting the Lord. How can they trust the Lord for healing if they do not have any affliction? But, oh, the Lord never fails to come! He gives grace to trust and wait until God says it is enough. Draw heavily upon that grace and strength from God.

It was five years ago, in 1973, that most of that year I was severely tested with a number of afflictions upon my body at times. By faith, I went when I could hardly put one foot ahead of the other. I would go to meeting when I didn't have strength to kneel as I couldn't get back up. I could not sing because of the lack of strength. I came to the office and sat at my typewriter when I was very weak and my chest felt like a load was settling down upon it. If I dropped something I could hardly bend over to pick it up. Thank God, He brought me through that year, even though at times it seemed I would die. Oh, how precious it is to know God does heal and does come to our rescue. Today, I can moderately work, can kneel, can sing, can

bend over, etc. Oh, my heart is filled with praises to the Lord! I only know what God has done for me. Others did not know the extent of my need, but God did. Praise be to Him for all He has done for unworthy me. I want to live for Him and glorify His Name. —Sis. Marie Miles



## SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

Dear ones: Greetings of Christian love in the name of Jesus, who gave His life that we may have eternal life.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone who has put forth any effort to help the progress of Spanish literature during the past year, whether it has been actual work, prayers, or support. The Lord bless you every one.

Printed material has reached farther than ever before, and I believe the Lord will help it to reach even to more remote areas this coming year. Keep praying for me that I will be all the Lord would have me to be and that I will be faithful at my post.

Yours for the gleaming of precious souls in Mexico, and all Spanish-speaking countries,

—Sis. Opal Kelly, 919 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Ok. 73044



## REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO

Dear Brethren: I greet you in the holy and precious name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I (Panchita) am not very well, but am trusting in God to heal me. Pray for me.

The work is going forward as we hold to the standard of holiness and love before our enemies and brethren. We are spectacles to the world, but thank God, we have the best and greatest privilege in life, that of serving Him, and being able to participate in the commission of winning souls.

Please pray for two little boys in our congregation. One has been very ill, but can walk a few steps now, and the other one's eyes are swollen shut due to being burned.

We were recently encouraged by a visit from some brethren from California. Pray with us as different ones adorn their houses that they will adorn their lives for the Lord. Pray much for us.

Your brother and sister in the Lord,

—Mayarino and Panchita Escobar

Ap. Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico.



## INTERIOR MEXICO MISSION REPORT

Michoacan, Mexico—Esteemed brethren: We answer your letter that we received. Many thanks for your letters that make us feel your love in the Lord. We know that there is interest in souls here and in all parts.

Thanks to God that He is doing a work among some young people here. There are four who desire to serve God. We desire to have services with them that they may be able to see the Bible truth. Please pray for this request. I desire that the Lord lead me and that His will be done.

I feel that we are living in the last days of this world and the end is getting nearer each day. It was only a few days ago that a man saw the letters that



said, "Christ is coming soon." In these last days there will be great signs of the times. It behooves us each day to hurry more and more with the gospel. This is the burden of my heart. Pray for me.

Your Brother, —Irineo Rama and family

### GOSPEL MISSION TO WEST GERMANY

Bro. C. C. Carver of Louisiana and Bro. Alfons Oppel of Ontario, Canada, arrived by plane in Frankfurt, West Germany, on Dec. 11th. They went to the home of Bro. Ernst Herter who, along with others in that country, have been inquiring for the old-time truth of the Church of God Restoration. Bro. Carver reported to Sister Carver by phone that they were having good services every night with about thirty persons in attendance. Lord willing, Bro. Carver will return to Houston, Texas, on Wednesday, Dec. 20, on his way to his home at Jena, La. Perhaps he will be at the Guthrie assembly meeting and make a further report on his mission to Germany.

### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (Nov. 20)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, dear saints in the Print Shop, in Guthrie church and everywhere:

We send our loving greetings to all of you again in the glorious name of Jesus Christ, the Root of David, the Rose of Sharon, and the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.

Thank you very much for your kind letter dated Nov. 1, 1978, and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude.

By the grace of God the Lord's work here is marching on to victory, and the workers are doing all right under the wings of God, the Almighty. After a few days' break, the heavy rain started again in South India and it has continued day and night for the last two weeks, making flood calamities with much destruction and loss. We have not seen such a rain in the last ten years. We had considerable loss in our rice fields. Immediate prayers are requested of the saints for the refugees. The rain ended, and at present there is no rain.

God gave me a chance to visit the saints at Cherambadi and Uppatti which are in the hill areas about 500 miles from my home. They speak the Tamil language. Bro. Mathunni also joined me to visit those places. The Brother who works in that area interpreted for us from Malayalam to Tamil. They are a group of wonderful saints with really fervent and earnest spirit, but they don't have a suitable place to assemble and now they assemble in a very small hut. It is a very sad condition. If the saints everywhere would agree in prayer, surely God will open a way for a suitable chapel in that locality.

Our general campmeeting at Karikkom is scheduled to begin on Jan. 10, 1979, and continue five days on the new campground. We expect many spiritual blessings this time, and need your prayers and co-operation. Last year we were blessed with the presence of Bro. Richard Madden in our meeting. We wish to have a few saints from America every year in our campmeetings.

Persecutions have already started in north India against the gospel workers. The doors for the gospel are being closed in several states in North India. The government is trying to take steps by law to prevent the conversion of the Hindus to Christianity. Yet we know that the God of Daniel never fails. Your prayers are our strength. Let us exchange them.

