

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

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The Truth Is Marching On!

When the gospel truth first came to man in the
morning age of time,
And its golden rays of light and truth on earth be-
gan to shine,
Old Satan then became alarmed, with all his wicked
throng,
And tried to crush it to the earth, but still it's march-
ing on.

When Satan's kingdom was assailed by Michael's
angel band,
The dragon with his mighty host against him took
his stand.
And they the truth in fury fought with many millions
strong,
But by the mighty hand of God, the truth kept
marching on.

The beast then took the dragon's seat and came
upon the scene;
And with the sword his army left a bloody crimson
stream,
And fifty million saints or more to the martyr's
stake had gone,
And when they thought they had prevailed, the truth
kept marching on.

The image of the beast then came to scatter and de-
ceive,
And hide the precious truth of God that we have long
believed.
His efforts failed, although he fought and labored
hard and long,
But still the precious truth we love is truly march-
ing on.

So Gog and Magog then appeared in Armageddon's
heights
To fight against the saints of God out in the "even-
ing light."
The battle now is raging hot with truth against the
wrong,
And when the smoke has cleared away, 'twill still be
marching on.

—W. M. Pettigrew

Born Again Through Repentance

In the Word of God, Jesus tells us how to be "born again." "For I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Matt. 9:13. "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 18:3. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 10:32. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30. "Repent ye, and believe the gospel." Mark 1:15, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3. "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5. "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19. "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee." Acts 8:22. "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" Rom. 2:4. "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:11, 12. "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." 2 Cor. 7:10. "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." James 4:8,10. "Not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in

thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:9,10.

"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." Rev. 3:5. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. "That through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." Acts 10:43.

—Velva Steffens

The Sin of Omission

Text: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

God imputes sin to mankind by two avenues—the sin of commission, and the sin of omission. Commission is defined: "The act of committing, perpetrating; a positive doing, as opposed to omission." Omission is defined: "The act of omitting, neglecting, or failing to do."

In the New Testament, which is the divine code by which we are judged in this gospel dispensation, there are many commands of *do's* and *don'ts*, positive and negative, what we should do, and what we should not do. If we fail or neglect to do what we are commanded to do, then the sin of omission is imputed to us according to the above text. If we do that which we are commanded not to do, then the sin of commission is imputed.

Much preaching and teaching nowadays deal with the Bible commands of what we should not do, the *don'ts*, or the negative approach to the sin question. In this writing we want to deal primarily with the Bible commands of what we should do—the positive approach, and emphasize how that failing, or neglecting, to do what we are commanded to do, constitutes the sin of omission—the sin that will perhaps destroy more souls than any other.

An informative study would be to take Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and list the *do's* and *don'ts* in two columns, and then compare the number in each column. Your life may be clear on all the *don'ts*, but how about the *do's*—the sin of omission? In that sermon Jesus gave *do's* and *don'ts* on how to pray, gospel giving, laying up treasures, and other subjects.

In the beginning God gave Adam and Eve one law—the negative command to *not* eat of the tree in the midst of the Garden of Eden. To them was imputed the sin of commission by their partaking of the forbidden tree. They could not have been involved in the sin of omission because they had only one law, and it was a *don't*, but they did what they were commanded not to do.

On the other hand, let us notice the positive command given to King Saul in regard to the Amalekites. God commanded Saul and his army to destroy all the Amalekites and all that they possessed, but the king did not perform God's order, and he was charged with the sin of omission. He knew what he should have done, but he did it not, and to him it was sin according to the first text.

The rich young ruler came to Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. He was clear on the points that Jesus quoted. Just one thing he lacked, and Jesus

told him what to do (a positive command), but by the sin of omission, refusing to do what he was commanded, he lost eternal life. One may be clear before God because he did not do that which he was commanded not to do, but he may be lost because he omitted or neglected to do what he was commanded to do, like this rich young ruler.

In Matt. 25:31 to 35 we read, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in." Note that the King granted the righteous sheep on His right hand an inheritance in the kingdom of God above because they were found positively doing what they were commanded to do—to love one another in deed and in truth. They not only refrained from doing that which was wrong, but also they were constrained by the love of God to do that which was good to all men. (Gal. 6:10). Note also in Matt. 25:41,42,45: "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink. . . . Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me." The goats on the left hand were consigned to everlasting fire because of their sins of omission. They omitted or neglected to do what they should have done. They may not have done anything that they were commanded not to do, but they were lost eternally because they did not pursue the positive side of holy living. This entire lesson which Jesus set forth seems to indicate that people will finally be lost because of the sin of omission, and that

—Lawrence Pruitt

Rest In God's Promises

The last two winters in Oklahoma have been more severe than usual. Before the snow would melt, another snow or freezing drizzle, would come, making the streets hazardous and walking perilous. I don't like to drive my car on the slick streets, so my neighbors, Bro. Leslie and Sis. Sylvia Busbee, have been kind to let me ride to the chapel with them.

One evening the horn honked. I put on my coat, went out and got into the car. Their children, Jeanie, Angela, and Philip, were saying, "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things." All the way to the chapel the three children continued to say the verses found in Romans 8:28 through 39. When one stumbled on a word, one of the others knew it. Oh, how it did thrill my soul to hear them learning the Word of God!

What a privilege it is for children to have parents who give them the best thing in the world—the Word of God. No money, or anything in this world, can compare

to this greatest of all gifts. What children learn when they are young, they do not forget, but it will come to them throughout their lives. It is so important to teach them while they are very young. Many times, when they get into their teens, there are so many things to take their minds away from the important things in life, yet it need not be so.

As I look back, I can see where I could have been more diligent in having my children learn more of the Scriptures by memory. I had family worship with them and taught them the Bible. They were knowledgeable about the different characters of the Bible, but memorizing the Word is very important. When we went on vacations I taught my children poems appropriate for their ages. When they were quite young, I remember one poem I taught them was, "Said the Robin to the Sparrow," which has an important thought of trusting God. Another one was about gossiping. When they were older they learned poems of greater merit. I have also taught my grandchildren things while traveling and had Bible quizzes. Traveling is a good time to learn about the Bible.

Some children learn fast, but forget fast. So, it's a good thing to have the children say the same Bible verse in unison every day for a week. In one year they will have learned 52 verses. What a gold mine they will have from which to dig nuggets the rest of their lives!

Let us think of the verse the Busbee children were saying, and let it be our verse for today. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" In other words, "If God be with us, who can be against us?" Having God with us, in us, and all about us, is the Rock upon which we build. Yes, God is everywhere. He is with those who live according to His Word, comforting, directing, defending, and giving a sweet and blessed experience. We can arise and say that God is our Rock, Shield, Tower of Defense, Buckler, Light and whatever we need. God is in all places, at all times, with those who have chosen Him as their Lord and Saviour. He is with them in prison, and makes the prison a kind of paradise. He was with the Apostle Paul in all conditions, and said to him, "Fear not!" He said to Joshua, "Fear not!" and to Moses, "Fear not!" Paul asked, "Who shall be against us?" This is a question of triumph! God puts up the defense and bids our enemies to "beware." God is set up so high in the hearts of those who have chosen Him, that they dare to say before all, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13. They can face all things, go through all things, stand up in all things, and with a humility, known only to the just, say with confidence, "Who can be against me? Praise God! They rest in the promise of God, who said, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." Rom. 12:19. "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?" Another glorious, triumphant speech! "Who shall separate us from the love of God?" We are founded in Christ. God loves Christ first and then us as members in Christ. Here is glory upon glory! Oh, in what a wonderful state the child of God, who is fully surrendered to Him, can live! Can we know anything better than this kind of life? Can we teach our children anything better than to know that this can be their state? —Sis. A. Marie Miles

WAKE UP!

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If I live to see March 28th, 1979, I will be seventy years of age. I was born again in 1945, and became a new creature in Christ Jesus. I have seen many changes. As the years roll on, I see that the love of money is the root of all evil. Sectarian preachers, who love money, will not preach against sin for fear the ones with big tithes will quit. For the love of money, beer, wine, gambling cards, cigarettes, filthy magazines, etc., are sold in grocery stores where Christian people have to take their children when they buy food. For love of pleasure, the TV goes day and night while folks drink and smoke, watch nudeness, murder and every evil that can be named. Children are allowed to sit up late and watch and learn many evils. Many great tragedies take place in the home, and people wonder why. Well, we will reap what we sow. If people set these evil things in front of their children, they will reap the tragic rewards.

