

FAITH AND VICTORY

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The Garden of Eden

When man was first formed in the morning of time,
His lot and surroundings were pure and sublime.
The sun's gentle ray kept the season just right,
And no danger befell them by day and by night.

Sweet, ripe, luscious fruit in abundance did grow,
And life everlasting the Lord did bestow,
For grew in the midst of that Eden so fair
The blest tree of life theirs so freely to share.

No sorrow, no sickness, no anguish or pain,
No back-bending labor, no problems or strain!
Most blessed of all was the Spirit's sweet lay:
The voice of the Lord in the cool of the day.

So sad that their hearts little value did place
On all of the joys their Creator did grace—
To forfeit it all, disobeying His will,
To yield to temptation their lust to fulfill.

Thank God for salvation, our souls to redeem!
Once more to partake of that life-giving stream!
His presence to know and His sweet voice to hear:
The Garden of Eden once more to appear!

—Leslie C. Busbee

John 3:16

God's gift of love through Jesus Christ
Is freely given all;
He wants you for His very own,
Oh, sinner, heed His call.

Come to Jesus, He is waiting,
Come at once and don't delay,
Come to Jesus, blessed Saviour,
Let Him have His perfect way.

Do not wait and do not tarry,
Believe His Word, it cannot fail;
Jesus pleads, He's ever waiting,
Let His glorious will prevail.

—Edward M. Brandt

The Debt We Owe

In the beginning, God said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die." Gen. 2:17. Let us notice that God said, "Thou shalt surely die!" Adam and Eve plunged the entire human race into death, or separation from God, by their transgression of God's Word. Human efforts, even of the deepest sincerity, could not restore us mortal creatures to the plane of purity that would meet our infallible Creator's approval. In Rom. 3:23 we read, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Also, we find in Rev. 5:4, that "No man was found worthy." Praise the Lord, for the "new song," as sung in verses 9-14, and for Jesus Christ the Son of God "who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree." 1 Pet. 2:22, 24a. This was the greatest debt ever paid by anyone for someone else.

While we can never repay Christ for what He paid for us, He leaves us with a great responsibility toward others. We find no place for one to be idle. On the contrary, read Jesus' words in Matt. 20:6, 7, "And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? They say unto him, because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; . . ." When asked, "Why stand ye idle" indicates the Holy Spirit pleading with sinners. Notice that as soon as they were hired (or saved) they were bidden, "Go ye also into the vineyard." We believe He intends for all to be busy in His vineyard. All souls (no exceptions) will automatically receive a burden given by the Holy Spirit that will cause them to seek to be a help to others round about. Even a smile of love and understanding can be of great help to a soul in trouble.

Some may be limited in some capacities, but "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all

in all." 1 Cor. 12:4-6. Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35b. There is a great need for consecrated and qualified workers in all areas of the gospel field. Yet this does not mean that all should leave their homeland. In the natural grain harvest, it takes the plow, drill, combine, tractor to pull and the truck to haul. The grain would not get to the elevator by plowing only, neither could a truck that hauls the grain do the planting.

We believe the hand of God's time-clock is pointing toward the latter part of the eleventh hour. The Scripture definitely does teach us to work with our hands, but not to become involved in this world in an excessive measure. Matt. 24:46 says, "Blessed is that servant whom his Lord when he comes shall find so doing."

Sometimes, it seems people may feel they have done their part. We see them retire and go back in the shade tree of seeking financial achievement. God forbid! Salvation, especially sanctification, brings a deep, sensitive feeling of gratitude to the One who redeemed us. Therefore, we owe the strength of the rest of our lives to our Lord.

We are serving a God who is both intelligent and capable of letting us know in which row of the vineyard we are to work. First, we must reach a place of total submission to the will of God. After one has fully said, "Thy will, not mine, be done," God will abundantly bless with immeasurable blessings in many different ways, including financial benefits. Jesus said, "So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do." Luke 17:10.

We were all at one time under a feeling of guilt from a life of sin. What glad news it was when we heard that Christ died for us and we could be delivered. Wasn't that wonderful to know we could be forgiven? But let us be reminded that it was through the sacrificial efforts, and sometimes the death of consecrated individuals, that we ever came to know of the great plan of salvation. Let us also be workers for Jesus. — Paul Sorrell

God's Down Front

The Oriental shepherd was always ahead of his sheep. He was down in front. Any attack upon them had to take him into account. Now God is down in front. He is in the tomorrows. It is tomorrow that fills men with dread. God is there already. All the tomorrows of our life have to pass Him before they can get to us.

"God is in every tomorrow,
Therefore I live for today,
Certain of finding at sunrise,
Guidance and strength for the way;
Power for each moment of weakness,
Hope for each moment of pain,
Comfort for every sorrow,
Sunshine and joy after rain."

—From *Streams in the Desert*

Complete Separation Announced!

Daniel S. Warner's account of how he was led to sever his connection with the holiness association, which he began to see was but a milder form of sectism, is given in an editorial for June 1, 1881:

Saturday, April 22, the hand of the Lord was heavily upon our soul, had no relish to converse with anyone but God. Finally, in company with two brethren we went into the house of God at Hardinsburg, Ind., and placed ourselves under the searching eye of God, when the Spirit of the Lord showed me the inconsistency of repudiating sects and yet belonging to an association that is based upon sect recognition. We promised God to withdraw from all such compacts. Being dearly attached to the holiness work, we attended the Association at Terre Haute, and tried to have the sect-endorsing clause removed from the constitution. Its substance is as follows, speaking of local associations:

"It shall consist of members of various Christian organizations and seek to work in harmony with all these societies."