Yours in His service,

—John Varghese

### NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (Dec. 6)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints of God everywhere: Greetings in the healing name of Jesus—the Great Physician. All glory and honor unto Him forever and ever. Amen!

We thank you for your letter dated Nov. 1, 1978, and highly appreciate your regular communications with us, which provide more of spiritual link than physical, arising from words of inspiration and encouragement contained in them.

The ministers' meeting was successfully held here in the Island town of Tombia, and lasted for four days of profitable deliberations. All by it renewed their pledge to insure steady adhesion to the Word of God, which assures us of ultimate "rightness" of all things and that all things indeed worketh together for good.

Ministers of disgrace will be renounced. Achan's sin disgraced Israel at the peak of their victories for God (Joshua 7:1-26). God will not condone sin in His people at any time. Sin is an individual thing, but it often does immense collective damage. Sin is treason against God, and this is why it brings such far-reaching results.

All the ministers, without exception, are determined to give the work of the Lord their first priority and to occupy the useful part of their time regardless of obstacles. Strange but true, tragedy, tension, and trials bring out the best in righteous men. Strange words appear in Psa. 119, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes." (verse 75). These are not just the mere words of an uninvolved poet, but the heart-throbs of a man longing for God's nearness. Paul pleaded, "That I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death." Phil. 3:10. The way of the cross leads to Glory. Nation-wide evangelization of Nigeria has been upheld as an urgent task that must be embarked upon and will be scheduled to proceed from state to state. The National Campmeeting will be held at Abbi, Bendel State, beginning Jan. 17, 1979.

The 52nd birthday of this writer falls due on Jan. 4, 1979. I request the saints' prayers for more years of usefulness in the service of our great Master.

Yours in Him,

—Titus U. E. Enu

### NIGERIAN TRIP CANCELLED

Okla. (Dec. 13)—Dear saints everywhere: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus.

In regard to my planned trip to Nigeria, I have been advised not to come to Nigeria at this time. A future trip has been suggested. Some things are beyond our control, so I have committed this matter into the hands of God. As I write this, I am reminded of the Scripture in Rom. 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for



good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

I desire your prayers as I yield myself into His service.  
—Sister Dorothy Keiser

## From the Mail Box . . .

Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, Sis. Miles, and saints everywhere: I am happy in the Lord and encouraged to go on. I surely do love Him with all my heart and want to please Him with my life. I love all the saints and the truth for which they stand. I endorse the truth with all my heart. You are doing a good work for God, and in my small way, I want to be a part of it. . . . Pray for us as we pray for all of you.

—Lela Stewart

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

Ill.—I surely enjoy reading your good *Faith and Victory* paper. I just read it over and over, because it does feed my soul. It is Bible truth. May God bless you much in your work for God and the salvation of souls. Every issue of your paper seems better to me. . . .

Pray much for Wife and me. Wife is about in the same condition with Parkinson's disease. I believe her voice is a little stronger than it was, and she is better in some other ways than she was in the spring, for which I surely thank God. At that time she couldn't use her right leg for three weeks. I had to carry her. Her voice also quit almost completely and her kidneys quit on her. God has answered prayer for all these things, and she is a lot better in these ways, but otherwise she is the same and in a crippled condition. God is able, I know, to heal her. Please pray for her and me that God will give me strength to take care of her.

—Curtis McEwen

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

Wisc.—Dear Sis. Miles: Greetings in the name of our Lord. He is a place of refuge in these times. Without Him we would sink.

Thank you for your letter and your prayers. May God bless you richly for the services you are doing.

Enclosed is a check to use in any way you see fit. Also please send me six books of *The Key to Peace*.

—Gertrude Monette

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

Minn.—Dear Friends: I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper, so keep on sending it. . . .

Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Wickland

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

Ga.—I am enclosing this small check in memory of my mother and father, Emanuel and O. K. Myers, who were saints for many years. My father preached the gospel in northwestern Kansas, in the pioneer days. He traveled around holding meetings until his family became so large he had to give up traveling. He was a cousin of Coral a birth there would be neither a death nor a resurrection.) Publishing House at the time of her death. I hope this will help a little in your good work.

—Ruth (Myers) Short

Words that are gathered in hours of silence, burst forth in strength and beauty; but where there is a constant flow of speech, the words run down into weakness. Alas! how much shallowness there is in much of the present day conversation!

—C. E. Orr

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Mo.—Dear ones: "The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him." Psa. 103:17.

I can certainly testify of the Lord's mercy. About eighteen months ago I began to have trouble with what I supposed was a pinched nerve. It caused me much trouble with my right leg. It continually got worse until I had to be in bed a lot of the time for the last few months. It would get so very painful and become so numb that I could only be up for about ten or fifteen minutes. It was hard to see someone else having to wait on my family and me. But the Lord had lots to teach me.

About three weeks ago, the Lord definitely gave me a touch, and I've been getting around better every day. It's been almost more than I can take in to see how the Lord can change things so completely.

I certainly do appreciate everyone's concern, love and prayers that have been shown to us during this time. Words can never express the love of God and the love of His family. We desire to live faithful to the end.

—Janice Johnston

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

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: I am enclosing a money order to be used wherever needed. I know paper is high priced; in fact, there is nothing we can buy cheaply anymore. I thank God for supplying my needs. He will never fail His children.

The Word of God grows sweeter everyday. I was privileged to attend a campmeeting in Louisiana and one in Ohio this past summer, and the messages meant much to me. Surely the end of time is getting near. Sin is out in the open more than ever before.

Remember me in body. I am having some trouble with my heart again. May God bless all of His saints there.