Preachers can't preach against women wearing pants, even though the Bible does say they are an abomination in God's sight, because preachers' wives and daughters wear them. So—the "dumb dogs" (D.D.'s) cannot bark. He must not preach against TV because the pastor has one in his home. He can't preach against movies because he has his at home. The Psalmist David said, "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes." Psa. 101:3. I never went to movies when I was a sinner, so I surely don't want any TV now. Yes, God's pure and holy Word will kill every excuse that can be found. For all these evils are the devil's play things. Yes, we need to "cry aloud and spare not."

We are living in the last days. The end of time is very near. Old Satan has but a short time to work, so he is working seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, trying to deceive every one he possibly can. He wants you and me, and everyone on earth to be in eternity in the lake of fire with him. There are new inventions, new sins, coming on the market every day—to deceive boys and girls, and men and women. Even old folks who should know better are taken in by lies and deceit.

Marriage doesn't mean anything to most young folks. All they need is a few hundred dollars and a lawyer. They just get a divorce, marry again, and if that doesn't suit them, they try another. But when God pours His wrath down on them, they may wonder why. But the answer is that a reaping day has come.

There are new translations—books called Bibles. Amos 8:11 has come to pass right here in our day. Many are not hearing the Word of God at all, and don't want to hear it, as they would rather have it "watered down" to suit them. They think it is too strong. It is high time that preachers, teachers, and all Christian workers are passing the strong meat around the table and letting the babes in Christ get a taste to learn to eat strong meat. They need to grow in grace and strength, and have more power from on high. That is my prayer, to always grow in grace and to get nearer to my Lord.

—Mrs. Olyer Turner

"Everything bequeathed to us in our Lord's Last Will and Testament is already ours by virtue of the death of Jesus, the Testator. Faith is simply using what belongs to us."

FAITH AND VICTORY

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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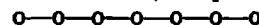
Laying up treasures in heaven fits man for heaven. Nothing more greatly ennobles and builds up his character. The laying up of treasures upon earth makes men earthly, while the laying of them up in heaven makes men heavenly.

—C. E. Orr

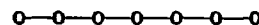
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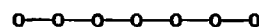
JESUS CHRIST came preaching, "Repent ye, and believe the gospel." Mark 1:15. Then Jesus chose disciples and taught them the gospel. Just before He ascended to heaven He gave His disciples this commission: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:15, 16. The act of repenting and believing the gospel is the most important step in a person's life because that is the only means of having his sins forgiven and receiving the new birth, being made a new creature in Christ. The perfect sacrifice on Calvary's cross atoned for the sins of the whole world except the sin against the Holy Ghost and the sin of unbelief. When one refuses or neglects to repent and believe the gospel, he has abandoned his only avenue to salvation. He is guilty of the sin of unbelief, for which there is no atonement or forgiveness. "He that believeth not shall be damned," and for that sin only. All other sins (except the sin against the Holy Ghost) were cancelled on the cross, but for the sin of unbelief there is no remedy. The sins of those who refuse to repent and believe the gospel will follow them to, and condemn them at, the Judgment bar of God. Repent and believe the good news of sins forgiven through Christ's atonement, or perish!



With this March issue we begin the 57th year of publication, thanking the Lord for His gracious dealings in past years, and trusting that He will continue to use these columns to send forth His eternal Word to this world of mankind who so desperately needs to hear and believe the soul-saving gospel of Christ. "Heaven is a holy place and sin can never enter there."



Our old Monitor wire stitching machine, which has been used many years, came to the point where we could not purchase any more replacement parts for it. In its place the Lord has provided a new Interlake wire stitching machine at the delivered cost of \$2,685.00. It arrived from the factory and was put in operation in February. The machine is doing good work in stitching tracts and booklets, for which we are very thankful.



Bro. and Sister Wm. McCoy, who formerly lived in Dayton, Ohio, have been living here in Guthrie, Okla., for several years. The saints here appreciate them very much. Neither one is well in body. Bro. McCoy, aged 78, was rapidly going down in health, and he wanted to return to Dayton where his children could help take care of him. On Feb. 12, Bro. Curtis Williams took them back to Dayton in his new Trans-Van mobile home. Bro. Bob Saltee, a worker here at the Lord's Print Shop, went along to help drive on the 18-hour trip. Bro. and Sister McCoy are being taken care of in the home of his daughter,

Sister Helen Underdown, whose address is 339 Marjorie St., Dayton, Ohio 45404. At present (Feb. 21) Bro. McCoy is very weak and able to take only a little nourishment. Pray the Lord to bless and undertake for them in a special way.

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Bound Volumes of Papers Available . . .

Bound in book form with a heavy paper cover are the eleven issues of the Faith and Victory paper for 1978. The price is \$1.00 each, plus 50c for postage. Ready also are the 1978 Beautiful Way books for Juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, plus 50c for postage. Send your order TODAY!

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1979 Wall Calendar Offered at Cost . . .

The 1979 Wall Calendar with Scriptural emphasis and beautiful nature scenes in color each month is offered at cost as long as they last. \$1.00 will bring a calendar to you postpaid. Please send your order promptly.

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Inspiring and Informative Booklets Available . . .

Just off the press is the new booklet entitled, "Memoirs of George E. Harmon," which was sponsored by Sister Vera M. Forbes, a longtime acquaintance of the Harmon family. This 56-page, heavy paperbound booklet with four pictures includes in its contents an autobiography of the late Bro. George E. Harmon, pioneer minister of the Church of God, and memories of his life and labors by a number of persons who knew him. The reading of this booklet will inspire your faith. The price is 60c each, or two copies for \$1.00, plus 50c for postage.

"The Second Coming of Christ" by Bro. Willie Murphey. An excellent short treatise on this very important Bible subject which consists of 24 pages in a paper binding. Price, 25c each, or five copies for \$1.00, plus 50c for postage.

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Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Earl Sharp who lost their son Billy in a tragic auto accident. May God comfort and sustain them in a special way. Their address is 832 S. Maple, Fairborn, Ohio 45324.

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Oklahoma Church of God Guest Home . . .

Nice rooms are waiting to be occupied here at Guthrie by elderly members of the Church. Come and look it over. All elderly, able-bodied members anywhere who want more information should send their request to the secretary-treasurer, Brother Bob Sallee, 916 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Ok. 73044.

Thank you very much for the past donations of furniture and supplies, as well as your offerings of money for the Home's upkeep. The Home would be

grateful for further contributions of twin beds, chests of drawers, night stands, and bedding, such as mattress pads, blankets, quilts, and contour sheets for twin beds, as well as tea towels.

This Christian Home should be a real blessing to elderly isolated saints who have not had the privilege of being in reach of a congregation where they could attend the worship and preaching services.

Let us pray that this Church Home will be filled to capacity and prove a great spiritual and temporal blessing to our elderly saints. —Lawrence Pruitt

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Partial List of Items Available

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

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

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

The Revelation Explained by F. G. Smith. Reprint of 1906 original edition (fourth reprint), plus two 17x22 inch wall charts in two colors. 464 pages in nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00 each.

Personal Experiences of S. O. Susag was written by himself, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister in the Church of God. 191 pages are bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.75.

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

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Holy Spirit Baptism and the Second Cleansing by R. R. Byrum. Consists of 108 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, 75c each, or three for \$2.00.

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 512 pages in a cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of God. Price, \$4.00 each.

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

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

Echoes From Heaven—a new song book of 195 songs in shaped notes. In a heavy paper cover, this song book is priced at \$1.75 each.

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

Life's Story and Healings by Sister Nellie Poulos. This is a reprint of her first book, plus additional material. This volume contains 160 pages with a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50 each.

Bible Humility by J. W. Byers. An excellent treatise of this subject in 33 pages with a heavy paper cover. The price is 30c each, or four copies for \$1.00.

The Double Cure, or Redemption Twofold by D. O. Teasley. This book should enlighten the reader on the two works of grace, and correct the thinking of those who deny the cleansing element in sanctification. 160 pages of large print in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50.

Beyond The Tomb by H. M. Riggle. This excellent book of 288 pages deals with man, his present and future, in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$4.00.

Lest We Forget by Sister Margaret Eck. 72 pages of many encouraging experiences with the Lord bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 75c each, or three for \$2.00.

