

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



Volume 57, No. 3

57th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

May, 1979

The Real Mother

Two mothers stood before the king
A matter of dispute to bring:
Each had a child, but one was dead
Who had been smothered in the bed.

Both claimed the living to be
Her own; and thus they came to see
What wise and just King Solomon
Would give the judgment to be done.

"Oh, bring a sword!" the king decreed,
"Since for the living both they plead,
Cut him in two, each take a half"—
But one did weep, the other laugh.

"So be it!" said the one untrue,
"Proceed, divide the child in two!"
But she whose bowels upon him yearned
Unto the king in anguish turned:

"My lord, give her the child, O spare!
To see it die I cannot bear."
"Give her the child!" His word was stout,
"She is the mother beyond doubt!"

Oh, what a difference 'twixt the two!
Oh, wisdom to discern the true!
This mother's love would rather give
Up all her claim to let him live.

No wonder in our world today
That motherhood has gone astray,
And rather than to sacrifice
The woman yearns for something nice.

The mother's place is with her child
To guard it from the worldly wild,
To ever yearn for it to live
The life that only God can give.

Thank God for mothers pure and true
With loving hands to work and do;
All that we are or hope to be
We owe to God, and, Mother, to thee!

—Leslie C. Busbee

God's Glorious Church

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:25-27. In this Scripture we have presented to us the most precious and powerful institution on earth, for it is without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. Yet, man seems to have given up on a church like this, but God has not.

It is a glorious church in that Christ gave Himself for the church that it might be cleansed and filled with the Holy Spirit, empowered and set on fire. Yet today man seems willing to call any church this glorious church.

The founder of the New Testament Church, Jesus Christ, is the glory of the Church, being worthy of respect and worship. Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords and has made His people Kings to reign over sin in this life and priests to enter the throne room of God and get His listening ear.

The church in the name of the Father is also glorified, and what could be more natural than to take our spiritual Father's name, even though the New Testament Church is Christ's Church. For Christ said in John 17:11 as He prayed to the Father, "Keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are." The early church was kept in His name. I Cor. 1:2, 15:9, Gal. 1:1-3. However, just the name Church of God does not make it the New Testament Church.

The purity of the New Testament Church is a glory to the church, being not only a holiness church but a holy church, for there is no sin nor sinner in it. Although they may claim membership, they do not belong. Acts 2:47 says, "The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." The Word of God says, sin puts one out. (Exodus 32:30-33, Romans 6:23).

The glory of the New Testament Church is that you cannot join it, but are born into it. (Psa. 87).

The New Testament Church is both inclusive and exclusive, for it includes all of God's children and excludes all sinners. If we are saved and join a man-

made church, we belong to two churches, one divine and the other human. Which church are you in and where is your allegiance?

We don't hear much about this anymore, but God gives spiritual gifts to His children, placing them in His body, the Church, where they can be most effective. In man-made churches members are set in because they are well liked or they have influence and even money.

The glory of the New Testament Church is where its record of membership is kept, for it is in heaven in the Lamb's book of life. If our names are there we can rejoice, regardless of what happens to us here. We know no sinner's name is there.

Christ, the Door, the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Head, is a glory to His Church. He has never abdicated any of these responsibilities and never will.

The glory of the church also rests in its Teacher, Guide, Power-giver and Arresting officer—the Holy Spirit, who gives also spiritual gifts without which we simply play church.

The New Testament Church is not only organized by the Holy Spirit, but also has divine life coursing through it from God the Father, that His children can be what God wants them to be.

The glory of the New Testament Church is in its discipline, the Word of God that never passes away or grows old, with the Church itself eternal.

Since Pentecost the Holy Spirit has hovered over the New Testament Church to supply its every need, whatever that need may be, if it is for man's eternal good and for the glory of God.

We are told in the Word of God that without a vision, a true vision, the people perish. Since God gave me a vision of His Church, I have been spoiled for everything else. I cannot join a man-made church and keep saved, for then I would be walking in darkness and going against light. How can you that once walked in light but are now walking contrary to that light, still claim to be Christians?

I have written to you about the New Testament Church, which is universal with all of God's people in it, both in earth and heaven. God wants all His children to be one as Christ and the Father are one. This can only come to pass through the workings of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. Men can only bring union and call it unity. Are you walking in the Light of the Word of God?

—Carl P. Burton

I wash the dirt from little feet,

And as I wash, I pray,

"Lord, keep them ever pure

And true to walk the narrow way."

I wash the dirt from little knees and pray,

"Lord, may they be

The place where victories are won,

And orders sought from Thee."

I wash the dirt from little hands

And earnestly ask,

"Lord, may they ever yielded be

To do the humblest task."

I scrub the clothes that soil so soon,

And pray, "Lord, may her dress

Throughout eternal ages be

Thy Robe of Righteousness."

—Selected

A Little Parable for Mothers



The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is the way long?" she asked. And her guide said, "Yes, and the way is hard and you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning."

The young mother was happy and she would not believe that anything would be better than these years. She played with her children, and gathered flowers for them along the way, and bathed with them in the clear streams, and the sun shone on them and life was good, and the young mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then night came, and a storm, and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold. The mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle, and the children said, "Oh, Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near and no harm can come," and the mother said, "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

The morning came, and there was a hill ahead and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary, but at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed, and when they reached the top they said, "We could not have done it without you, Mother," and the mother, when she lay down that night, looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage; today I have given them strength."

The next day came with strange clouds which darkened the earth—clouds of war and hate and evil, and the children groped and stumbled, and the mother said, "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light," and the children looked and saw above the clouds an Everlasting Glory and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. That night the mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."

The days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old and she was little and bent; but her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. When the way was hard, they helped their mother, and when the way was rough they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather, and at last they came to a hill and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide.

The mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. Now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them." The children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." They stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her, and they said, "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a Living Presence."

(I was going through some of Mom's (Virginia Whittenborn) things and found the above writing. It touched me so very much. Would you be able to put it in the *Faith and Victory* as a tribute to Mom Whittenborn? Mom is missed so very much, but the memories of her are so sweet and her life was surely an example of Christ. —Reba Whittenborn)

Give Your Child Security

"Mother, where are you?" Soon there was another child looking for Mother. The children had come home from school, and Mother was not in sight as they opened the door. She answered them, and they found her in the bedroom working. As soon as they saw her, they put their books down and out they went to play. Mother was there, and everything in their young lives was all right.

Parents are to give security to their children. They cannot grow normally unless they feel that they are being cared for and loved. It's a comfort and an anchor to them. Rules that are held and not compromised are a stay to children. They might not like those rules, but if they are held firmly by the parents, those children have a knowledge of what they can and cannot do. They have to come up to the rules, even though they might not like them. It gives them a secure feeling. They are not set adrift without a resting place to which they can gauge their emotions or adjust their lives. Rules in a home, which are a protection to teen-agers, are often misunderstood in their immaturity, but when they grow older and look back, they are glad for those loving thoughts which caused their parents to make those stiff rules.

I read a survey taken of college students about things they missed in their early teen-age days. I never forgot what one girl said. She said that when it was barely getting dark, one mother would call her child to come in. A father would whistle for his child, and other parents would call, but she said, "No one called for me to come in. I would sit on the curb and wish that my parents loved me enough to call me to come in." How sad! Yet the ones who had to come in and were taken care of might have fussed to stay out.

"The aged women" are to "teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." Titus 2:3-5. These Scriptures let us know exactly what God wants us to do.