—Sis. Iva Brenner

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

Va.—Dear Sis. Miles: It's so wonderful to be a Christian, which means to be "Christlike." I am so thankful that He made it possible for us to be like Him. I'm thankful for His full-time blessings that He pours out upon us daily. "What a mighty God we serve!"

I'm praying much for all of you there at the publishing house, realizing you are doing things for the Lord and His cause. I wish I were able to do more, but the least thing we do for Jesus will be precious in His sight.

Here is my gift for Christ's birthday. You are free to use it there, or some other place where there is a need. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone would realize we are celebrating our Saviour's birthday this time of year and give the gift in money for missions to spread the truth?

Please continue to remember me in your prayers. I need spiritual and physical help. I know God is able, so I'm trusting in Him, and in Him alone without taking any medicine of any kind.

We saints realize we are living in the last days, and what we do we must do it quickly.

—Frances Branch

(Editor's note: We do not know the exact date that Jesus Christ was born, but we know it was one day of

the year. We should rejoice about His birth, for without a birth there would be no death nor a resurrection.)

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

Mo.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and saints of God abroad. Greetings in the name of Him who is "the same yesterday, and today, and forever." I am still saved, sanctified, and satisfied.

I want to acknowledge, with thankfulness and gratitude, the blessings of healing recently of a severe kidney stone attack which lasted three days and nights. It left me weak and sore, but it made me feel good to be able to trust the Lord again. I've been trusting Him without medication for almost twenty-four years, and He has never failed me yet. Surely, healing is the "children's bread." We appreciated the prayers of the saints in this time of need.

We are still remembering you, Bro. Lawrence, in our daily prayers. His delays are not denials, but opportunities for Him to produce greater miracles in our lives.

We have many burdens for souls and for the furtherance of the gospel. Do pray with us. The church is facing critical times, and it behooves us to have on the whole armour of God to be able to stand. A consecrated life has been able to withstand many difficult and perilous times of the past, and it will work the same today.

Pray for the work here in Myrtle, that much good will be accomplished.

—Bro. Donald and Sis. Lois Sharp and family

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

Okla.—Dear Sis. Marie and workers: Will you please pray for my healing of ulcerative colitis? I believe in your prayers and the work you are doing. I know God is still hearing and answering prayers.

I sent you a request a year ago for my stomach, and the Lord touched me, for which I thank and praise Him. I know He will help me in the problem I am having at this time. I also have a sister that needs prayer for leukemia.

—Mrs. Virgil Patton

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

Ill.—Dear saints: Greetings to you in Jesus' name. "For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for?" Deut. 4:7.

This was such an encouraging Scripture to me when I was so very sick and many of you were praying for me. God has surely touched me in by body, encouraged my soul, and comforted me so very sweetly when I lost my son. What He will do for me, he will do for any one who trusts Him. "Tribulation worketh patience." Rom. 5:3.

I don't know what was wrong with me for about eight months, but one thing my lungs were nearly closed. I could breathe freely a little—beyond that they just would not expand. The muscles felt paralyzed. I lost weight until I shocked people who knew me and hadn't seen me for a while. About three months ago, God just took it all away. I could breathe all the way. It was such a joy, I just sit sometimes, breathe and enjoy it and praise the Lord with every long, deep breath! I have gained ten pounds, feel fine and like myself again.

Indeed, I learned many precious lessons. I appreciate the love and care of the saints more than ever. I can

never repay the saints nor my God except by being true and pleasing to Him the rest of my days. "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:14,15. Thank you every one for your prayers.

—Vivian McClain

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

Mo.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Maybelle: Greetings of Christian love. I hope and trust all is going well with all of you there at the Faith Publishing House as your labors of love abound toward God and His church. I want to say we do appreciate your work of faith and labor of love and for what it means to God's people everywhere.

We want to thank God for His dealings with us and for the victory He gives us in our souls through His precious name. Our faith has been increased in Him.

The Lord blessed us with a short but profitable gospel meeting which began on Nov. 9th and ended Sunday night, the 12th. The Lord burdened Sister Margie Saltee of Dayton, Ohio, to come and hold the meeting. Much good was accomplished, and we were all drawn closer to the Lord. The faith of all of us was tested when little Melisa Doolittle was hurt so badly. But we are thankful for what the Lord has done and is doing for her. We trust that she will soon be well again. I was made to behold the love and care that the saints have one to another, as they came so far to comfort and show their concern for Melisa, Bro. Melvin and Sister Elaine Doolittle. May the Lord bless them all.

Remember us in your prayers.

—Bro. and Sister T. V. McMillian

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

Texas—Dear Sis. Marie: I received your letter and the handkerchief that all of you anointed and prayed over for my daughter-in-law. Thank you all so much for your prayers. She came by the other night and said her back was much better and that her asthma was better, too. She was so happy that you all anointed the handkerchief and prayed for her. . . . She was really wanting all of you to pray for her after I told her how God had healed our grandson's face after all of you prayed for him. . . .

May God bless each of you. My husband's nerves are still awfully bad, so please keep praying for him.

—Louise Strickland

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

Canada—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and co-workers: We are still loving the Lord and we are living for Him. We like to see the work of the Lord progressing.

We enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper very much. . . . May the good Lord bless everyone of you faithful workers in the Print Shop, on the mission field, and all the dear saints everywhere.

The Lord added some souls to the Church of God here in Canada, and we believe there will be more coming. . . . Pray for me that I will do all the Lord is requiring on my part that numbers of souls will be reached.

Dear ones, I have been suffering for many months with back troubles, but the Lord is giving me enough grace and some help. I have not been to work since September. We are trusting the Lord fully for healing. Please pray for me.