God's Gracious Dealings by Fred and L. D. Pruitt. This enlarged Seventh Edition is a history of this gospel publishing ministry in the Church of God for the past sixty years, as well as a record of the work of the Church at large. Contains 496 pages, including more than 100 pictures, in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00 each.

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

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

The Second Coming of Christ by Willie C. Murphey. An excellent short treatise on this very important Bible subject. 24 pages in a paper binding. Price, 25c each, or five copies for \$1.00.

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Memoirs of George E. Harmon, sponsored by Vera M. Forbes. Recently off the press, this book is an autobiography of our beloved Bro. George Harmon, a long-time minister in the Church of God, including the record of the memories of a few others who knew him. It will inspire your faith in God. Its 56 pages with four pictures is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 60c each, or two copies for \$1.00.

The Key to Peace by Marie Miles. Recently off the press is this 32-page booklet, in which the plan of salvation is made plain for young people and adults. The price is 35c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

No. 1 Stereo Song Record by the Phillips Evening Light Singers. Fourteen songs by the Phillips family on 33 RPM record. This No. 1 record may be ordered from this office or purchased directly from Bro. Paul Phillips, 1220 Wabash St., Wichita, Kansas 67214. The price is \$5.00 each, plus 70c for postage and handling.

No. 2 Stereo Song Record by the Phillips Evening Light Singers. Eleven songs by the Phillips family—Bro. Paul Phillips and his six children. On the cover for the record is a large picture of the singers. This record No. Two may be ordered from this office or purchased directly from Bro. Paul Phillips, 1220 Wabash Street, Wichita, Kansas 67214. The price is reduced to \$5.00 each, plus 70c for postage and handling.

Stereo Song Record by the Evening Light Gospel Harmonizers. The twelve songs, just recently recorded, are sung by seven California gospel singers and composed by one of the singers, Bro. Philip Matthews of Fresno, California, who is also sponsoring the production of this record. Price, \$6.00 each, plus 75c for postage and the handling.

Write for a complete list of other excellent books in stock at this office and ready for prompt delivery.

For postage and handling, add 50c for the first dollar and 5c for each additional dollar of total order.

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FAITH PUB. HOUSE, Box 518, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Campmeeting Dates for 1979

Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates in 1979, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:—

Goulds, Florida—April 13 to 22.

Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla. — May 25 to June 3.

Holly Hill, South Carolina—June 1 to 10.

Tulsa, Oklahoma—June 8 to 17.

Green Bank, West Virginia—June 15 to 24.

Oakland, California—June 22 to July 1.

Hammond, Louisiana—June 30 to July 8.

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico—July 2 to 8.

Akron, Ohio—July 6 to 15.

Fresno, California—July 6 to 15.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri—July 20 to 29.

Bakersfield, California—August 3 to 12.

Boley, Oklahoma—August 17 to 26.

California State at Pacoima—August 24 to Sept. 2.

People often get a wrong idea of how to get hold of the promises of God, and will strain their mind and nerves, and make great physical exertions, weep, and sometimes scream at the top of their voice in order to attract the attention of the Lord; and then perhaps not accomplish any more than had they just come humbly to him, believing His Word because He said so; that point must be reached before an answer will come.

—E. E. Byrum

SPRING MEETING AT WICHITA, KANSAS

If it be the Lord's will, the spring meeting in Wichita, Kansas, will be held March 30 to April 8 this year. We are asking the earnest prayers of saints everywhere that the Holy Spirit will have complete control of the meeting from beginning to end. We are looking to the Lord to direct in all things and send the ministers of His choice to deliver solid truth with power and authority—crying aloud and sparing not.

All are invited to come and feast at the Master's table. For further information, you may contact the pastor, Bro. Lewis Williams at (316) 264-8481 or write him at 2643 N. Spruce, Wichita, Kansas 67219.

SUMITON, ALABAMA, SPRING MEETING

A cordial welcome is extended to all to attend a spring meeting to be held, Lord willing, over the Easter holidays in Sumiton, Alabama. Services are planned for Friday night, April 13th, through Sunday night, April 15th. We are praying for the Lord to bless richly, and that He will send the saints and ministers of His choosing.

For further information, contact Roy Herron, Warrior, Al., phone 205-647-7869, or Marshall Whitson, Sumiton, Al., phone 205-648-2304.

MUCH MORE NEEDED ON TRANS-VAN PURCHASED FOR AN EVANGELIST

In the February issue of *Faith and Victory* the saints and friends of the truth were requested to send offerings to the National Missionary Fund, R. M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Ks. 67337, to pay off a 90-day note of more than \$12,000. The money was borrowed to purchase a Trans-Van for the Lord's faithful and active evangelist, Bro. Curtis Williams of Kentucky. Some have generously responded. At present about one-fourth of the needed amount has been received. Please pray and continue to respond as the Lord leads.

We sing: "Let us sow good seeds for Jesus, in the hearts of fallen men. Many happy souls will bless us, and a crown of glory gain." One way to sow seeds for Jesus is to help send forth His ministers. "We will sow in hope of gath'ring in the final harvest call." The time of that final call is very near. Will it catch us with much of the seed which we intended to sow "yet in the barn"? (Hag. 2:19).

—Geneva Ray

PREPARE FOR THE FINAL TEST

Dear saints everywhere: Please take warning! The Lord is calling for all people who intend to make heaven their home to strip for the wind up—time is running out. He is calling us to dig deep and throw out everything He shows us. He is calling us to arm ourselves to do battle against the devil and his opposing powers. He wants us to be strong, wise and filled with the Spirit of God which gives us power. Then He wants us to have great faith which enables us to use the power He gives us. This is a separating time when the real is being separated from the counterfeit. Are we real saints? Can we be counted among the true who are holding up the blood-stained banner and the holy standard of truth?

Jesus is coming for a people who are spotless and without wrinkle. Can we stand the test? Will we balance out when weighed by the Word of God? Let us search, dig, and sink down deep in God, dear people, so we can be assured of a home in heaven and be part of the number that no man can number.

Christian love,

—Shirley Knight

Prayer Requests

Okla.—"I desire the prayers of the true saints of God. . . . I have stopped going to a holiness church. I am so confused. . . . I can see the sins in my own life. My prayers for help don't seem to help . . . I need help . . . I don't want to die and go to a devil's hell. Please pray for me."

—A reader

Ga.—(Phone call) "I am a 32-year-old man . . . have heart trouble . . . need to be saved."

La.—Bro. Troy and Sis. Christine Gentry's baby was born with many afflictions. They are heartbroken about their darling. Pray God to show mercy and in His great wisdom and power to take charge of this precious one. We are still serving a God of miracles.

N. Mex.—"Pray for my granddaughter, Nancy, who is a diabetic. She went blind." —Sis. Ruth Doolittle
Okla.—"Pray for a young girl who is living a shameful life."

—A reader

Ark.—"A very dear sister of mine died about a year ago who was not ready to go. Will the hurt ever go away? . . . Pray for me."

—A reader

Tex.—"Pray for my father, Ed Lambright, who has ulcers and other afflictions." —Sis. Carolyn Holland

Let us pray for our young people that the Lord will bless them in a special way. We want to see them become established in the Lord and in the doctrines of the Bible. There is so much false teaching in the world today and they must know the truth so they will not be "tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine." We need workers for God and those to fill the places that the elderly saints who are going on to Glory are leaving. Young people can't grow in the Lord until they are filled with the Holy Spirit. It's a definite second work of grace in the heart—a real experience. The experience of justification is wonderful, but the definite second work is glorious. It will be given when there is a perfect surrender to the Lord in every sense of the word.

—Sis. Marie Miles

REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO, AND SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

The Escobars surely were encouraged during the Christmas season by a ten-day visit from Brother Harlan Sorrell. Both they and he have told how the Lord so wonderfully blessed their being together. Various visits to former members, who have moved away, were made with gratification. The congregation itself is encouraged. Pray for these young people. Bro. Mayarino needs a touch to his body for a stomach condition. Sis. Panchita also needs your prayers.

There has been some slowing down to the Spanish literature work, as I am caring for my mother in her home, but the Lord has made me able, with help from

the Print Shop, to keep all orders filled, and with a few days at home at a time, to accomplish some of the work. I desire to be faithful to the Lord in whatever He gives me to do, whether it be toward my mother, or the work here. Pray for all of us.

Yours for souls in Mexico,

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

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (Feb. 7)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the wonderful name of the Lord Jesus. He saves, He heals, and sanctifies! He is wonderful!