First, we notice that it says to "love their husbands," and then be "obedient to their own husbands." To be a good mother, one needs to love her husband. When the parents love one another this gives a secure feeling to the children. Then if the wife is "obedient" to her husband, that makes for smooth running in the home. Two bosses trying to run a place never works, unless those bosses talk things over and agree before orders are given. When a man and his wife don't come to an agreement, then it's the wife's place to submit. If a man loves his wife as the Bible teaches, nourishing and cherishing her, loving her as his own body and even willing to lay down his life for her, there will not be much problem of their being in agreement. (Eph. 5:25,28,29.)

The Scripture says for mothers to "love their children." It means much to really love one's children. Some say that they love their babies too much to

correct them. That is not real love. Yet there is a way to correct them. Be consistent—don't say they can do something one time and then the next time that they can't. We want our children to be emotionally stable. Parents should start making their children mind before they are a year old. By the time children are 18 months old they should understand clearly what parents mean when they say "no," and be taught not to talk back. Many parents make the mistake of waiting until the child is too old to start his training.

There is a way to punish a child. Don't hit him on the head or knock him down. This could injure him. Using a heavy board could also injure a child internally. A keen switch, or a doubled thin strap stings, and that should be sufficient. Carefulness needs to be used not to hit so hard as to break the skin. Pray with your children when they are disobedient. You need God's help in rearing them. One good, sound whipping with a switch will be worth more than a hundred slaps. Nagging should never be employed. Always assure your child that you love him and that is the reason you are punishing him.

We notice the Scripture tells young mothers to be "keepers at home." I appreciated my husband's never wanting me to go out to work. Some men want their wives to work outside the home. Children need their mothers at home, as it's a full time job to train a child and make home a place he will enjoy. Recently, I read that the "Census Bureau estimates at least two million children, ages seven to thirteen, are left alone each day without supervision." There are "millions of youngsters too young to go to school who are shuttled about from baby sitters to group-care homes or relatives or neighbors." In 1978, "according to U.S. Department of Labor, 60 percent of all women with school age children were working, along with almost 44 percent of all mothers with children under six years of age." This is alarming to me.

I believe God will work out a way for a mother to be with her children. During World War II, my husband was drafted into the army. I was left with two children, ages three and seven, with only \$100 a month—the amount the government sent from his check. This was not sufficient to live on. I lived in California, away from my relatives who could help me in any way. It was a trying time for me to face. Women were being begged to go to work at the Air Depot and other defense plants, and as men were drafted, many women did go to work at those places. I just couldn't bring myself to leave my precious boys in the care of a baby sitter, nor in a child care center. I prayed earnestly about it. God worked things out for me and made me know what to do. I decided to stay at home and take in washings, ironings, and some sewing. Part of the time I took care of two little girls through the day. It was hard work, as I wasn't very well, but God gave me strength and I stayed home and cared for my own children. God blessed me and I had no debts and had a home for my husband to come back to when he was discharged. Houses to rent were scarce and many men came back from the service with no home. God's ways are best!

Most of all teach your child, by word and example, to love Jesus and make Him his best Friend and to obey His Words.

—Sis. Marie Miles

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

FAITH AND VICTORY

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, one year\$.35
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Write for prices on larger quantities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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He who teaches the spider how to build its trap and weave its web, and teaches the bird how to rear its young, can teach us of His will and of His way. If we will walk in the Spirit He will breathe upon us a knowledge of His will in all the details of life.

— C. E. Orr

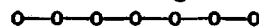
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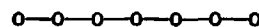
IN THE ORDER OF GOD'S PLAN, THE ANNUAL CAMPMEETING SEASON has come again, when the Church makes a special outreach to the unsaved in various areas of the United States with the glorious message of salvation through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who, before His ascension to the right hand of the Father, gave the commission to His disciples to "go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark writes: "And they [the disciples] went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." Mk. 16:20.

The first campmeeting of the season is now in progress at Goulds, Fla., where Bro. H. Hargrave is the pastor, and it closes on April 22. A wonderful meeting with Holy Spirit anointing on the services is reported. Several out-of-state ministers are there to preach the Word.

Next on the schedule this year is the Oklahoma State campmeeting here in Guthrie, Okla., which will be held, Lord willing, from May 25 to June 3. (See further announcement on another page.) A large attendance is expected from several states, especially over the first week-end, as the Memorial holiday comes on Monday, May 28. The saints are urged to come praying for a soul-saving meeting here, as well as at all the campmeetings and the evangelistic tent meetings throughout the summer. The Guthrie congregation extends a hearty welcome to everyone to come and worship the Lord together in the beauty of holiness at this 45th annual campmeeting on these grounds. Showers of blessings are anticipated.

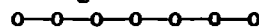


Recently, our co-worker, Bro. Randall Flynn, and his family made a few days' trip to Mississippi and Louisiana to visit relatives. Also, my sister, Marie Miles, was recently in Louisiana for ten days, holding some services at Hammond, Loranger, and Baton Rouge congregations.



Bro. Curtis Williams, evangelist from Kentucky, was in the revival meeting at Sapulpa Road chapel, Tulsa, Okla., which closed on Easter Sunday with reports of good success in spiritual benefits and the edification of the church.

Bro. Williams expects to be in a revival meeting here at Guthrie beginning Friday, April 27. The saints are praying for a special working of the Holy Spirit in this revival. All within driving distance are welcomed and urged to attend these services.



Brethren on Gospel Mission to West Germany . . .

Brother C. C. Carver of Louisiana and Brother Reinhard Mueller of Edmonton, Canada, plan to fly to West Germany on the 9th of May, 1979. Together, Lord willing, they will make some contacts in Hamburg, and then proceed to Istenbuttel to hold services with the Church where Bro. Carver preached last December. They expect to return to America

about May 20. Let us pray the Lord to keep them well, anoint their hearts for the Lord's service, and give them a safe and pleasant round trip. May their mission be very profitable for the edification of the Church in West Germany. Perhaps Bro. Carver will be at the Guthrie campmeeting and give a report on their mission.

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The Model LXD Harris Offset Printing Press, which was recently purchased and installed at the Lord's Print Shop, was wired to the electric service on Saturday, April 7, by Bro. George Hammond who came from Illinois to do this work. Our thanks are extended to him for this service to the Lord, as well as to Bro. Hyrum Ray of Guthrie who furnished and installed the conduit pipe for the electric wire to this faster book-printing press.

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Reprint Book Available in German Language . . .

The first book printed on this press is in the German language, entitled "Divine Healing For Soul and Body" by E. E. Byrum, which has been out of print for a number of years. Orders have already been placed for this book from German-speaking people in West Germany, Canada, and the U. S. This excellent volume of 282 pages will be bound in a heavy paper cover. Delivery date is expected to be about the 10th of May. Perhaps other German people would like to order this book. The price is \$2.25 per copy, plus 60c for postage and handling. Orders must be written or typed in English.

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South Carolina Brethren Gone Home . . .

Bro. Hudson Crummie of Holly Hill, S. Carolina, wrote that Bros. Eddie Driggers and Kelly Scott of that area passed to their eternal rest the first part of March, 1979. Both were infirm with age. For many years Bro. Eddie Driggers did personal work and faithfully passed out much gospel literature from this office. His love for the truth will long be remembered by those who knew him.

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The annual spring meeting at the chapel on the corner of Third and Phillips, Oklahoma City, closed on April 22. This writer and his wife were privileged to be there in one service. Bro. E. J. Trotter of California brought a good message on the text, "Sirs, we would see Jesus."

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Gospel Work in the Philippine Islands . . .