Bro. C. Carver and Bro. A. Oppel are in Germany now. We can all pray for the success of their mission. The Lord wants a true Church of God in Germany. Bro. R. Mueller of Edmonton, Canada, is doing a good work for the German people. Bro. Curtis Williams came to Ontario at the end of summer and held good meetings. Too bad we don't see other preachers coming to Canada. We love every one, and always have an open house. We would like to come to your Christmas meeting, but we have to say the Lord's will be done.

Pray for us that we will always prove faithful to the One who has done so much for us.

In Christian love, —George and Gertrude Schroeder

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

Md.—Sister Marie and all the staff: I am thankful to be alive. I still would be thankful to go Home, but His time is not my time, yet I am looking for Him at any time. If He says "stay" until He comes, that is the time.

I am enjoying the *Faith and Victory* more and more. May God bless every one who has anything to do with this paper.

Mrs. Hicks called me and said she had her pastor to read her *Faith and Victory* paper. He had his secretary to get every family's name and address in his congregation. He is going to send this paper instead of a calendar. . . .

Yours in Christ,

—Mrs. Sallie Gaither

o

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** Please explain I Cor. 3:1 and Romans 8:6. How can these two Scriptures be harmonized?

**Answer:** Let us first insert these texts in full. I Cor. 3:1 reads thus, "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ." Romans 8:6,7 reads thus, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." The thought in the mind of the questioner seems to be "How could people be brethren and babes in Christ and still be carnal when it is plainly stated in Rom. 8:6 that to be carnally minded is death?"

I will say at the first that this is a fair question and a good one and I will do my utmost under God to answer it as clearly and as understandably as is possible for me in my own limited understanding.

We will first consider the CARNAL MIND as mentioned in Rom. 8:6,7. Matthew Henry says of it "(1) It is death. It is spiritual death, the certain way to eternal death. It is the death of the soul for it is its alienation from God, in union and communion with whom the life of the soul consists. (2) It is enmity to God, and this is worse than the first. The former speaks the carnal sinner a dead man, which is bad; but this speaks him a devil of a man. It is not only an enemy but enmity itself. It is not only the alienation of the soul from God, but the opposition of the soul against God; it rebels against His authority, thwarts

His design, opposes His interest, spits in His face, spurns at His bowels. Can there be a greater enmity? An enemy may be reconciled, but enmity can not." End of quote.

Let us look a little closer at this carnal MIND. First of all, bear in mind that it is the carnal MIND that is under consideration. Confusing the carnal MIND with the carnal NATURE or native depravity has led some to a conclusion which has fed error rather than truth and that one who possessed this carnal mind could not live a justified life before God, free from committing sin, because the Bible said that the carnal mind was not subject to the law of God and could not be. They conclude that the carnal nature is removed in justification because one could not live justified with it because it was not subject to the law of God. This mixture of identification leads to confusion and error in the light of all the general tenor of Scripture.

"Carnal" is used in the Scriptures in contradistinction to "Spiritual" and pertains to the things of the flesh in contradistinction to the things of the spirit. The dictionary *carnal* is defined as "Of or pertaining to the body as the seat of appetites. Fleshly. Lacking spirituality, unregenerate, worldly." In Romans 8:6 "To be carnally minded" the margin says, "Minding of the flesh." Therefore the carnal MIND would have reference to the thoughts, plans, schemes, connivings and meditations of the mind for ways and means to satisfy the desires of the flesh.

Eccl. 7:29 says, "God made man upright but he sought out many inventions."

First of all this text carries the thought that man's inventions have off-set his uprightness and led him away from God. *Invention* is defined as a "fabrication of the imagination—a device, contrivance or the like originated after study and experiment." Again *invent* is defined as: "To fabricate mentally—create or devise in the imagination." Thus we see that in this text man's inventions would refer to his studying and experimenting, creating and devising in his imaginations and fabricating mentally (in his mind) devices and ways and means to glorify himself and satisfy the desires of his flesh (natural man).

Lest we overlook some of the emphasis of this, let us go a little farther with it. *Invention* is defined as a "fabrication of the imagination." But *imagination* is defined as "a scheme, plot or project, especially of evil—a mental image—a creation of the mind." In Genesis 6:5 it says that God saw that "every imagination [creations of men's minds] of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." In other words, men were continually creating in their minds schemes, plots, and projects of evil to satisfy the desires of their flesh according to their depraved natures.

Also the word *Imagine* is defined as "To form a mental picture of—to produce by the imagination; to contrive in purpose, to scheme; to fancy, think, suppose." One of the definitions of the word *imagine* is "to fancy" and *fancy* is defined as "the object of one's interest." Projecting this thought into the text of Gen. 6:5, it indicates that these people were primarily interested in evil and in devising ways and means to execute their evil plots, plans, and schemes.

In Psalms 36:4, speaking of the wicked (vs. 1) it says "He deviseth mischief upon his bed. . . ." Again speaking of the wicked in Prov. 6:14 it says, ". . . he deviseth mischief continually. . . ." In these texts and several more it speaks of **DEVISING** mischief. Cruden's Concordance says that in the Scriptures *mischief* is very frequently used to denote wickedness and iniquity. *Devise* is defined as "to form in the mind by new combination of ideas. Invent, contrive, to plan for." Further, *contrive* is defined as "to devise, plan, to form schemes or designs." In other words, this makes it plain that those who devised mischief were planning, scheming, designing, and seeking even by new ideas in their minds how to accomplish their evil, fleshly desires.