The national campmeeting fixed for January 17 to 21, 1979, came to pass victoriously. It was glorious, spiritually uplifting, and in the main, unifying.

Bro. Ben B. Taylor, the pastor of Tombia and Port Harcourt congregations, led a team of nine brethren from Rivers State to campmeeting. Bro. Benson Oparaji was present and came from Imo State to represent Umuguma-Owerri congregation. A great many, a huge crowd indeed, attended from Bendel State congregations. The writer and all Bendelite saints could not adequately express their joy and delight to receive in their midst the Spirit-filled brethren from the Rivers and Imo States respectively. Is it not wonderful that these (we all) who were years of different tribes, customs and culture, while in the world, should in Christ lose our earthly nationality to become one great family in perfect agreement and love? It is wonderful—the family of God!

The entire morning session of the campmeeting was devoted chiefly to teaching the doctrine of the spotless Church, the Church of God, which all found profitable, save, of course, a congregation of compromise with sectism. Esau's selling of his birthright for the "mess of pottage" is an illustration of people who are willing to sacrifice their souls for the sinful pleasures of life. Afterwards, when they would turn and save those youthful years, however bitter their remorse, there is "no way to yesterday" and the days once wasted are forever gone. Think twice before sacrificing the best you have for more folly. "Wherefore, come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord." Alone with God, Jacob wrestled with the divine Wrestler until he experienced a new touch of God, which was to result in the change of his name and a new disposition. He was no longer merely Jacob, "the heel-grasper," ambitious, and selfish, but Israel—"prince of the house of God." His whole life from that day forward took on a new complexion. What about YOU?

The evening period of the campmeeting activity, which was started at 7:30 p.m. daily, was held in the open field of Umia Primary School approved for the meeting by the Board of Education, Kwale. The field was supplied with electrical equipment and powered with a generator. As a result, over 500 people that turned up at each night's meeting were sufficiently in the bright light.

With great anointing of the Holy Spirit, the powerful Word of God through His ministers, old and

young, poured out to feed the hungry souls of Abbi community with the Bread of Life. "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Young people are courageously availing themselves with conviction to learn early to shoulder their share of responsibility in the work of the Lord. The greatest men God used were given responsibility when relatively young: Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, Paul, and Timothy, to mention a few. No great achievements have ever been made by the older men who did not definitely begin to achieve something in youth.

Yours for Souls, —Titus U. E. Enu, Pastor

River State, Nigeria (Jan. 27)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings of love to you and all the saints.

On Jan. 15th, three young preachers, five women, a baby and I went to the general campmeeting at Abbi, where Bro. Titus Enu's congregation is located. The meeting was held Jan. 17 to 21. Bro. Enu will tell you of the blessings we received. Bro. Pruitt, I can tell you the truth that I am healed completely. Praise the Lord! Oh, I do not know what to write or to say. You may thank God for this answer to prayer. Now pray for me that I will get strength to preach the gospel to bring more souls to the fold.

Yours in Christ, —B. Ben Taylor, Pastor

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (Jan. 18)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, dear ones at the Print Shop, and the saints everywhere in America: We send our loving greetings to all of you in this new year in the powerful name of Jesus Christ, the Source of all knowledge and blessings.

Thank you very much for your kind letters dated Jan. 3rd and 6th, and the enclosures were noted with a grateful heart.

Our 13th annual, general campmeeting came to an end with great victory and manifold blessings to the sinners, backsliders, and believers. The attendance was quite satisfactory, and God sent preachers with very anointed messages which were essential for the multitude. We had morning Bible classes, afternoon services, street meetings, night meetings, women's meetings, young people's meetings, and children's meetings. On Sunday morning, 28 men and women witnessed for Christ through water baptism, which is a record here. We continue to pray for them because they need to walk with Christ, "rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as they have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." (Col. 2:6,7). We give all glory and honor to God. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory . . ." (Psalms 115:1).

We plan to conduct meetings at Nadukkunnu, Anayam, Vilengara, and Kodassery in February and at Niranam in March. We request the prayers of the saints for the means to conduct these meetings.

We observed the New Testament ordinances of feet-washing and the Lord's supper one week before our general campmeeting. Also, we had our ministers' meeting at Karikkom, and the ministers made a de-

cision to go to other states with the gospel and teach the Bible doctrines to more souls. What we need are the prayers and support of the saints in America and everywhere.

We pray the Lord to bless all the meetings in progress in the church in America. Let us exchange our prayers.

May the Lord give you special victory in your affliction.

With love and prayers, —John Varghese

From the Mail Box . . .

West Germany—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I received a package with many of the pamphlets which I wrote in the German language and were printed by Faith Publishing House. It is very good work and I am very thankful for them. I am sorry that I am not able to send an offering to the Lord's Print Shop, but I have been without work for a long time and money is scarce. . . .

Also, I received the books, and I am diligently studying them, especially the *Bible Readings for Bible Students*. It is a pure source of living water and refreshment to my soul. I love the holy doctrines written by the pioneers, so I have already translated two of the Scripture lessons into the German language.

I am very sorry to say that I was not able to visit the meetings held in West Germany by Bro. C. Carver in December. At that time it was impossible for me to buy a ticket on the train to Isenbuittel. All I could do was to speak to him by phone. I hope for a later opportunity to meet that Brother here. . . .

Your Brother in Christ,

—George Wilhelm Lohmann

(Editor's note: A 20-page pamphlet, *A New Man in Christ*, and a 22-page pamphlet, *Does God Reward Sin?*, were printed in the German language at the Lord's Print Shop free of charge. These were written by Bro. G. Lohmann, and the typed master German copies were made by Bro. Reinhard Mueller, 10432-64th Avenue, Edmonton, Alta., Canada T6H 1S7. If anyone who reads German desires copies of the above pamphlets and other German gospel literature, send your request to Bro. Mueller in Canada and he will mail them to you free of charge. You might enclose an offering for postage and other expenses.)

La.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: . . . I was 70 years of age on the 10th of February. Time slips by in a hurry. Surely, life is but a "vapor that appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away."

God has been good to me. I have had chronic afflictions about all of my life. I wondered, at times, if I would reach the age of forty. I was discharged from the military service with a disability. I worked twenty-four years at the post office, and retired on disability. Surely, God has blessed me and added years to my life. I have never regretted giving my heart to God when I was 30 years of age. We do want to be faithful to the end, and receive the crown of life the Lord has promised to them that love Him, and I do love Him.

We do hope you are better. We pray for you continually, that God will see fit to heal your body and

reward you for your faithfulness. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister." Heb. 6:10." . . .

Give all at the Print Shop my Christian love. We appreciate all that you are doing for the Lord. . . .

Your Brother in Christ, —Max Williamson

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

Ill.—Dear Anna Marie: . . . We wait for each issue of the *Faith and Victory*, and receive good from it, as well as other Christian literature. We are glad the gospel of Christ and His truth are being proclaimed and trust many will respond to it.

The Lord is good to us in so many ways. His blessings cannot really be enumerated, but we thank Him for them. We trust the needs are being met for both the School and the Home. . . .

Christian love,

—Sis. Thelma and Bro. Andrew Reineking

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

Calif.—Words fail to express my gratitude to the Lord of all grace and truth, and my appreciation of all the consecrated workers there striving together for the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth. Praise be to Jehovah for His name is Most High! May the glory of His kingdom ever increase, in my daily prayer. . . .

Your aged sister, —Ethel K. Miles

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

Ill.—Dear Christian friends: I am happy every time I receive your good paper—the *Faith and Victory*. I surely do rejoice in my heart as it feeds my soul on the pure Word of God. God bless you very much for putting my prayer request and testimony in your Jan. issue. I hope it will help some soul.

Also, I want you dear people to remember my dear wife in prayer, and that God will give me strength to take care of her. She is about the same. God still takes the pain and hurting away when we pray.

I do hope people will get saved and ready to meet God before it's too late, for I surely feel like Jesus is coming soon. It will be a happy day for those who love Him. . . .

Your Brother in Christ, —Curtis McEwen

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

Okla.—Dear saints: Greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. I am truly thankful to God for this great salvation. I am learning to appreciate it more and more each day. I cannot begin to thank Him enough for all His many blessings to me.