In the month of March, Bro. Policarpo Encabo and a company of gospel workers who live in the Cebu area of the Philippines made a five-day evangelistic tour of the five islets of Bohol Province, holding gospel services and passing out many copies of several titles of gospel tracts in the Cebuano dialect which we had printed for them. The tour was made in his pampboat, the Targum.

Bro. Alberto Jover of the Philippines has translated a number of our English gospel tracts into the Cebuano dialect which we printed and returned sev-

eral thousand copies to him for free distribution. Pray for the advancement of the mission work in the Philippines, as time is running out.

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Church of God Guest Home Needs More . . .

Sister Vera Forbes is still the only elderly resident at the Church Guest Home here at Guthrie, and more nice rooms are waiting to be occupied. This is an ideal situation for our elderly isolated saints where they would have the privilege of attending the worship and preaching services. Come and see for yourself. All elderly, able-bodied members anywhere who desire more information should contact the secretary-treasurer, Bro. Bob Sallee, 916 West Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

After completing her burden to get the Home opened, the manager Sister Mildred (Dolly) Brown has tendered her resignation which is effective the last of April. The urgent need NOW is for the Lord to burden a qualified Christian couple (man and his wife) to take over the management of this Home. An allowance with board and room will be provided. Interested saints should contact Bro. Bob Sallee as soon as possible, who in turn will contact the Board.

Let us continue to pray that the residents and managers will be provided for this Church Home, and that it will prove a real spiritual and temporal blessing to our elderly saints.

—L. D. 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.

Bible Readings for Bible Students and for the Home and Fireside compiled by S. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle. Originally published in 1902, this excellent volume contains 432 pages of Scripture references and comments on many Bible subjects. Nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00.

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.

Life's Golden Gleanings by Ruby*E. Stover. She records many experiences of her childhood, and how God answered prayer in marvelous ways in her family and through the years in the gospel work. 94 pages in nice paper cover. Price, \$1.00.

Adventures in the Land of Canaan by R. L. Berry. An instructive allegory of true-to-life experiences in the grace of sanctification. 128 pages in paper cover. Price, \$1.00 per copy.

The Christian Church; Its Rise and Progress, by H. M. Riggle. Bound in cloth cover, 488 pages. Price, \$5.00.

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

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

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.

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.

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.

The Battle of Armageddon by Ostis B. Wilson. Just off the press, this is a clear exposition of this much misunderstood Bible subject in a 16-page pamphlet. Copies are FREE here at the office. Include postage for mailing copies to your address.

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 sal-

vation is made plain for young people and adults. The price is 35c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

Divine Healing for Soul and Body by E. E. Byrum. Available ONLY in the German language, it contains 282 pages bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.25.

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.

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In Memorial

Newton Elmer Blacksher, born Dec. 6, 1888, passed away March 10, 1979, at 90 years of age. He died in the faith. He is survived by his wife, Edna Blacksher, of the home, 902 W. Central, Springfield, Mo. 65802. Pray for her.

Bro. Murphry Allen and Sister Ruth Murphey officiated.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Sis Lela (Jackson) Henry was born February 6, 1895, in Birmingham, Alabama. She departed this life April 2, 1979, in her home at Okmulgee, Okla.

In 1916, Lela Henry married Horice Henry. To this union one son was born. Her husband preceded her in death on Dec. 20, 1943.

Being reared by a minister of the gospel, Brother L. L. Jackson, Sis. Lela had a very tender heart for the truth early in life. She was faithful to attend services until her health failed, but she still loved the Lord and His people.

Survivors: one son, Hilery Henry of Okmulgee, Okla.; a foster daughter, Mrs. Opal Lee Love of Salem, Oregon; four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, 13 great-great-grandchildren, one great-great-great-grandchild, and other relatives.

Bro. W. Warren officiated at the service, and interment was in Mt. Zion Cemetery.

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:—

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.

Jefferson, Oregon—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.

Myrtle, Missouri—August 1 to 8.

Bakersfield, California—August 3 to 12.

Boley, Oklahoma—August 17 to 26.

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

OKLAHOMA CAMPMEETING AT GUTHRIE, OK.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, May 25 to June 3, 1979, at the chapel located on the corner of Sixth and West Warner Streets, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this 45th annual campmeeting on these grounds. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. Dining hall and dormitories are on the grounds. Expenses will be met by free-will offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting, the salvation of souls, sanctification of believers, and the divine healing of bodies.

Contributions should be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, Rt. 2, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. For further information, contact the pastor, Brother Leslie Busbee, 1014 West Mansur, Guthrie, Okla., 73044, phone 405-282-2421. The phone number at the chapel is 282-5499. Come and hear the old-time reformation truth, and let us worship the Lord together in the unity of the Spirit and be brought to the unity of the faith of the New Testament.

—L. D. Pruitt

CAMPMEETING AT HOLLY HILL, S.C.

The annual Church of God campmeeting at Holly Hill, South Carolina, will be held, Lord willing, from June 1 to 10, 1979. Everyone is welcome to come. We are praying the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing and burden the saints to help in every way for the success of the meeting. May the Lord save and sanctify many souls.

The chapel building is designated, White Oak Church of God. From downtown Holly Hill, take

Highway 176 west to Highway 310. Turn right approximately 1½ miles to Church of God sign, then turn right two miles. If needed, phone Hudson Crummie, 803-496-5231. —Bro. Hudson Crummie
Rt. 1, Box 42, Holly Hill, S.C. 29059

SHELL LAKE, WIS., ASSEMBLY MEETING

Here at Shell Lake, Wis., we will have afternoon and evening services, beginning May 16 to the 20th. All are welcomed to come. Bring your campers, which will help in providing sleeping quarters, although some places will be provided. Meals will be served at noon. Bro. Egbert Allen will be here, but other ministers are welcome to come and help in this meeting. Pray much that the Lord will bless richly.

For further information, contact Bro. Duane LaVeau, Rt. 1, Shell Lake, Wis. 54871, telephone number 715-468-2798.

REPORT OF WICHITA, KAN., MEETING

The saints at Wichita, Kansas, give thanks to God for His generous answer to prayer. We had asked Him to send us the Word that was needed and to send it forth with power and authority. He did just that, and the truth thundered forth, hammering, cutting, and strengthening where needed. It accomplished just what the Bible says it would: it reproved, instructed, corrected, and presented the doctrine and righteousness.

We feel that everyone who had his heart open and was hungry most certainly was blessed and filled. We were advised that if we received and took heed to what we heard, we would be in a better and deeper place after the meeting. However, we were warned that if we did not take heed and move, we would be worse off because we could not remain in the same place. Thank God for His continued faithfulness in these evil and perilous times when only a very few seem to be able to enter in at the strait gate, and fewer still are able to stay in the narrow path. We feel much was accomplished in the meeting, but time will tell just how much. —Shirley Knight

SUMITON, AL., SPRING MEETING REPORT

With grateful hearts we thank the Lord for a wonderful meeting here Easter week-end. Saints from six different states, beside Alabama, came to worship the Lord. The spirit came down in a mighty way, as the Word of God was preached and the songs of Zion were sung. Many testified of the love of God and how He had blessed them. We are still praising God today for the love that was shown throughout the meeting and for His many blessings to us.

The dear Lord worked mightily in our behalf just before the meeting. My daughter and son-in-law (Roy and Betty Herron) have had problems with

their well running low of water for a couple of years. When company would come, the water often ran out completely. Pipes had been laid for city water, and we prayed earnestly that they would be connected before the meeting. On Wednesday afternoon before the meeting started on Friday, connections were completed and the water was turned on. Also, the weather had been terribly stormy with flood conditions for several days before the meeting, but the Lord gave us beautiful weather for the meeting. We thank the Lord for all He does for us.