Now all of this shows the disposition of the carnal MIND; that it is continually inventing, fabricating, imagining, studying, experimenting, creating, devising, scheming, plotting, contriving, purposing, etc. for projects of evil and fleshly indulgency. Of course, such a mind would produce spiritual death and would be enmity against God and would not and could not be subject to the law of God and no person could be a child of God and be governed by such a mind. Let me emphasize that it is the carnal mind under consideration and not the carnal nature—native depravity. There is a difference.

The term *native depravity* indicates a depravity of nature at birth. Then it is something in the nature of the infant child. "The Scriptures conclude something about sin being hereditary, a depravity of nature to be handed down through the generations of mankind from the original parent." Romans 5:12-17 declares all men to be under the dismal sway of sin and further proves that they are thus affected because of one man and his sin and also declares that one man to be Adam who was the royal head of the human family. This could not be true unless there is something hereditary about sin.

For a thing to be hereditary it must be inherent in a child at birth and not something acquired later on in life. Hence; this depravity of nature must be in the infant child at birth. I believe that in general we would all agree with this. But the carnal mind could not be existent in an infant child at birth because he would not be capable of exercising his mind to invent, study, fabricate, imagine, scheme, plot, purpose and create projects of evil and fleshly indulgence. Thus we see that the carnal mind could not possibly be identical with the carnal nature but is a product of it and is acquired by those who are more advanced and developed in capacity and ability and established in the practices of carnal, fleshly desires and is therefore more attached to the actual fleshly life than to the nature only.

Col. 2:18 mentions man as "vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind." "Fleshly mind" and "Carnal mind" are one and the same thing and belong to the fleshly life. When one puts off the deeds or works of the flesh which are cataloged in a general way in Gal. 5:19-21 and repents of his sins and, through faith in Christ, is saved (born again) and receives the Christ life into his soul which is called "Newness of life" in Rom. 6:4; he also receives a renewing in the spirit of his mind (Eph. 4:23). In other words, the disposition and tendencies of his mind are changed to conform to the change in his heart and life. Therefore; the mind of one who is saved is not scheming,

planning, plotting and inventing projects for satisfying fleshly desires, but is rather thinking, planning, and meditating on ways and means whereby he may maintain and improve his spiritual life and better please God and may have more time and opportunity to engage in His service.

In this 8th chapter of Romans, Paul is pointing up a line of distinction between the flesh and spirit and in the course of the discussion deals with the fleshly or carnal mind and the spiritual mind. In fact, the major portion of the Epistle to the Romans is dealing with such distinctions and opposites—law and grace, Jews versus Gentiles, the works of the law versus faith in Christ, flesh and spirit, etc. These people are not charged with having or manifesting a carnal mind but are just admonished or warned of the consequences of following such a mind. In fact, we would judge from this epistle that in the main thought the Church of God at Rome was quite spiritual, prosperous and thriving.

In the 3rd chapter of I Cor. the case is different. No mention is made here of a carnal mind but the church at Corinth is complained against and is definitely charged with being carnal. However; Paul addressed them as "Brethren" and as "Babes in Christ," and it is evident that they were alive and could eat and could be fed because Paul said he was feeding them with milk and not meat. This would be true of all babes. In their baby state they could not digest solid food and Paul complained of these folks at Corinth that they were not able to bear meat (the strong, deep truths of the gospel) but must still have milk (the very simple, elementary truths and instructions of Christian living).

These folks were not charged with being activated by the carnal mind (scheming, imagining, contriving, devising, and dreaming up ways to satisfy the fleshly desires and appetites). Had this been the case, they could not have been in Christ at all and would have had no life at all and no ability to even handle mind. Their situation was that they were all new converts to the Christian faith and were in a baby state in their Christian experience, and had no degree of advancement in the things of God and had not learned the ways of God and how Christians behave. These folks were still possessed of the native depravity of mankind perhaps without even knowing it, or anything about the need of entire sanctification which eradicates that principle. Perhaps they did not even know they were supposed to resist such tendencies as they were manifesting here and did not know what was prompting them and they were just behaving like natural men behave. However, it was not the satisfaction of evil and sinful pleasures and lusts of the flesh they were seeking after here, but just to have their own way and likes which is the predominant characteristic of the carnal nature or native depravity. The extent of the thing manifested here was that they became activated by a party spirit and preference of preachers and continued in it to the point of factions and divisions.

We may condemn them for that and certainly they should not be commended for it because it was wrong and still is wrong today. Let us not overlook the fact that there are not just a few among us today who are well instructed in the truths of justification and sanctification and how saints should behave themselves and be in unity and be one in Christ Jesus and in all the

truths of the gospel who are guilty of this same thing and have to have their own way and still profess to be saved and sanctified. Some who contend that these folks could not possibly be saved at all on this account are guilty of the same thing, too, and tear the body of Christ in sunder because the saints do not accept their position.

Let us look well at these folks. True they did not behave themselves as more mature saints would, because they were not more mature than they were and were not established in the ways of the Lord. There were many irregularities in that Corinthian church. There is much reproof and even some rebuke given them for their errors throughout the first epistle Paul wrote to them. It becomes evidently certain that these people had no evil intent or purpose and were not controlled by a carnal mind which was inventing, contriving, imagining, planning, plotting, purposing to discover ways and means to satisfy the desires of the flesh. It is evident and clear, I say, because when Paul had written them and reproved them for their errors and irregularities, they accepted that and moved up and measured up and in Paul's second Epistle to them, he commended them and told them in chapter 7, verse 11 "In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter." This would certainly prove that those folks were intent upon growing spiritually, advancing, and increasing in the things of God which could never be true of people dominated by the carnal mind.