We have had an unusually cold winter, but the dear Lord has kept me well and quite free from colds, or flu, for which I am truly thankful. I had a hard fall early in the autumn which could have injured me seriously, but the dear Lord protected me from breaking bones, and healed me of the bruises received. It is so precious to know we have a heavenly Father who cares for His trusting children whatever their needs may be. He has been so very good to me all my life—saving my soul, healing me when I was sick, protecting, providing, encouraging and comforting in the times of need. He is my all in all! Bless His dear name!

When I look back over this last year, I see His hand of mercy and love more than ever, it seems. It has been such a difficult year in my life. One year ago, February

17th, my dear companion (Ira Stover, aged 77) had his first stroke. At times in the last few years he had not been well. The Lord had always been our Helper, and I expected Him to bring him out of this also, as our trust was in Him completely. The Lord did touch him and the next day he was much better. On the 22nd he had a more serious stroke. We continued to pray, and called different saints to agree, looking to God for complete healing, but he grew weaker day by day. We were in California, so far from home, and had wanted to get back home in Oklahoma. Our children had come from Oklahoma and the dear saints were so very good in every way possible. We knew our God was able, and kept looking to Him for help. It's so good to be in the family of God with such love and concern for each other in a time of need.

We were in such a difficult position, not knowing how we could care for him, but Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Ruthe Taylor came and offered to take us to their home, where all the loving care possible was given; but he continued to weaken. One day as I bowed to pray, the quiet voice of the Lord said, "Take your hands off; leave him in My hands." What a shock to me! I didn't realize I was holding him against God's will. I thought I had him consecrated, but I was looking for the Lord to raise him up as He had many times before. The dear Lord made me to know He loved him, too, and was going to do the best for him, and that He would be with me and care for me. Oh, how hard this was! He had been such a precious companion for over 54 years. How could I go on without him? He had lived such a patient, godly life. I had perfect confidence he was ready to go. He had lived for this day and had labored many years for the Lord, going through many trials and hardships in the service of the Lord whom he loved. Now he was worn and weary, and needed rest. I must yield to our Saviour's will. God did bless me, and though it has been the hardest battle of my life, He has stood by me, giving victory and strength. The dear Lord was so good to keep him from suffering pain. Oh, how we did appreciate that! He just weakened until on March 22nd, 1978, he went to sleep in the arms of Jesus to receive the crown of life promised to those who are faithful unto death.

There have been many changes and adjustments for me this year, and I miss him so much. Yet I can say the Lord has been good to me and proved Himself true that He "will never leave nor forsake me." Once when my loneliness had almost overwhelmed me, I cried to the Lord, and He said, "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come unto you." At once a strength flooded my soul, and gave me a courage and victory that I had never had before. Oh, I do love the dear Lord and want to be faithful to Him until He calls me Home, which will not be long.

I thank all the dear saints for their love, kindness, prayers for me, and for their words of encouragement. It has been such a blessing to me. May God bless all!

Christian love, —Ruby E. Stover

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

Alabama—I am still rejoicing in the great love of God and His marvelous grace toward us.

It seems the world has gone mad with so much legalizing of immorality and with all the violence throughout our land, but I am praising God for peace in

spite of every situation. I am burdened for the poor lost souls that seem to be blinded to the lateness of the hour, and to the awfulness of having to stand before God unprepared.

I desire the prayers of the saints that my lost loved ones may be saved. . . .

Yours in Christ,

—Leora Frink

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

Calif.—Dear Sis. Marie and workers: We have been thinking how blessed it is that the Lord gave us His Word to live by. I'm so thankful He didn't leave us without a Guide.

I give out the papers and tracts and pray that good will be accomplished. The *Faith and Victory* is a real blessing to us. I appreciate the wonderful work you are doing.

—Mrs. Edith Reavis

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

Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings in Jesus' precious name. He has been so very good to me. I was so glad we got to attend part of the meeting in Guthrie, in December. It was such a blessing to me.

We have been well except for colds. Hope this finds you well, and may the Lord bless you for the work you are doing for Him.

We have been having a lot of cold weather and snow, and snowed in at times. . . .

Christian love to all, —Mamie and Ray Butcher

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

Alabama—Dear Sis. Marie: The Lord deserves our praise and our lives in service for Him after all He has done for us! I am so very thankful for His many dealings with me. There was no peace nor happiness to be found in life for me until I received His pardon and redemption.

I like the song that says, "If I had ten thousand lives in which to praise Him, I could not enough my blessed Lord adore." . . .

It was a real pleasure to be in Oklahoma, see all the dear saints, and be in the Assembly meeting. We certainly do appreciate all of you there and enjoy reading the literature. . . .

—Melonie Whitson

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

Calif.—How wonderful the Lord is to us when we call on Him for help. . . . I enjoyed reading the book *The Key to Peace*. . . . Those papers (*The Beautiful Way*) are wonderful. My mother and dad lived close to the Lord and brought us up in a Christian home. The Lord healed our bodies. My dad would go out and pray for the sick. My mother would pray for us children when we did not feel well. We always asked her and Dad to pray for us children. I am so very thankful that I had good Christian parents. . . . Please keep praying for my loved ones.

—Sis. S. Stinson

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I'm thankful today for being saved, sanctified, and encouraged in the Lord. I do enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* so very much. Thank the Lord for it.

I have been wanting to write for some time, but have been so busy that I just haven't taken the time until now.

The year of 1978 was one of the most rewarding years of my life. I'm thankful for all of God's protection and help in everything that He sent me to do. I want to thank all the saints who were so kind to take such good

care of us in all the meetings we were in. Also, I'd like to thank all the young people who have traveled and helped me in so many ways.

I desire your prayers that I'll ever draw closer to the Lord and be used to His glory.

Yours in Christ, —Carl R. Shaffer

Rt. 3, Box 194-S, Edmond Ok., 73034

Phone 405-771-4522

(Editor's note: Bro. Carl Shaffer is a young, single man with a call to the ministry of the Word. He is willing to go wherever the Lord sends him. If his services are desired in the gospel work, contact him at the above address or phone number. You will find him sincere and zealous for the truth.)

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Mich.—Dear ones: . . . Thanks for praying for me. God has touched my body. Praise His name! He is a precious Saviour who never fails. We pray for all of you every morning and night. . . .—Sis. Merrill Burd

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

Ark.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: We are thankful for victory through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and for the confidence that God has grace for us to keep us true to the end. I cannot think of anything more wonderful.

We do so much appreciate the *Faith and Victory* paper. It has so much to encourage and inspire our hearts to keep pressing on for God.

We have so very much for which to praise God. He has raised Wife from such a weak and helpless condition to where she is able to be up, move, and go on her own strength. We are truly thankful to God, also to all the saints for their prayers in her behalf. She is still troubled with her hands, which give her pain and stiffness, making it difficult to use them. We would appreciate the continued prayers of the saints that God will heal her hands.

We trust that God is blessing and helping in every needed way there in the printing work and keeping each heart encouraged.

Bro. Lawrence, you are continually in our prayers that God will give you of His strength and courage through to final and complete healing. . . .

Yours in Christian love,

—Bro. and Sis. E. A. Loftis

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

Ky.—Dear Sis. Miles: Sis. Williams told me that they prayed for me at the campmeeting, and Sis. Jarvis requested prayer for me. I got better. I thank God for healing me, and I thank all the people who prayed for me. . . .

Christian love,

—Sis. Nancy Miller

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

Calif.—Dear Brother and Sister Pruitt: . . . Thanks for your thoughts of me on my 92nd birthday. The Lord has certainly been good to me. I have not always been in the sunshine. I have seen many dark and cloudy days. The Lord has brought me safely thus far, and I am thankful for His great love and patience with me. I do know that He is able to lead me on to the perfect day, where no storm clouds will ever arise, and where sickness and death will never come. The loving

Father has seen fit in His wise, unerring plan to bring me thus far past my allotted threescore years and ten.

Sometimes I cry and shed tears when I remember Jesus' great love for me that caused Him to come down from heaven, be nailed to the cross, and let men pierce His side till blood ran down like water, to wash away my sins and give me a new name which is written in heaven in the Lamb's book of life. I surely want to answer when He calls my name. Yes, I do! I want to say that His grace is keeping me. Praise the Lord! A few more days and I must go to reap the deeds that I have done. How careful then I must be! I want to hear my Lord say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Thou hast been faithful in a few things, I will make thee ruler over many."