—Sis. Pearlene Whitson

National Missionary Fund Report

Dear saints scattered abroad: We send warm greetings of divine love to each one. Surely we are happy to say God is our refuge and strength and a present help in time of need. We realize more than ever that the race isn't to the swift, but to those who will endure unto the end.

We want to thank each one who has had a part in reducing the debt on the Trans Van for Bro. Curtis Williams. We know the Lord will not forget your sacrifice of love. We want you to know it is appreciated. There is such a need in missionary work, and Bro. Curtis is willing to go, and he labors over a large area. Let us pray that God will give him strength and courage as he ministers to those in need.

We are also praying the Lord will open places for the evangelistic tents to go throughout the summer. Surely, we are nearing the close of this gospel day, and we must keep busy for souls, or others, too, will be lost. We may not see the good that is accomplished until we get to heaven. That is the reward for which we are striving.

Some of us cannot go, but let us be faithful in sending those whom God has called.

Yours for the truth,

—Bro. Ralph and Sis. Inez Beisly

NOTE: We still owe \$5,681, plus interest, on the Trans-Van for Bro. Curtis Williams. May faithful stewards of the Lord's money continue to send offerings until this debt is paid. Please send your contributions directly to the secretary-treasurer of the Church of God National Missionary Fund, Bro. Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas 67337.

LOVE, JOY, HOPE, PEACE

Love, joy, hope, peace,

May they never, never cease,

Words of wisdom and delight,

That make the Christian's life more bright.

Love, joy, hope, peace,

May they evermore increase,

Until the world can plainly see

We are ever one with Thee.

—Edward M. Brandt

Prayer Requests

Calif.—“Please pray for me. I have an affliction on my body. I want to trust God for my healing, but I am often accused by the enemy of my soul. I love the Lord with all of my heart. I have sought help and have been to the altar many times, but it seems like I just can't get satisfied like I desire. If all of the saints will pray for me, the devil will have to move.”

—A Reader

Ohio—“Pray for my sister. She can't walk and is in a lot of pain. . . . Pray for my husband who has hardening of the arteries of the legs and can't walk.”

—Mrs. Vernon Fetzer

N. Carolina—“I have an affliction that I want the Lord to heal, so remember me in prayer.”

—Vono C. Baker

Ind.—“For about three years or more I have had trouble with my neck. The muscles seem to be very tense and will jerk. They seem to pull my head to one side; also my head shakes. I do not know what the trouble is, but the Lord knows all about it.”

—Betty Baker

Texas—“Please pray for my dear wife. She has cancer. We are trusting God for her healing.”

—Harvey Johnson

Mexico—Sis. Edith (Cole) Lara's sister-in-law had cancer removed from her body. She needs prayer. Sis. Edith needs prayer also, as she has her sister-in-law's four children which makes nine children to care for. She needs extra strength under the strain of caring for the missionary work, besides seeing about her husband's sister and family. She carries a burden for others in the congregation who are sick, and also for the souls who need salvation around her.

La.—Do pray for Bro. Dallas Flynn. He is afflicted and unable to care for himself. Sis. Mamie, his wife, is also up in years and not very well. The added care is hard on her.

La.—The Lord has been helping Bro. Troy and Sis. Christine Gentry's baby in many ways, but she still needs complete healing. Since her birth, the doctors have taken control of her, but they let the parents keep her at home. The doctors have been amazed at all God has done. They thought she would be paralyzed in her legs, but she moves them. Her head began to enlarge so they have put a tube in her head that goes to her stomach to drain the water out of her head. When I saw her, she turned her head and looked at me while I was talking to her mother. Her parents have her consecrated to the Lord.

La.—Pray earnestly for the healing of Bro. Albert Green who recently suffered a severe stroke. He is up in age, and for many years he has been sincerely concerned with the work of the Lord.

Mo.—“Please pray for me. I don't have much strength and can hardly walk, but I am not giving up. I am looking for help. God has performed many miracles in my lifetime. He is still able.”

—Goldie Knapp

Mo.—Bro. Murphy Allen, minister of the gospel, has been afflicted for some time, and the condition is getting worse. Pray earnestly for his complete healing for the glory of God, as he is much needed in the gospel work.

La.—Remember Bro. C. C. Carver's wife, Sis. Eva, in prayer. She has a serious affliction on her body. There are knots in her neck, but her trust is fully in the Lord.

W. Va.—"I fell on steps, but don't know how serious my fall has been yet, but I can't use my right arm. I have arthritis so very badly all over. Please pray for me." —Gladys Morgan

The Lord has help for His trusting children in every way that they have need. We are serving a God of power. He does all things right. We must trust His wisdom as well as His power. Be encouraged, dear saints, and keep your faith steady in the Lord. He will honor faith where ever He sees it.

The Lord blessed my soul while I was in some meetings in Louisiana during the last month. It was wonderful to preach to hungry souls. Many today do not appreciate God's Word. It becomes an old saying to them. How sad! We were glad to be with the saints in Hammond, Loranger, and Baton Rouge. Different ones have some burdens for which we are in an agreement of prayer. We know that God is plenteous in mercy. I was reading this morning in Psalms which said, "The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down . . . The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth." Psa. 145:14, 18. Let us be encouraged in the Lord. He has a satisfying portion for every soul. He has in His storehouse everything we need.—Sis. Marie Miles

In Memory of Bro. Ira Stover

A Little Step Away

To close the eye, to fall asleep,
To draw a labored breath,
To find release from daily cares,
Is what we know as death.

Is this the crowning of a life,
The aim or end thereof?
The totaled sum of consciousness,
The ripened fruit of love?

It cannot be, for works of God
Are wrought for nobler ends,
And those continue on
In the hearts of kin and friends.

It cannot be, for they live on
A little step away.
The soul, the everlasting life,
Has found a better day.

—Sis. Emma Dille

"Nothing lies outside the reach of prayer—but that which lies outside the will of God." —Sel.

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (March 19)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, the faithful workers in the Print Shop, and the saints abroad: We send our loving greetings to all of you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, and our great Healer and Comforter in the times of trouble.

Thank you very much for your kind letter dated March 3rd, and the enclosures were noted with a grateful heart. I was very sorry to note that Bro. Wm. McCoy finished his course, but he has entered into eternal peace and rest. I remember him well, and surely he was a precious man of God. For him, death was a promotion from earth to heaven.

We had a very wonderful and profitable meeting at Niranam from Feb. 8 to 11, when the new chapel built there was opened for services. After the Niranam meeting we conducted another meeting at Kulakkada which is a new center. Last week several young people got saved in that place during the meeting. One more meeting remains to be held which will take place at Peringodu in the last week of March. We had very blessed meetings this year in many places, and as a result the church was edified and awakened.

We continue to pray about the need of a Van in this area and wait for God's appointed time. He knows our needs well. We appreciate your concern for our needs.

Yes, brother, we print our Malayalam paper, *Evening Light*, each month. Herewith is a copy of the March issue.

We have started to build a parsonage building on the new campmeeting ground.

May God touch you for a complete healing, and prosper your efforts for His cause.

With love and prayers, yours in His service,
—John Varghese

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (April 2)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of the great High Priest of the redeemed. Paul exalts Christ as the only "mediator between God and men." (1 Tim. 2:5). No earthly person or system is needed to reconcile men to God. Christ is our great High Priest and there is no necessity for anyone else to intercede for us. Certainly Paul himself requested the prayers of others, and we should do likewise; but this is far different from having another to intercede mediatorially for us.