## HELP WANTED!

To the saints scattered abroad in Christ, greetings: I have a burden on my heart concerning a very important phase of God's work. On a recent trip a dear older brother minister and I were discussing a need for more up-to-date articles written by well-qualified (spiritually), anointed writers. We appreciate what the old-time ministers did and wrote, and I wouldn't in any way want to detract from their valuable writings. However, they didn't face a world like we do today. Some prophecies have been fulfilled of which they had no knowledge.

We, the saints of God, are not looking for any so-called new light. But we do have more light. More light always adds to old light. It never detracts from what God has already given. While we're not open for what some call new light, we do have more understanding of things like Communism and world conditions.

We need more in-depth, well-defined articles on present day problems and sins, written by ministers who are meeting and working with today's complicated situations.

The young people are in desperate need of counsel and instruction on how to cope with such things as: estranged husbands and wives, Christian living for single divorced people whose mates have forsaken them, articles on young mothers staying home and rearing their children, the evils of television, rock music, football and all worldly sports, carnivals, circuses, fairs, rodeos, uncontrolled radio, dancing, dating sinners, smoking anything, drinking, doping, sniffing, mixed bathing, worldly dress, joking, and hot-rodding. Sometimes we don't take time enough to

explain the reasons why we teach against such things, and just expect people to see all the evils themselves. We need to preach against television, and also need to point out our reasonings behind it. We're facing a world that is trying to rationalize homosexuality, adultery, fornication, evil communications, nakedness, vulgarity, profanity, witchcraft, false churches, and so on.

We need to lift up our voices like a trumpet, cry aloud and spare not, and show people their transgressions.

The Word of God spiritually applied to the English language will knock down every prop the devil puts up for sin. Praise the Lord!

Let us have a vision of the importance of using our gifts of writing, expounding, and exposing today's devil in a very public way through the printed page. I'm sure Bro. Lawrence Pruitt would appreciate more anointed articles for the paper. Teacher, preacher, and worker, can you say, "Lord, here am I, use me?"

Your servant,

—Tom Melot

## Result of Obedience

"Have faith in God." Mark 11:2. From these words of Jesus, we learn that it is a necessity to have faith, since we are commanded to have it. A good reason for this is, it is impossible to please God without faith. Heb. 11:6. In Heb. 11 our attention is called to some of the Old Testament accounts of those who had faith in God, one of which we will notice. "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days." Verse 30. The walled city of Jericho lay before the children of Israel as a barrier to their progress through the land of Canaan. God told Joshua how it was to be taken. Josh. 6:2-5. Joshua told the people the way God wanted them to take the apparently impregnable city before them. Verse 6,7. To those who know not God, the plan of besieging it would naturally appear ridiculous; but it was the Word of God, and that was enough for those who were the Lord's. No doubt, those who were in the city scoffed at those humble followers of the Word of God; but they didn't flinch as they walked once a day around that strong walled city, for six days. The seventh day dawned, and with it came the order to march around Jericho. They marched around the great city six times. All they had done hitherto was to march around the city amid the blasts of seven rams' horns in the hands of as many priests. They had perfectly fulfilled the conditions and requirements of God so far; but they had to go once more around the city. As yet not one stone in that great high wall had even trembled, and if they had not gone any further, that wall would not have fallen. Many modern professors of faith would have said the walls were not going to fall; but not so with them. They started around the seventh, and last time. This time they were to receive a command to shout, while the rams' horns were blowing a long blast. The command came. They shouted. Did the wall come down? Yes; verse 20 says it fell down flat. God had said for them to do what they did, and it would fall. They perfectly obeyed the command of God, and the wall had to come down, for it was impossible for God to lie.

God is the same today, and when we trustingly fulfill the requirements of the Word of God, we will realize the truth of this saying: "Whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." 1st John 3:22.

—John C. Blaney

## There at the Right Time



The carry-out boy was taking sacks of groceries to a car in the market parking lot, when he noticed a woman driving out of the lot with a bundle on top of her car. The boy set his sacks down, ran after the car and caught the bundle just as it started sliding off the top. In this bundle was a baby in a cradle. The boy later told about it and said, "I was there at the right time. This has caused me to be more alert to things around me."

When I heard this short newscast, I thought to myself, "Oh, Lord, let me always be there at the right time to be a help, to receive a blessing, or to hear your voice." Then I thought of Elijah after he had told King Ahab that there would be neither dew nor rain. God told him where to hide by the brook Cherith, as He had "commanded the ravens to feed thee there." The ravens did not look for Elijah at any other place, but there at the brook Cherith. He was there at the right time to receive food in the land of famine, which was a blessing from heaven. Then we read that he was "there" when "the brook dried up." He was "there" when trouble came to test him. He did not leave there, until he heard the voice of God speaking to him. If he had left, he would have missed the voice of God directing him. Elijah didn't try to find another way to get food or another place to go, but he stayed there. The same God who gave him the blessing could help him in time of trouble. His faith was strong in God to take care of every situation. But soon "the word of the Lord came unto him" telling him where to go. Now we find him at the gate of the city of Zarephath, where God had commanded him to be. God had said that He would have a "widow woman there to sustain thee." The widow woman was a woman of faith. She believed in God. She was there at the right time. The Bible tells us that Elijah beheld a "widow woman there gathering sticks" at the gate of the city. Elijah was sustained through the famine, as well as the widow woman and her son, because God said, "The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth." I Kings 17:14.