Bro. Lawrence, I expect to meet you and Sis. Pruitt over there with many others of the blood-washed band, kindred and relatives. What a handshaking time that will be!

Please keep me on your prayer list, and may the good Lord bless you and the workers there at the office, is my prayer.

Yours for God and right, —Ulysses Phillips

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and Sis. Marie: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Praise the Lord! He was so near and dear to me today as I was suffering with severe pains near my heart. I asked the Lord to help me. I called for prayer, and the Lord in His tender mercy and love touched my body and took away the pain. Thank the Lord! I surely give Him all the praise, and I love Him dearly. I'm so thankful to be saved and in the family of God. Praise the Lord!

I realize my days on this green earth are so few and growing fewer every day, but I'm looking forward to that happy reunion in the sky with Jesus, our Father, and the saints. "Oh, what will it be to be there?" Praise God! . . .

Bro. Lawrence, we thank the Lord for your courage, and we are looking to God for complete victory in your healing. "Though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come." "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." "Though he bear long with them, I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." Praise the Lord! . . .

With Christian love,

—Katherine Williams

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

Okla.— . . . One morning (Jan. 24th), as I got up to get breakfast and stooped over, a terrible pain came into my left side, just under my ribs. It was sharp and would come and go. Bro. Roberts had gone to help our son that morning. I continued to get worse. I had Patsy, our daughter, call him home. That night, which was prayer meeting night, we called the Sapulpa congregation. Bro. Terry Madden called us at the close of the meeting. I was still awfully sick. He said he was calling for another season of prayer before dismissal of the service. The Lord wonderfully helped me. I got about 30 minutes' sleep two different times that night. My granddaughter came over and checked my blood pressure. It was pretty high. She checked my heart and lungs, but decided that wasn't the trouble. I had decided to trust the Lord all the way. We didn't call a doctor.

On Saturday night I got worse and had my husband to call for prayer again, and to call my daughter who lives close to come. I didn't have any cold or flu. It seemed like something burst inside on that side and I began vomiting terrible stuff which had an awful odor. Relief did come. Around eleven o'clock Johnnie and Patsy went home and I slept. Thank the Lord for His goodness! He will not let more come upon us than we can bear. I went to prayer meeting Wednesday night, Jan. 31st, and have not hurt since. I was sore, but that is gone now. I believe I am well and I believe the Lord did it all. I truly want to serve Him. . . .

We do thank all the dear saints for their prayers and efforts to try to reach us, but God was here.

—Sis. Leonard Roberts

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

Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . When we look around and see all the terrible things that are taking place, and also the way the enemy is causing so much trouble and heavy burdens for God's people, we realize that surely the end is near. We are also made to realize more and more each day how there is no time to let up. We must "pray without ceasing" and be on the watch at all times. The Word says the devil would "deceive the very elect" if possible. We see this coming true each day. My desire and determination is to stand fast and firm on the truth and keep my eyes on Him, who is able to keep us from the evil.

Do remember me in prayer, and also my dear loved ones.

—Zella Dollins

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

W. Va.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: For some time I have been wanting to write of some of the blessings of the Lord. I think of the Scripture in John 5:17, "My father worketh hitherto, and I work." I think of the great blessing there is in working for the Lord when He is working. If He isn't in what we are doing, then it becomes confusing and discouraging, and everything gets out of hand and does not prosper.

The first time I came to West Virginia was back in 1966. I came to the home of Bro. Jim White. We started having some meetings around, but there wasn't much interest. For some reason I kept coming back. After about six or seven years some folks got saved and they started having services in their homes. We kept coming and others got saved. Finally, they bought an old building beside the road in which to have services, and the Lord was surely working. The Lord kept talking to us about moving over here, but we were too busy to listen to Him. Finally the Lord allowed us to break down in our health where He could talk to us. In 1975, we moved over here, knowing that was what the Lord wanted. The Lord was working for us. There were not many places over here to live, but the Lord had a nice place for us that we could afford to buy. As the Lord was still working here, others got saved. We saw the need of a chapel in which to worship. Land was so expensive and hard to get, and we had very little money anyway. Yet our Father worked. We prayed about everything we did, as we did not want to put the folks in very much debt. The Lord impressed us that He wanted a chapel on the main highway here. Where we wanted it, the land seemed impossible to get. "But our Father worked." The building in which we were worshipping was in a bad

curve on the road. The State wanted to buy it as it was so close to the road and very dangerous. There were many accidents there. The State owned a piece of ground about one-half mile south of us, so they made a trade with us and gave us \$10,500.00 and that ground. Then we had a piece of land and some money with which to start a new chapel. I may say here that before the saints bought the old chapel the owners tried to sell it to the State, but they didn't want it.

The Lord burdened a Brother to come and help us build the new chapel. We will never be able to thank him enough, but we do pray much for him and pray God to reward him. It looked like a big mountain to us before it was started, but, oh, how the Lord did bless with special strength and finances. Sometimes we didn't have any money and we would be getting the materials on the credit. We would just pray and look to the Lord to supply the means. It was marvelous in our eyes how God used different saints, and some that weren't saints, to supply the needs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the saints who helped on the chapel, both financially and in other ways. We know that God blessed you abundantly.

[Following written by Sis. Verna Samons:] One day I remember particularly that we had been praying for means. The next day I went to the post office, and there was a \$500 check and a \$100 check. The tears started flowing. I knew this was a real sacrifice on the part of the one that sent it. My heart was so touched that I could hardly quit crying. I took it down to the chapel to show the brethren who were working on the chapel. The tears were still flowing. Sis. Sharon Fowler came out to the car to see why I didn't get out. I was so filled up that I just couldn't tell her, so I just handed her the letter and checks. Then she understood. We received many blessings during the building of the chapel.

It is all finished now except for some work in the basement. We are fixing it to serve the meals during the campmeeting. The chapel is all paid for. Praise the dear Lord! All we need now are some new pews, and we hope to get them before our campmeeting. We have some landscaping to do outside, but, oh, we are so very thankful for what God has supplied us with in which to worship Him. The Lord is dealing with several souls and some just recently have gotten saved. Surely, our Father is still working. Pray for us that we will be able to let God have His way with us.

Our campmeeting will be held the 15th of June through the 24th. We invite all to come who can.

Christian love, —Green Bank congregation and

Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons, P.O. Box 127,
Green Bank, W. Va., 24944, phone 304-456-4469.

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

Mich.—Dear Sis. Marie and all the saints: . . . I was sick for three weeks with severe kidney trouble. The pain was so bad at times that I would walk the floor, crying and praying. Although I was suffering, I knew the Lord was watching over me. I knew healing was there for me. When the pain was so terrible, I needed an agreement in prayer. I called a lot of times for prayer to different ones of the saints. God would always ease the pain until it would finally leave and

I'd get some sleep. I surely appreciate all the saints that prayed for me during this time of need.

Finally, we felt like we should have Bro. Curtis Williams come and anoint me, so I would have complete victory, fulfilling the Word of God in James 5:14. We called for him and he came, also bringing his daughter, Karen. Bro. Williams read Scriptures, and had me read some, and we talked about the Bible. Then he gave some inspiring testimonies of divine healing. We sang some songs and had prayer. Bro. Williams anointed me, and Bro. and Sis. Ralph Wilkins and Karen agreed with us in prayer. (My husband was at work.) Praise God, I haven't had any pain since then! God is real. Healing is the children's bread! Praise God!

I was in a serious condition, as I passed kidney stones, but praise God, the Lord has healed me! No one will know the experience I had like I know it, but I hope I have made it clear that God has worked a miracle again. Thank God!

—Sis. Marsha Corteway

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

Oklahoma.—Dear saints of God: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. "Let them shout for joy and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: . . . Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant." Psalms 35:27.

That, dear ones, is my testimony to all of you who have carried a burden for my family. God has wonderfully, yea, with a mighty deliverance, brought me my oldest daughter, and placed her in the Saints' School here at Guthrie. "Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!"

Dear suffering ones in adversity, affliction and pain, lean hard on Jesus. If thou wouldest have victory, accept thy cross, and appreciate thy two teachers—"the bread of adversity" and "the water of affliction." (Isaiah 30:20) — until such time that God brings you out with a mighty hand. May God help us to place the proper value on our two teachers. Eternity alone will reveal the net worth of suffering for His sake. "Who will suffer for the gospel?"

My earnest desire is to be more consecrated and yielded to God than ever before.