Thank you again for your letter dated March 3, 1979, which had earlier been acknowledged in a separate letter. . . .

Regardless of tragic experiences which have to be undergone, the battle for the freedom of entangled souls continues to be waged fearlessly, with thanks to God for its encouraging results. The apostle Paul likened the Christian life sometimes to a warfare. Nothing in life which is valuable comes without some effort. There are battles against evil to be fought, stands against wrong to be taken, and real

enemies to be met and defeated. Satan's most effective instrument in this battle for souls is discouragement. One who is really discouraged is half-whipped. The correct attitude to put Satan to flight is, "Though all things seem to be against me, and everything seems wrong, I am not quitting, now or ever." Satan can not match a courage such as that. Praise God!

Moving as the Lord directed, this writer, his wife, and Bro. Alphonsus Okwosha made their way to Auchi recently to visit, strengthen, and fellowship with the brethren of that area. The visit was received with an exceeding great joy, and a request to increase its frequency was generally expressed. Bro. Ben O. Adesoro is the pastor of the group. Okpella, Fugar, Ogbona, and Jattu were covered in the tour for an evangelistic survey, as we intend, Lord willing, to hold evangelistic meetings in these towns when Auchi and Ishan areas are to be evangelized in about the second week of May.

We thank the Lord for the present look of the Gospel Van, of the newness of its engine, made possible through the liberal contributions of His few vessels, whom the Lord, we pray, should shower His blessings upon wherever they are, be they in the Oklahoma City area or in Wichita, Kansas. Many wealthy people have used their money for Christ's cause and did great good with it. It is not money itself that is evil, but "the love of money." To set no special affection upon money, but to use it for God's glory is indeed the only proper attitude toward wealth. It is not so much the amount of money one has which counts, but the way in which it is held and used. If one has wealth, God will hold him responsible for how it is used. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," and in the end all that one has belongs to God. "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." I Tim. 6:7.

Faithfully yours in Him, —Titus Enu, pastor

From the Mail Box . . .

Ohio—I have been receiving your *Faith and Victory* paper since the 1920's. A friend gave me a copy. She said, "Oh, I know you will just love this little paper; it's a jewel." I am sending you a dollar to send it to a friend of mine for a year. I'm sure she will love it, too.

—Flora Jacobs

Ill.—Thank the Lord for a resurrected Saviour and the hope we have in Him. We rejoice in the God of our salvation and have a strong desire to follow Him all the way.

We are grateful for the saints' prayers and we remember them often in our prayers.

—The Reineking

Calif.—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . We had a sing-spiration Saturday night here in Orland, and preaching Sunday with morning and afternoon services. We had two glorious days in Zion, singing and prais-

ing the Lord. Twenty-four saints from congregations south of us and three from Oregon came. . . . It was like heaven coming down to us. It will be great when we all can go Home and be together forever. We know this is the saddest part of it all—having them leave us after such a heavenly time together.

Our daily prayer is that we will all be on fire for God, keep measured up and prayed up, so we can meet the Lord in peace.

Christian love, —Letha Reece

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Brother Lawrence: Greetings of Christian love in the name of Him who was, is, and is to come. Surely, His coming cannot be too distant in view of world events. . . . Pressures to conform to the world are becoming so great, especially on our young people. The world has their image (promoted by TV, movies, schools, etc.) to which they desire the people to conform, and God has His image (promoted by Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the Church). The choice is ours. . . .

Your Brother in the One Body, —Jim Broker

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Oregon— . . . Students of the private school I attended were strictly urged to obey the dress code. The teachers took a special interest in the individual. They gave the students Christian counsel in regard to marriage, the future, maturity, soberness, and especially the everyday Christian life. They stressed the importance of an everyday devotional life.

I am persuaded that it is harder to graduate from a well-taught private school than from an ordinary public school. In a private school, one must strive for quality—quality in school work and in the spiritual sense. Greater quality can be achieved by working with people individually, rather than "en masse." The Lord needs quality Christian teachers.

Young people are highly susceptible to temptations, so the obvious thing to do is to remove the temptations (as much as possible) and start teaching them strong moral and spiritual principles.

I have understood that much of the opposition to a church school has been from within the church. I fail to understand why. . . .

Let us be strong and gallant soldiers for the Lord, and build our own institution for education for the fledgling, younger generation! Let us move one long step farther from what the world is offering our young folks. Let's give our young folks a chance.

—Ron Shirrell

It is often the case that people have a wrong idea concerning faith, and imagine it some monstrous thing almost too big for them to have anything to do with, or that it is just beyond their reach; and conclude that a person must be wonderfully favored of God above almost all common people in order to pray the prayer of faith. They forget that it is merely taking the Word of God and believing it. We are to go to the Lord like a little child to its mother, and ask expecting to receive.

—E. E. Byrum

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Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Okla.—I thank the Lord for His saving grace and keeping power. Truly, we know our help comes from the Lord.

Last year my daughter, Sylvia, was ill with a very painful condition in her ear and throat and also had a fever which caused her to stay home from work. We submitted it to the Lord. The saints were called to pray, and within a few days she was healed and back to work. Praise God!

A few days later my daughter, Portia, came down with the same condition, and she suffered greatly. We submitted it to the Lord. She had to miss school. The saints were under the burden with us. She was anointed and prayed for. The Lord gave her some relief, but she was still in much pain, and could not eat, sleep, or talk without much pain. We asked God to help us know the purpose and to heal her; for we were doing all we knew and understood. He promised never to leave us nor forsake us. Again, the Lord blessed and she felt some better, but was not healed. At this time I was fasting for her healing. Late one night everyone was asleep. . . . Sis. Marie, I'm sure you know when some of our loved ones are sick how hard this is on our weak bodies. I had grown very tired. I asked God again to give us an answer. He gave such peace and relief that Portia and I fell asleep, though only a short time. The pain awakened her in the early morning. It continued on throughout that day, but I told Portia I felt sure she was going to be healed. She suffered on through the night, but glory to God, by morning she was praising God, eating, singing and rejoicing in the Lord.

Again this year Portia had some sort of condition which caused one side of her mouth not to function. She was anointed, and this condition was submitted to God. He is so faithful to help and take care of us. She wasn't sick enough to stay inside. She has kept going on and looking to God. Praise the Almighty! He is real! She is healed, and we surely want Him to have all the glory.

We have a standing request before the Lord. We are in agreement of prayer for Bro. Pruitt's healing. We mean to obey God's Word and do His will.

—Sis. Lorene Hawkins and daughters
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—I want to write to offer my thanksgiving to God for His many blessings to us, especially for His help during the birth of our son, Brandon.

On Wednesday, March 28th, I came home from prayer meeting very stirred. I felt that I needed to pray until I could put out of mind all the cares of life, and have a time of real communion with God and reconsecrate myself to Him. It took some real pressing, but I am sure this is what prepared me for what was ahead. The very next night I went to the hospital in labor. Soon after I got there, an X-ray was taken and we learned there were some serious problems. The doctor strongly advised that he do a Caesarean immediately. He said we were tripling

the chance that the baby would have cerebral palsy or brain damage if we didn't.

We knew that God could take care of the situation, so Terry called his folks and asked them to call the saints for prayer, and he went to the car to pray. While he was gone, I reminded God that everything was in His hands and that our trust was in Him. It seemed like His presence came down and gave Terry and me a calm, peaceful feeling, and He honored our faith and trust in Him, and blessed us early Friday morning with a healthy baby boy without having a Caesarean. One of his legs and feet was bruised and swollen, but it went away in a few days.