Oh, may God help us to be "there" at the right time; there to hear the voice of God; there to be blessed, and there to be a help to others! How precious it is to be directed by the voice of God! He will lead us if we will listen and be sensitive to His bidding. But if we fail to obey or listen, that voice becomes fainter, and soon we do not hear it, as the cares of life crowd out the voice of God.

Jesus was there at the River Jordan where John was baptizing. He was there when the Spirit of God descended like a dove, and lighted upon him. This was a proof to John that He was truly the Messiah, or the Christ, that was to come to die for the sins of the world. (John 1:32) Jesus was there when God spoke out of

heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt. 3:15-17.

We read, "And immediately the spirit driveth him [Jesus] into the wilderness." Mark 1:12. When we are in trouble, we can look for victory over it, but when we have victory, or things are going well, we need to look for problems. When we are on the mountain top we have to go through the valley to get to the other mountain as we make our way through life toward our eternal abode. So we notice that "immediately" after Jesus was blessed and heard the voice of His Father, He was put through a severe test for forty days. The angels found Jesus there when "the devil leaveth him" and the "angels came and ministered unto him." Isn't it the desire of your heart to be "there at the right time"? (Matt. 4:1-11).

Do we want to be where Jesus is? Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt. 18:20. If we miss a blessing in the services where God's children are gathered, it is because we are looking around too much at others, letting our minds dwell on material things, or we are not looking to God to bless us through His Word. Jesus is there "in the midst" of His children. Maybe we are not prayed up before we come to services, or we might be behind on our praises to the Lord. But if we are there, He will be there in the midst of His children.

Oh, we want to be faithful to the end. Jesus has said, "I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3. We want to be in that prepared place for us. For "there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever." Rev. 22:5. Amen, come, Lord Jesus.

—Sis. Marie Miles

## No Secrets From Mother



The moment a girl keeps a secret from her mother, or has received a letter she dare not let her mother read, or has a friend of whom her mother does not know, she is in danger. A secret is not a good thing for a girl to have. The fewer the secrets that lie in the hearts of women the better. It is almost a test of purity. She who has none of her own, is best and happiest.

In girlhood, hide nothing from your mother: do nothing that if discovered by your father would make you blush. Have no mysteries whatever. Tell those about you where you go and what you do. Those who have the right to know, we mean of course. The girl who frankly says to her mother, "I have been there. I met So-and-So. Such and such remarks were made, and this and that was done," will be certain of receiving good advice and sympathy. If all was right, no fault will be found. If the mother knows, out of great experience, that something was improper or unsuitable she will, if she is a good mother, kindly advise against its repetition.

It is when mothers discover that their girls are hiding things from them, that they rebuke them. Innocent faults are always pardoned by a kind parent. You may not know, girls, just what is right, or just what is wrong yet. You can not be blamed for making mistakes; but you will not be likely to do anything so very wrong if you keep no secrets from your mother. —Selected



## Evils of Church-Joining



Strange indeed, to a great many people it will appear a shocking or incredible thing to have it said that church-joining is an evil. The plain fact in the case is that probably no greater evil exists in respect to denominational practices than the one outstanding fact of church-joining as it is known today. Let me hurriedly make myself clear: church-joining is, indeed, the great evil it is because it is now, and ever has been, Satan's prime means—most powerful credential in perpetuating divisions among God's people (and I state "among God's people" because I am not quite so naive as to suppose that any feeble message of mine would ever have the slightest effect in so righteously motivating the general rank and file of sectarian's adherents as to turn them away from this pernicious influence of the anti-Christ. These are the servants of the "beast." They bear his "mark," and they will continue to work feverishly to maintain the status quo within their ranks).

It is common knowledge that proselyting is a well used tool among our numerous sects. Although, in some quarters, this may be contradicted with some heat, the general practice is too apparent however, to be denied. The hope is that the individual, be he saint or sinner, will join "us." Join us, they say, and become a part of our separated fellowship and you can take part in all of the benefits of the church and participate in its functions. Otherwise, we will be glad to have you warm a seat in the pew and we will accept your contributions to our support. This type of attitude, though kindly and charitable enough in itself, is exactly the type of welcome and invitation you might expect to receive when visiting any private lodge. This certainly reminds one of the proselyting Jewish sects in Jesus' time. Jesus said of them that they compassed sea and land to gain one proselyte (Matt. 23:13). In His reprimand to them, He called them "Pharisees, hypocrites" and said, "Ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." Credit must be given to this type of church leader for "they have a zeal of God," which is admirable enough in itself though, as Paul remarks, "but not according to knowledge." Rom. 10:2.

By continually adding members, the perpetuity of the denomination is maintained, and the violation of God's Word is sustained, for when Paul stated in 1st Cor. 12:25 "that there should be no schism in the body," he was merely proclaiming an undeviating trend of the whole gospel. He was presenting sectism as sin and placing responsibility upon every blood-washed, born-again child of the "Kingdom" to maintain honor in the Church of God. But says some advocate of denominationalism, "We are now one in spirit and nothing more is required of us." This statement is positively not true. We are, emphatically, not one in spirit. Just a casual reading of Gal. 5:19-21 will convince any reasonable person that such things as uncleanness, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, revellings, and the like, have no part in a sanctified life, therefore; they have no place in God's church. Paul declares these things the

"works of the flesh," and "they that do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Now, "A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself: the simple pass on, and are punished." Prov. 22:3. We marvel that we have always been so slow to rightly value God's way for us; but Satan blinds us and defeats us if possible. Knowing the power of Satan to blind, it is, therefore, not our aim to regard with undue censure all of this vast body of denominationally-inspired church-goers for living in conscious sin because of their denominational connections. We are, rather, convinced that the despoiler of men's souls—the arrogant usurper has duped them. They are the victims of a most brazen, devilish deception. Further, it is because we are convinced that many of these precious souls are devoted to the truth that we dare to hope, prayerfully, that they will have the courage to abandon their unscriptural and sinful alliances with the "beast" forms of human organization and thus escape their deplorable state.