Take not my cross from me

Until the crown is won,

Lest in my haste to glory

I leave some need undone.

The price of gold is rapidly rising, so the value of our trials increases as we near the end of the way. The trial of your faith is much more precious than gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire.

We believe God has us tied close to home at the present. We will not be as free to travel in revival meetings as often, except in the summer and as God would make a way. Brothers and Sisters, pray for me.

—Bro. Tom Melot

Consecration

"I am willing to receive what Thou givest,
I am willing to lack what Thou withholdest,
I am willing to relinquish what Thou takest,
I am willing to suffer what Thou inflictest,
I am willing to be what Thou requirest."

It Is God that Worketh

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Philippians 2:13.

Our hearts are full of gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our needs financially, temporally, and spiritually, since our house burned on December 4, 1978. We have felt so much the effect of your prayers, which has held us up, given us renewed courage, and sustained us through this time.

On the morning of our fire, I was strongly impressed that something was going to happen to the house. The feeling grew so strong that I went to prayer and asked God's protection over everything, and ended by saying, "But Lord, it's all yours anyway." I had to leave then, only to return three hours later to find everything gone. The Lord had surely proved my words and took what was His.

It is a very hopeless and lost feeling when you see everything for which you have worked and saved for twenty years gone in only a few minutes, especially things which cannot be replaced—the photos and old treasured sentimentals. Someone said, "A part of you has gone up in smoke also." At one time I was crying, and told my girls, "Now I have nothing to give you." Before long they brought me a beautiful rose with a note that said, "You are worth more to us than all the things in the house. We are glad you weren't there at the time of the fire." This was very precious.

One day at a store, the striking resemblance of a boy to our son was made apparent, and the Lord said, "You could have lost more. Why not count your blessings?" I started thanking Him for everything I had left—my family, friends, saints—and Scriptures started flooding my soul: "Forgetting those things that are behind," "Set your affections on things above," "Be content with such things as ye have," "Lay up treasures in heaven," "Let us go on," "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." The Word of the Lord is surely a healing balm for every situation. There never has been provision for a child of God to sit around and feel sorry for himself. The Scriptures are always positive.

A home near ours was robbed the same day ours burned, and the next day our neighbor's home was robbed and set on fire. Their fire was discovered quickly, though, by the children returning from school. Only the Lord knows the answer to "How?" and "Why?" and we commit all to His infinite wisdom, knowing He never makes a mistake.

At first, the City of Edmond, Okla., would not allow us to have a trailer house on our property, or to rebuild. Our area is in a moratorium due to a proposed lake in which our land has been assigned for recreation. In answer to prayer the City Council held a special meeting and granted us our freedom on our land at this time, for which we are truly thankful. The Lord worked on the heart of our neighbor to purchase us a trailer house, which we can sell later and repay him.

Surely we are living in the last days and God is testing and proving His people. When we see the world taking so many of our young people, more and more disinterest in God's work, and more interest in the cares of this life, we can know that His coming is at the door. Are we going to be shaken off, too? Are we being moved

with what we see? Are we being motivated to a closer walk with God, or toward the world, developing a careless, loose, and indifferent attitude? We felt such anguish, sorrow, and hopelessness when we lost everything, but how much more terrible for a soul to wake up in hell. Oh, the anguish of eternal torment and sorrow, never more to have another opportunity! Let us guard our hearts and thoughts, lest we become overconfident or slack, and a spot of imperfection be found in us and we, too, be shaken off.

We desire to draw closer to God every day that He gives us, and to use the opportunities and time that we have for His glory. If there ever was a day in which we need "to redeem the time," it is surely now!

May God bless everyone and reward you according to His riches in glory.

—Judy and Lloyd Eck, Linda, Paula, and Scott

A Miraculous Healing

Okla.—Dear saints and readers: I am very thankful to the publishers for the little book about Bro. George E. Harmon, and I trust it will help to inspire greater faith in God. For some reason, there is one instance of healing that failed to get in the book. I feel that it will be for the glory of God to tell about it.

When my sister, Dottie Henry, who lived in Texas, was badly afflicted with tuberculosis, she gave birth to twins. Her oldest daughter was not able to do much, so the twins were boarded out. The Red Cross nurse cared for my sister until she was sent to the tuberculosis hospital in San Angelo. After a time the T. B. wasn't so bad, but she developed neuritis, arthritis, and "multi-itis." In the hospital the doctors removed her tonsils and adenoids, extracted all her teeth, and cut her long hair. She lost so much blood that she was given blood transfusions. After the doctors did all they could, she was returned home for the Red Cross nurse to care for her again. She was given a liquid diet — no solid food at all. She could neither taste nor smell, and was helpless as a baby.

Dot knew how we trusted God for healing and she desired to go to California to learn how to be healed, which was arranged. Our older sister came with her to care for her. One day Dottie said she wanted to be all the Lord wanted her to be, and was especially interested about sanctification. I phoned Bro. and Sis. George Harmon to come, talk and pray with her. They helped her so much, although she didn't grasp it all at that time. Dottie got a little better, but was still helplessly ill. By setting her in a small rocker, two of the brethren could carry her from our house up the steps to the chapel, which was next door.

In his sermon one Sunday morning, Bro. George Harmon illustrated faith by talking about a little boy who had some money. He was afraid he might lose it or that it might be taken from him. Someone told him to put it in the bank, and when he needed it he could draw it out. He found that was a good thing to do. Bro. Harmon explained that God had a bank. Salvation, healing, and all that one needed was in His bank. When we needed something, we could just go to the Banker, Jesus, and ask Him for whatever we needed and He would be glad to give it to us.

After Bro. Harmon finished, my sister said something like this: "God has healing in the bank, and I believe He will give it to me right now, when I ask and you ask with me." Bro. Harmon said he believed so, too. So she was carried in the rocker to the front. Bro. Harmon and dear little Mother Harmon, and maybe others, anointed her. After she was anointed and prayed for, she raised her hand, which she had not been able to do before, and said, "Praise the Lord, I'm healed." Oh, how we all rejoiced! She did not get up and walk, as she was so frail.

A few days later while I was cooking cereal for breakfast, she said, "Vera, what are you cooking?" I said, "Wheat graham cereal like we had when we were children." Then she said, "That smells so good; may I have some?" Oh, she had smelled for the first time, and I was so happy and praised God. I fed her a little dish full. Then she said, "Oh, that tasted so good." Her taste had returned, and we praised God again. She wanted more and I gave her a little, but I said that I thought she had better not eat too much yet. At noon it was the same question — "What are you cooking? It smells so good." "Vegetable soup." And "that tasted so good, too."

So praise God, she was able to eat and soon began to gain strength. She began to walk. Oh, we were all so thankful to the Great Physician!

A little while after she was healed, but while she was still helpless, she said, "Vera, I want to be baptized." So, at the next all-day meeting in Los Angeles, she was baptized. The saints gathered around as two brethren carried her down the steps to the water, where Bro. Harmon and another brother took her and baptized her. She was so happy, as we all were, and praised God. When the brethren got up on the floor, Sis. Hodge was waiting with outstretched, towel-covered arms to receive her. She carried her like a baby to the restroom where she dressed her, and soon dear Dottie was sitting with all of us in the afternoon service. She and all the congregation were so thankful for God's wonderful blessings.

She soon didn't need my sister's care, so sister moved to Long Beach and got work. I think that about the middle of October she was fully healed, except for weak ankles, and was able to care for herself in every way. She wrote her husband for a pass and was able to return to Port Arthur, Texas, alone. Her husband was so happy. He would say, "Walk across the room again." He took her to the dentist for teeth. They were soon able to have the twins home again. I think they were over a year old.

The following summer her husband got passes for her and some of the children to go to California again. They arrived on July 4th. I hardly knew my sister, as she was really a different person. That day we were having dear little Mother Harmon's funeral. After it was over, different ones came to ask who was with us. Although it was a sad time, it was also a time of rejoicing. Dear Sis. Hodge, who had taken my sister in her arms when she was baptized, could hardly believe it was really Sis. Dottie Henry. She had teeth and a good color in her cheeks. Her hair had grown out and she had it fixed nicely. She had gained 50 lbs. in weight. So, it was no wonder we hardly knew her. Oh, praise the dear Lord!

When the twins were about grown, her husband died. They soon moved to California. She bought a home near the chapel in Pacoima, and was able to walk to meeting. When the Guest Home was opened, she was the first guest, or occupant, and there she lived several years until a stroke caused her death. So, .. praise God for His wonderful blessings.