We are so very grateful for all God has done for us and want to thank the saints for their prayers. It really touched me to know the saints were praying for us in the early hours of the morning. There is no one more precious than the family of God.

There are many other things the Lord has been doing for us, too. A day or two after we came home from the hospital, I started coming down with a bad cold and the flu, and in answer to prayer the Lord stopped it, and I have felt good since. Also, we are thankful for the Lord's protection over Terry at work many times in preventing a serious injury. God is an ever present help in time of need. It is a precious privilege to serve Him.

Our desire is to live worthy of all His blessings to us, and our prayer is that God will help us to train the child He has entrusted to us in the way of the Lord. Pray for us.

—Terry, Nancy, and baby Brandon Allen
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name: . . . First, I want to tell about the wonderful meeting we had over the Lord's day, March 25th. Bro. Tommy Melot was here and held a few days' meeting for us, and the Lord richly added to the church. Some said it was about like the day of Pentecost. But before I go on, I must testify to God's goodness to me.

On Thursday night, the first night of the meeting, I was impressed to go to the altar, but sad to say, I didn't. Friends, saints, sinners, let me tell you, "Procrastination is the thief of time, and belongs to the devil, not the saints." I had a lack in my soul and God knew about it. On Friday evening, March 23rd, I was on my way home from work when I must have blacked out, lost control of my car, crossed the median, and struck another car head-on. I woke up (praise the Lord!) a few hours later in the hospital with no memory of what had happened. Thank the Lord, the five people in the other car only received bruises and one a chipped tooth. God's mercy was with us all. I received a concussion, a cut on the head (requiring no stitches), a bruised neck and shoulder, and most of all, help to my soul. Praise God! The car was a total wreck, but the Lord knows about that, too. It was His car anyway.

Now back to the Sunday service. Before the message was delivered, souls started coming to the

altar. This continued into the afternoon service, and then when we came back for evening service it still didn't stop. Praise God! . . .

I also want to relate an instance of healing which I experienced last summer, about which I have put off writing. I had a small cyst on my back which was beginning to bother me, but praise the Lord, it is completely gone—no sign or scar.

In closing, I want to exhort all, saint or sinner, don't procrastinate and lose your soul. If you are unsaved, repent now. If you just have a lack in your life, don't put off getting it taken care of. The last words I heard Bro. McCoy speak were, "Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation." This is good advice for me and the Church of God.

I send my love to the saints everywhere, and when you think of me, remember me in your prayers.

Your Brother in Christ, —John J. Gutwein

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

W. Va.—Dear Sis. Marie: I am happy to write and tell you that the dear Lord has delivered me from coffee. Praise His name! I feel so much better and I am not as nervous as I was. I must have really been addicted to caffeine because I became very ill the second day without coffee. I was dizzy and vomiting. I had to lie still most of the morning, so I just lay there and prayed. It seemed as if the Lord said, "Your sickness won't last long, but if you give in to your craving, it will be with you as long as you live." When I was able to get up without being dizzy, I knew that Jesus had given me victory.

About a year and a half ago the Lord delivered me from cigarettes. I have so very much for which to thank Him. Keep praying that I'll ever be obedient as the Lord gives me light. That's why the *Faith and Victory* means so very much to me, since I am isolated from the saints. Every word, letter, and testimony in the paper is like being with them. I have been getting the paper for years, and I thank God always for blessing your work there. My mother enjoys the paper, too.

Please pray for my unsaved loved ones. . . .

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Patty Edmonds

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

Canada—Dear Bro. Pruitt and the dear saints everywhere: Greetings to all of you in Jesus' name. Grace unto you and peace be multiplied.

Thanks so very much for your letter. It was a blessing to all of us here. We praise the Lord for His wonderful ways, even in sickness and some trials. For Jesus is still the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Some saints were over from Ohio, and what a blessing they have been to all of us here in Canada! Sis. Stamm told me the Lord had revealed to her that I was healed. Then I said, "Praise the Lord, I am claiming it in the name of the Lord." I will be able to go back to work soon. "For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly

unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:15,16.

Our special prayers are that the Lord will bless all the campmeetings during this coming summer, and that God will give power from on high, so that the ministers whom the Lord sends out will preach the Word of God boldly. Lord willing, we will attend the Monark Springs, Mo., campmeeting again.

Please pray for us here in Canada that the Lord will have His way. We are always willing to humble ourselves so that the Church of God can progress.

Precious saints, I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to all of you for your prayers in my behalf. The Lord will not forget a cup of water given in His name, so He will reward every one of you. May the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds on Christ Jesus our Lord.

Christian love,—Bro. and Sis. George Schroeder

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

Okla.—I am so very thankful how the Lord has given me more patience. I want to express my thanksgiving for His blessings to me. It seemed I didn't fully know how to trust the Lord about my job. I put in an unspoken request to the saints and the Lord blessed me. I had a desire to please the Lord, and due to the condition of my job, He delivered me from it. I prayed and asked the Lord to give me the words I should say to my supervisor, and He did.

I got into another field of work, but it didn't work out for me, yet I felt the Lord wanted me to make the first step and I did. He then blessed me with a position at the hospital, and I feel so relieved now. The Lord impressed me with a Scripture—Psalms 73:26-28. I thank the Lord for it. I want to be a servant that He can use at all times. Pray for me.

—N. Celestine

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

Mo.—Greetings to all the saints abroad: We trust that you are all much encouraged to press the battle on. We know there are many trials and afflictions, but God has promised us grace sufficient.

The Lord has been encouraging our hearts to press on. The affliction seems to look and feel worse, but we are endeavoring to keep our eyes on Jesus and His power, and look beyond what we see and feel. Our desire and determination is to trust the Lord all the way. We've done all we know to do, and now we are standing upon the promises of God.

We surely appreciate all the love and concern the saints have shown to us. May God richly reward all. We both desire your continued prayers.

—Murphy and Natalie Allen

1808 W. Thoman, Springfield, Mo. 63876

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

Okla.—. . . I got so happy reading Bro. Harlan Sorrell's letter in the *Faith and Victory* that I just had to shout. It made me just as happy as the night God sanctified me. Oh, how I shouted and praised our God! Surely, "He is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." He is so precious to every heart

that will open wide to Him. He will come in and sup with us and flood our souls with joy, Oh, praise His precious name! I love Him with all my heart. I am so very glad He has flooded my heart with His love and joy. Keep encouraged, dear saints. Some day we will be in His continuous presence in eternity.

Bro. Harlan, I'm glad you didn't keep your blessing to yourself, but let us enjoy it with you. Keep true and faithful. Never be afraid to follow anytime God is leading you. He will never fail us nor forsake us.

—Sis. Essie Moore

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

W. Va.—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . Friday morning I went to school, and at 8 a.m. I received a call from Diane Buzzard (she and I have a trailer). She informed me that smoke was coming from the furnace vent in the living room and suggested that I come home.

Bro. Samons and my principal at school, Mr. Young, came to see if they could help us find the trouble. They discovered that the heat tape that keeps the water pipe from freezing had shorted out, and the sparks had set on fire the sawdust covering the trailer connections. When the furnace fan was on it pulled the smoke into the trailer, and Diane was alerted to the problem. We surely do thank the Lord for His mercy. Bro. Samons put out the fire, and except for some smoke, we had no damage! If the fire had started 15 minutes later, Diane would already have left for work and we would have lost our trailer. Surely God has been good to us, and we want to thank and praise His name!