Sect joining, however, has one other capital flaw, namely, it just isn't God's method of saving sinners. That was exactly the trouble with the sects in Christ's day. They were going about to establish their own righteousness. They loved their own methods and would save people by their own system of doing things—rules procured by their own laws. Just as today, sectarians love their own creeds and they insist that any candidate for membership must know the manual. He must become familiar with the laws and tenets of faith that make the denomination "tick," and he must subscribe to the whole. Herein lies another considerable evil. The applicant having now joined a humanly devised organization which, purportedly, has authority in the realms of things spiritual, he has succeeded in reaching a certain religious plateau in his own religious life for, obviously, he has now subscribed to a creed and certain fixed tenets that will assuredly limit his personal liberty. He must not now dare to subscribe himself beyond that for which his church declares to be the truth. He has pledged his loyalty to this human organization and has become a prisoner to its creed. He is bound by a sectarian chain and separated from other dear children in the family of God. This, indeed, is a sad situation and a far cry from Christian unity. Here, then, is the literal chasm that divides the children of God. In this connection, Paul's educated question becomes most appropriate and meaningful, viz., "Is Christ divided?"

Well, what has been gained by the individual "joining church?" He has not obtained forgiveness of sins in this manner because forgiveness of sins is obtained only by genuine repentance and belief in Jesus Christ. Neither is he born of the Spirit of God in this manner. Writing his name on a church record is not the same as having his name written in the Lamb's book of life. He has received no grace in his heart, nor has it acquainted him with the fruits of the Spirit which are: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. Gal. 5:22,23. Perhaps there has been some degree of reformation in his life since he agreed to practice certain stipulations in his adopted creed, but this did not confer salvation upon him.



Anyway, by the exercise of a little willpower he could have improved upon his life-style without committing himself to become a captive to the hierarchy. Men have been known to reform themselves. In final reference to these man-made churches, let me say: as moral and intelligent beings, it becomes incumbent upon us to take careful note that all of these human systems, known as churches, however venerated by their thousands of devotees, are all doomed to destruction, e.g., "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Rev. 20:10. Surely this prophecy is worthy of our profound consideration for it has eternal and irrevocable implications.

Finally, my brethren, nowhere in the Word of God is it ever recorded where Jesus commanded or told anyone to "join them." But His Word does command, "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partaker of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Rev. 18:4. Again, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 2 Cor. 6:17,18. A voice out of the past seems to come ringing down through the corridors of time, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Christ Jesus wants His children to abandon all false ways and walk in the pure light of His Word. For "if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7.

—Earl Langley

## Enlargement of the Heart

We are not writing of the abnormal, diseased condition of the physical heart, but of a healthy condition of the seat of the affections, spiritually and morally. To have our hearts enlarged is to have an increased capacity to love and serve God and each other. It does not always imply that the enlarging process is a purifying of the heart; but pure hearts can be enlarged. We can receive a greater capacity to enjoy the service of God, a more comprehensive understanding of His will, and more perfect knowledge of His law; but as these increase, we need a corresponding increase of love in our hearts. With our hearts enlarged we can walk and run in the way of truth with greater liberty. "I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart." Psa. 119:32.

The larger our hearts become, the more liberally we will be able to reflect the light of truth to those around us. We will experience more spiritual freedom, and not feel cramped nor straitened when we are complying with all of God's requirements. It will not be hard to keep separate from unholy fellowship and associations, when our hearts are thus enlarged. Paul very forcibly and beautifully brings to light this point of truth in the following words: "O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged. Now for a recompense in the same (I speak as unto my children), be ye also enlarged. Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with

unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and I will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 2 Cor. 6:11-18.

These brethren thought they enjoyed much liberty, because they were not as exclusive as the gospel demanded; but Paul gave them to understand that this lack of separation did not spring from largeness of heart, but from a straitened, or cramped condition. They could not enjoy such clean-cut exclusiveness; and no doubt thought that Paul was narrow or straitened, but the fault lay with themselves. This is the reason that some good-meaning professors are yoked up, and do not separate themselves from the mixture found among the religious sects of modern Protestantism, although they see that sects are not right. As the heart is separated from sin, and is sanctified and enlarged; the reasons for holy exclusiveness will appear very plain. The clean, separate people of God will not appear narrow or harsh when they declare their freedom from sin and confusion. Fellowship will not be based on insignificant externals, or uniformity in things upon which there is no New Testament law, but on the Word and the Holy Spirit, lived and manifested in our lives. It is in this, that true liberty is exhibited and enjoyed. Praise God!

We shall consider the welfare of our fellow men, as well as our own. It will be easy to sacrifice the best that life affords, in order to carry the gospel to the heathen, and to all the world. "Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, and the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee." Isa. 60:5.

But how may we have our hearts enlarged? Recognize the way God is moving, and the needs of the hour. Solomon did so when God placed him on the throne of David. He earnestly prayed for wisdom and understanding to govern so great a people, and to successfully fill his important calling. God gave him all he asked for, and more. "And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore." 1 Kings 4:29.

—J. C. B.

## Put Knife to Throat

"When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee: And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite. Be not desirous of his dainties: for they are deceitful meat . . . Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire his dainty meats: . . . Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags. . . . Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge." Prov. 23:1-3,6,20,22,12.