—Sis. Vera Forbes

Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: What is the Battle of Armageddon? What is its nature, its beginning and its ending?

[The answer is covered in Four Parts]
(Answer, Part 2)

The armour provided for soldiers of Jesus Christ also precludes any idea of carnal warfare. There is not one piece of it that would in any way be usable in carnal warfare. Let us look at it. Eph. 6:11 says, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." We see here that the armour which God provides for His army equips us to stand against the war with the devil, not man.

Eph. 6:13-18 describes this armour piece by piece. "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." There is not one thing mentioned here that would have any value at all in warring after the flesh. And note that the only offensive weapon supplied here is "The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God."

I Thess. 5:8 says, "But let us, who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation." Nothing here for carnal warfare but contrariwise, "the breastplate of faith and love" would for ever eliminate fighting carnally with men and seeking to destroy them. Romans 13:12 says, "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." Where would an armour of light have any place in a carnal warfare? But it is highly important in "wrestling against principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12. In 2 Cor. 6:7 Paul speaks of "The armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left."

Now these Scriptures sum up in all of its entirety the armour provided for the soldiers of Jesus Christ and it is no where intimated in the entire New Testament that this has ever changed or ever will. This is still the armour for saints today and will ever be.

I will now come to the point of considering the specifics of the Battle of Armageddon. All that has been said up to now has dealt with what it is not. We turn now to what it is. In Rev. 16:13,14 and 16 we read, "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. . . . And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." Note: the principal agents in this operation are three unclean spirits which are called in verse 14, "The spirits of devils." Verse 16 says "he" gathered them together etc. "He" in this case is the devil himself marshalling his forces for battle under the generalship of these three unclean spirits. This would identify this whole operation as a spiritual operation. We wrestle against the rulers of the darkness of this world (Eph. 6:12). In John 14:30 Jesus referred to the devil as "The prince of this world." In 2 Cor. 4:4 Paul refers to him as the "God of this world." In Eph. 2:2 Paul spoke of him as "The prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." He is the one spoken of as "The ruler of the darkness of this world" in Eph. 6:12. Also it is said in Eph. 6:12 that we wrestle against "spiritual wickedness in high places." The marginal reading is "heavenly places." It is evident on the face of it that "spiritual wickedness" would be connected with the spiritual realm. Heavenly (high) places here refers to the ecclesiastical, spiritual, religious or church heavens. Therefore it is entirely clear that a spiritual operation and battle are under consideration here. We read in the history of carnal warfare of any number of religious wars between different nations and kingdoms of men. But we have never read of one that could be classed as a spiritual war. That is just not the way that spiritual warfare is carried on. This warfare is in the spiritual realm.

In Rev. 20:7,8 we read, "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea." Note: This power was to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth. This corresponds with what was said in Rev. 16:14 of the three unclean spirits like frogs which went forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world. Yes, it is the same power in both texts marshalling its forces for the same purpose—to do battle. It also names the principal agents in this operation as Gog and Magog and says their numbers are as the sand of the sea. Gog, the land of Magog, is mentioned in Ezek. 38:2 as the enemies of ancient Israel (read the entire chapter), and in verse 9 it says, "Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy band, and many people with thee." Here the enemies of Israel had "many people" with them. Their modern counterparts in Rev. 20:8 had numbers "as the sand of the sea" with them. As has already been observed, ancient, literal Israel was a type of spiritual Israel. Just as Gog and Magog were the enemies of ancient Israel; so here the same names are used to identify the entire com-

bine of the enemies of the people of God and of His truth.

Adam Clarke in his commentary on Rev. 20:8 under Gog and Magog says, "Under these names the enemies of God's truth are generally intended." *The Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary* says in its article of Magog, "Gog and Magog (Rev. 20:8) means all the ungodly nations of the earth who oppose the people of God." F. G. Smith in his book, *The Revelation Explained*, is more specific in identifying them and says, "The original signification of the terms Gog and Magog is difficult to ascertain, as all known accounts are conflicting. The terms occur in Ezek. 38 and 39. In the Revelation, however, it is clear that these terms are applied to Romanism and Protestantism, and under the special leadership of this spirit of antichrist they are gathered together to battle against the saints of the most High."

This great combine of antichrist consists of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet. According to Rev. 12:3,4 the dragon was the first formidable foe of Christianity. He was in existence when Jesus Christ appeared on the scene and viciously opposed the Christian religion throughout the morning time of the Christian era. This was Pagan Rome, heathenism, idolatrous worship which was the prevailing religion throughout the world at that time. Through the power of the Word of God and the bright shining light of the gospel, the saints of the most High were finally able to expose his deceptiveness and overcome him and cast him down and bind him. (Rev. 12:8,9 and Rev. 20:1-3).
(Part 3 will appear in next issue.)

THE LITTLE FOXES

One little fox is, "Some other time." If you track him up, you come to his hole—never.

Another little fox is, "I can't." Just set on him a plucky little "I can," and he will kill him for you.

Another bad little fox is, "Just a little" pride, self-will, worldly conformity, etc. That little mischief will strip the whole vine if let go.

Another malignant little fox is, "I haven't faith." He slips into the vineyard through a knot-hole called self. You can shut him out by removing the self-plank and filling up with Jesus only.

Another bad little fox is, "I haven't power." Be sure and catch him. If you will take the pains to dig him up, you will find his nest somewhere beyond the end of the present consecration. It will pay you to take him, if you have to "dig deep" and work hard.

Another devouring little fox is, "My church." "Salt" and "fire" is the sure and only antidote for such nasty vermine.

We will point out one more little fox, and he is able to devour all the fruit of the vineyard and kill the very vines. His species is "Fear." One good dose of "perfect love" will kill him stone-dead. And a constant application of the blood of Christ will prevent this, with all other little or big foxes, yea, and all other animals, ever coming to life again.
—From *Food for Lambs*

"Kindness is a fruit of love. 'Love suffereth long and is kind.' We are kind to those whom we love. It is only when love fills our hearts that we can be 'kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love.'"

Walk in the Good Way

I had a precious thought Sunday morning as I drove to church services behind our pastor, Bro. R. Madden, on the newly fallen snow and ice. His tracks were the only ones visible; and as long as I kept the wheels of the car in them, I had no problem driving. But if I got out of the way, I would almost lose control.

I thought of the Scripture in Jer. 6:16, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein." I firmly believe that to obtain the full blessings and favor from God we have to stand in the old paths and ask for the good way.

Listen concerning the people of God that forsook the old paths and hewed them out another way. Jer. 2:13, "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." Surely, it is true with many professing Christians: they have forsaken the old paths and have a "I'll work out my own salvation" type of religion, which is not supported by the Word of God, and will not hold any blessings of the Lord.

We appreciate the older saints that stand firm and unshakable. Also, I have thought about the power and influence in the older saints' lives. It is still going on. The late Bro. Fred Pruitt preached a message on the "Church of God" back in the 1950's, which was recorded and printed in booklet form. I gave a copy of one of these booklets to a security guard where I work. Later, Bro. Danny Doolittle and I were talking about things of God. Bro. Danny told me about the security guard's telling him of reading a booklet on the Church of God and through the conviction it brought, he got saved at home. He said the guard told him he had not slept so well in a long time. Thank the Lord! Salvation gives us soul rest and peace of mind.

I want to commend the older saints for their godly lives. We are watching and copying after your faith and lives the best we can. Paul said, "Follow me as I follow Christ." I believe this tells us all that what the saints and our forefathers have tried and proved will work for us, also. Be encouraged!
—Bro. James Bell

God's Promise Fulfilled

The first of February we had sleet in southern California, and snow in Palm Springs, which is desert. When storms move through southern California and the clouds break up, my granddaughters and I go outside to look for a rainbow. After one of these storms, the mighty God of Noah and Abraham, the living God whom we serve, truly did not disappoint us. (Gen. 9:11-16). He painted one of the most spectacular rainbows across His heaven that I have ever seen. It was a beautiful sight to behold! The colors were very vivid. No human hand could touch it. There it was—stretched across His mighty heaven in all its glorious beauty. As I gazed with rapture in my heart, I thought of His covenant. "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" How can mortals doubt that there is a living God eternal in the heavens when looking at such a beautiful sight?

—Melina Viser