We look to the Lord in prayer on your behalf that He will richly bless your work in the Print Shop. Remember us in prayer that we will be faithful to the Lord.

—Sharon Fowler

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

Oregon—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . Jesus has been so very good to me. I thank all of the dear saints who prayed for me when I fell and broke my foot and ankle. I tripped and fell. I lay on the floor 24 hours. I could not get up to phone anybody. When I would get up, I would blackout and fall again. I prayed for the Lord to take the pain away so I could bear it, yet I could not stand, as I was swollen all over.

My son came by the next evening. I could not get up, but I rolled to the door and let him in. . . . He picked me up and laid me on the divan. He wanted to take me to the doctor, but I said, "No, call the dear saints for prayer." Praise the Lord, I can walk and do most of my work. I will be 86 years of age on May 30th.

I have a liver and heart condition. Please pray for me, also for my unsaved children. I do enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper. . . .

Christian love to all,

—Mrs. Carter Wattenbarger
(Loretta Harmon's mother)

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

Alabama—Dear ones: Just want to thank God for His saving grace and wonderful mercy extended to "whosoever will" call upon Him, and that included me.

The severe headaches are less severe and I am claiming complete freedom from them and giving thanks to God for it. Praise His wonderful name!

—Leora Frink

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

Ark.—I am still saved and going on with the Lord. I love the Lord with all of my heart. He has done so much for me. I do thank and praise the Lord for bringing me through the many trials and temptations safely. . . . I do enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper. It helps me so much.

—Cherry Alba

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

Alabama—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . Recently, I became very ill. I was dizzy and could not walk nor stand. I had no control over my balance at all. I was in bed a week. Several of the saints were called to pray. I began to improve, and am completely healed. I want to give God the honor and praise for healing my body. What a mighty God we serve! Thanks to all who prayed for me. . . .—Betty Joyce Herron

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

Mo.—Dear Sis. Marie: We are thankful for God's blessings each day. We want to thank you for your prayers. Our grandson, who was hurt in a car accident, is home and doing well. We are so very thankful for God's mercy in sparing his life. The doctors were amazed at how well he got along. My eyes are feeling better, but still bother me some. Continue to remember us in your prayers.

—Ray and Mamie Butcher

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

Neb.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Marie: I'm sending you my Easter offering. Use it where it's most needed.

I love the *Faith and Victory* paper. I believe in all of the New Testament Church, just like you folks do. That is the only church that's going to stand in the tests of life. We don't know what is facing us. We see things changing so fast, but if we stay true God will see us through. He will never leave us alone. He's a friend we can depend upon. He has healed me many times or I wouldn't be here today. I'm still praying for you, Bro. Lawrence, that God will heal you. I don't know what your sickness is, but He knows all about it. Keep holding on until victory comes. I'm praying for all of you. God bless you in your work.

—Mrs. M. L. Feters

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

Oregon—Dear saints: Recently, while visiting my friend, Lucille Trimble, we ate dinner at a Senior Citizens' hall. They took our blood pressure, and when mine was taken it was dangerously high. They were alarmed and asked me to see a doctor at once, but I refused. I told them I had trusted the Lord many years and He had cared well for me, and that I had no intention of turning to man for help. I came home and was anointed and prayed for, and took it by faith, and felt God would handle the problem. I did take more precaution with my intake of salt, ate more healthful foods, and lost some weight, since I

was too heavy. I went to a fire station a few times and had my blood pressure checked, but found that though it had come down some, it still wasn't low enough to put me out of danger. The young medic there warned me each time to seek medication, although I had told him I trusted the Lord. The Lord spoke to me and asked me why I kept going there when I had been prayed for. I asked His forgiveness, and assured Him I would take Him at His Word and leave it up to Him. I felt if I could trust my immortal soul in His hands, that surely I could trust this mortal body, which will return to dust, to Him. I feel fine and have never had any indication I even have high blood pressure. I am taking it by faith and not sight. Some of my friends have warned me that I'm playing with dynamite, but my reply was that only sinners are doing that. I am ready to go or stay, whichever He chooses. One of my sisters encouraged me to hold on, that God would make me well. She feels sure that God will make me well because others need me to pray for them. She said she thought my faith was magnificent. That really gave me new courage. Someone warned me that I could have a stroke or die at the wheel of my car. She was very concerned and begged me to see a doctor at once. Many are watching me to see how I come out. I know in whom I have believed and am persuaded He is able to keep me against that day. I know some other saints who have this same problem but are, also, trusting God. Pray that I may witness to others of His healing power. We are living in a world of unbelief. I have heard some say they never saw anyone healed, so this is my opportunity to show them. My faith is fixed—live or die, I will trust Him.

Desiring your prayers, I remain,

—Sis. Grace Jones

OPENED HEARTS

Once your heart is open,
Never let it close.
Let it bloom and blossom,
Just like a rose.

Though when winter comes
The flowers disappear,
But let your heart stay open
Every passing year.

If your heart is hard,
Soften it right away.
We'll not be crowned down here,
But yonder another day.

When the trials try the heart,
And you want to close your door,
I'll tell you that won't help you any—
What would you do that for?

Jesus talks to open hearts;
Leave yours open, He'll bless.
Without Jesus Christ at all,
Your life will be profitless.

—Wanda J. Christian

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 4, in conclusion.)

The fall of Babylon is mentioned in connection with the preaching of the "Evening Light" Ministry. This last particular phase of Babylon (Protestantism—denominationalism) had not always been fallen. In its time it was much used of God, and God worked mightily with them producing great revivals in which multitudes of souls were saved. Now the time had come that God wanted to restore the Body of Christ as a visible, unified, operating body in the earth as it was in the morning time of this gospel era, free from human rule and government, with Christ as its Head and it being operated through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This was the message of the "Evening Light" Reformation—the unity of God's people and the one true church divine. It was by rejecting this message and holding on to their human institutions and creeds that the Protestantism phase of Babylon fell and went into darkness.

Then followed the call to God's people in verse 4, "Come out of her, my people," and they came. In John 10:27, Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, . . . and they follow me." In John 10:16 He said, "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." Those who were truly saved and knew God in sectism, when the "Evening Light" Message began to sound forth under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, heard the voice of the true Shepherd and recognized it and followed it, forsaking the human sects and creeds they were in and coming to the one true Body of Christ. Thus, Christ has been gathering together in one the true people of God and maneuvering them into position for the great and final conflict. The gathering began when the "Evening Light" Reformation broke in 1880 and has continued on and will continue until the final end of time. So we see that just as Gog and Magog, consisting of the dragon, the beast, and false prophet, are all being gathered together under the spirit of antichrist; so the true people of God are being called out and gathered together under the Spirit of God to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

The Battle of Armageddon is going on now and has been throughout this gospel dispensation, but more particularly in this period incorporated in the "Evening Light" Reformation time when the gathering of forces on both sides is going on in dead earnest, but it will wax hotter and hotter as we approach nearer to the end, and the forces and kinds of deception multiply and abound more and more. The Bible says, "Evil men and seducers will wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." 2 Tim. 3:13.

Dear brethren, this is no time to play around. We are in this time right now and the powers of deception are

increasing and the kinds of deception are multiplying and many are being deceived who once knew God and enjoyed His blessings in their lives, and the love of many is waxing cold today who were once fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Let us all fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life and follow the Captain of the Lord's host into the battle wherever He may lead.

I want to discuss one more thing as we come to the close. In Rev. 14:18-20 we have described the harvest of the world which could cover the same period of time I have been discussing, only by different symbols. In verse 20 it says, "And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." A tremendous thing is described here and it would be a gruesome thing indeed to think of it in literal terms. It could not possibly refer to anything literal because all of the four billion plus people that are in the world today do not have that much blood in their bodies. Then what does it mean?

In Ezek. 33:1-6 we have set forth the matter of an enemy coming against the land of Israel and the duties of the watchman who has been set by the people. He was to sound the trumpet and warn the people. It is said that if he sounded the warning and they failed to take heed and perished, their blood would be upon themselves. Also, if he failed to sound the warning and the enemy came upon them and destroyed them, their blood would be required at the watchman's hand. Then in verses 7-9 this same thing is carried over and applied to God-called prophets which He sets as watchmen for the people's souls; which would also apply to God-called, God-sent ministers and overseers in this gospel age. Heb. 13:17, speaking of overseers of congregations, says, "For they watch for your souls, as they that must give account." This also would apply in a way to any minister of God who deals with the souls of men. Paul said in Acts 20:26-27, "Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

Now what this all sums up to is the situation we are face to face with today. On the one hand, we have many ministers in Christendom today who are so compromising and fail to tell the people the consequences of the things they are doing and excusing things in people's lives which are destroying their souls and are failing to declare the full counsel of God to the people so that the blood of many souls is on their hands. On the other hand, we are in a time which is characterized by free thinking and everybody thinking for themselves, and when ministers of God are faithful to declare the full counsel of God and deal pointedly with souls about the things they are doing which will destroy their souls; many times they just pass it off and say, "I don't see it that way. I have my way the same as he has his, and I have just as much right to see it my way as he does to see it his way." So they just go on their merry way, failing to give heed and to measure up and be doers of the Word, and become deceived. Their blood is on their own hands because they were faithfully warned by the minister God had given them.

But in either case, whether it is on the people's part or the minister's part, there is a great failing today and the blood of souls is running real deep right

now. We are in the vortex of the Battle of Armageddon and much soul blood is being shed right before our eyes. This Scripture in Rev. 14:20 gives us an idea of how tremendous this thing is now and it's getting worse. So, let us fear God and keep His commandments and walk humbly before Him, lest our soul blood be mingled with the soul blood of the multitudes who are failing of the grace of God. Let us be assured that this great conflict is going to end in "victory for him to whom all triumph belongs" and if we continue faithful unto death we shall be saved eternally.

Television On Trial

"Evil communications corrupt good manners."

We can't keep the television transmission from going over our house, but we can keep it from stopping there. We can't keep the devil from coming into our home to tempt and influence us, but we don't want to invite him to take off his coat and make himself at home.

Whereas many have written on the evils of television, I want to, by the help of God, put TV on trial and let you, the reader, decide the verdict. You be the judge.

First, some argue that television is just a box and the box isn't evil. That's true—the physical elements that compose it are in themselves sinless and misappropriated. But the mechanical nature itself is contrived to relay visual broadcasts from man to man. The receiver is passive, and has no voice in what is relayed by the active transmitters, which are national companies controlled by professional entertainers.

Will you, reader, agree with Psalms 51:5, that we are conceived in sin and are also (Eph. 2:3) by nature the children of wrath? Didn't Jesus say "by their fruits ye shall know them"? Should we not then conclude from the evidence, that sinful men are in control of programming by the fruits that are spewing daily from TV?

Also, dear television viewer, have you read and understood Psalm 101:3? "I will set no wicked 'thing' [device] before mine eyes"? Verse 7 says, "He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house; he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight." Are not the bulk of programs just made-up stories? Are we not influenced by what we see and hear? Does not our mind become a part of what we feed it? Gal. 5:7 says, "Ye did run well; who [what] did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?" Verse 9, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Can we then conclude, my dear reader, that: 1. Men are by nature evil; 2. Sinners are in control of television programming; 3. We are influenced by what we see and hear; 4. Righteousness and unrighteousness, light and darkness, God and the devil, do not mix; 5. Television is a thing; 6. That we should not have wicked things, or love the things that are in the world, I John 2:15. 7. That if we do love the things of the world, the love of the Father is not in us? I John 2:15.

If you agree with these conclusions, the command is: 2 Cor. 6:17, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

A weak argument continually crops up in discussions, such as, "But we only watch the news and the weather. There are also good educational programs on occasionally." "If you control television, it's all right."

Paul says in Gal. 5:9, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." You cannot control commercials. What is more appealing than sex to sell products? Since human nature is weak, this appeals to the lust of the eyes and flesh. So we must admit that throughout all programs, good or bad, are commercials with very unchristian ways to see products.

As concerning the weather reports, Jesus said in Matt. 6:34, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow." Why should we know all the news and weather, when Paul taught in Phil. 4:8, "Whatsoever things are true [news stories are slanted], whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report [nearly all news reports are of bad things]; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things"?

I submit then, that as our thirst and hunger increase for worldly information, our hunger and thirst for God decrease. "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

One preacher said that he could sit and watch television 24 hours a day for one year and it wouldn't affect his spirituality at all. I must say I agree with him wholeheartedly. "For to be carnally minded is death." Rom. 8:6. A dead body is unaffected by life around it. A dead conscience does not feel the chastening of God. Oh, how sad! Could this be why many don't feel condemned by television viewing?

By the help of God we have submitted a trial of television. Now you be the judge, by the Word of God.

—Tom Melot

Divorce and Remarriage

There seems to be so much talk on divorce and remarriage in these days. The Lord laid it on my heart to bring some plain Scriptures to our minds that we may know the truth of the matter while there is still life in our bodies. Also, the young people need to be warned before they get entangled in it.

In Matt. 5:31, 32 we read, "It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." Matt. 19:4-9 reads, "And he [Jesus] answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for

fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doeth commit adultery." In Mark 10:11,12 Jesus said, "Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery." Rom. 7:2,3, "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man." I Cor. 7:10,11, "And unto the married I [Paul] command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband, but and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife."

Dear ones, there are many preachers today who wrest the Scriptures, preaching false doctrine on the line of adultery. Not every one who carries a Bible under his arm is a true minister of God.

Have you ever come to a sign that says, "Beware, Bridge Out," or "Beware, Bad Dog"? I believe we all realize the word *beware* means "danger, do not go near; stop, look and listen." Did you know that God put some *bewares* in the Bible for us? Matt. 7:15, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." Mark 12:38, "And he said unto them in his doctrine, Beware of the scribes, which love to go in long clothing, and love salutations in the market-places." Phil. 3:2, "Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision." 2 Peter 3:17, "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness."

Let us take the truth of the Bible and believe it, and beware of people who would teach things contrary to God's Word. Let us keep our eyes on the Bible, Jesus, and heaven, and stay in the strait and narrow way. If we live for the Lord, He has sufficient grace for us in everything we face.

—Pearlene Whitson

KINDNESS

Cultivate the disposition of kindness. It is a sweet and beautiful grace. It is full of perfume. It will cheer and gladden the hearts of others. It will brighten your home and make it an Eden. Put on, O beloved saint, put on kindness. Do not allow ugly feelings to creep over you and cause you to act hastily or to speak harshly. Give such no place in your life. Impatient feelings mar the image of Jesus in the soul, and they will rob your life of its sweet fragrance. Always be cheerful, never gloomy; always wear a smile, never a frown; always be kind, and never ill or impatient—if you would have a close walk with God and be like Him.

—C. E. Orr

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