We offered the following substitute: "It shall consist of, and seek to cooperate with, all true Christians everywhere."

We had supposed that fellowship and cooperation should not exclude any person or truth that is in Christ Jesus, and that we should not be compelled to bow down to anything not in, nor of, Christ Jesus.

We were positively denied membership on the ground of not adhering to any sect. And now we wish to announce to all that we wish to cooperate with all Christians, as such, in saving souls—but forever withdraw from all organisms that uphold and endorse sects and denominations in the body of Christ.

An event that had to occur sooner or later was Brother Warner's separation from the Northern Indiana Eldership. At the Eldership meeting which convened at Beaver Dam, Kosciusko County, Ind., in October, 1881, he proposed some measures by which that body might be made to conform more perfectly to the Bible standard with reference to government. In this he would not be heard, and on their rejection of his reform measures he realized, probably for the first time, that the new Eldership, bent on continuing their human organization, was a sect with which he must sever his connection, and he then and there did so. This event does not properly mark his coming out of spiritual Babylon, as some have supposed. In heart he had already been out, and had preached against sects. But he ignorantly supposed that the Northern Indiana Eldership of the Church of God was not a sect and therefore that he was keeping clear of sects. Thus his act at Beaver Dam was a *keeping out* of Babylon as much as a coming out. It was the latter only in the outward sense, but of course it emphasized and gave more definite charac-

ter to the anti-sectarian stand he had previously taken.

There were others in attendance at the Eldership meeting who had heard his preaching against spiritual Babylon and who also took the same step with him. They were David Leininger, William Ballenger and wife, and F. Krause and wife. We give their names as being of those originals who declared themselves free from all outward forms of Babylon.

A similar thing occurred in Michigan. About the same time the Northern Indiana Eldership was formed, there originated near Pompeii, Gratiot County, Mich., the Northern Michigan Eldership of the Church of God. This body was formed because its members had been isolated from and generally dissatisfied with the old Eldership, which sanctioned secrecy and was steeped in tobacco. About the fall of 1878 there joined this new Eldership J. C. Fisher and his wife, Allie R. They had never heard of Brother Warner at that time. In the spring of 1880, J. C. Fisher had occasion to visit Indiana on business, and it happened that while there he heard Brother Warner preach, and he accepted the doctrine of holiness and received the experience. The following autumn the Fishers sent for Brother Warner to come up to that part of Michigan and preach holiness. It was then that Allie R. consecrated for and also received the experience of sanctification.

A year later, just before the annual meeting of the Eldership (Oct. 1881), the Fishers and others, thinking to get the Eldership to accept holiness and thus make good the claim of being the true church, started a holiness meeting at Carson City, where the Fishers lived, and again had the Brother Warner present. This was right after the meeting in Indiana where Bro. Warner had declared his separation from the Northern Indiana Eldership. The situation was similar to what it had been in Indiana. Bro. Warner had been preaching on the true church and setting forth its divine government, and the hope of these Michigan saints was that if they could get the Eldership to accept holiness they might get them to do away with the human machinery and fill the true church requirement. In this they were disappointed. Before the holiness meeting was over, the Eldership showed its opposition. Upon this, the Fishers and a good number of others, nearly twenty in all, withdrew from the Eldership.

Thus there were two centers where a stand of independence with regard to the Eldership and human ecclesiasticism had been taken. These two congregations of saints—at Beaver Dam, (Ind.), and Carson City, (Mich.),—were the earliest in the United States (so far as the author knows) who had stepped completely out of Babylon and had taken for their basis that of the New Testament Church alone.

—From *Birth of a Reformation* by Andrew L. Byers

CHRIST ALONE

Christ alone is the only way to a better world, a brighter day!

—Edward M. Brandt

Cleansing the Inside of the Cup



"Ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. . . . cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. . . . ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." Matt. 23:25-28. Jesus spoke these words to some people who appeared to men to be righteous, but their hearts were full of sin. If the "inside of our cup," or our heart, is not clean it makes little difference to God how clean we get the outside. Sometimes people can spend so much time in cleansing the outside to meet the approval of man that they neglect the inside. We surely don't want to "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

To illustrate this point, let's consider a car. Someone could keep his car clean and shiny, polishing it every week, but if he neglects the engine and its parts, the car will one day prove of little service to him. Naturally we want a car that looks good on the outside, but the most important part is the car's motivating parts. The same is true with men. The body is what man sees, but God looks at the "motivating parts." Our heart must be kept clean and oiled with the love of God so that His graces can flow out.

We measure up on the outside as God gives us understanding because it is our desire to do what we know pleases Him. His laws are "written in our mind and heart." *Measuring up* to God's standards in our daily living is not salvation, but is a *result* of salvation of the heart. "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Matt. 12:35. When someone refuses to clean the "outside of the cup," or the body, and things that pertain to earthly living, we can be sure there is uncleanness on the inside. "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from *within*, and defile the man." Mark 7:21-23.

Let us realize that we must have our hearts — the will, affections, desires, attitudes — pure before God in order to be His child. May we sincerely pray the prayer of David: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalms 139:23, 24.

— Sandra Whitson

ATTENTION PARENTS!

When do you take the first steps to keep your boy or girl from getting *hooked* on dope?

"You begin when they are two, or not over five, years old at the most. These are very important years. Youngsters remember so much more than adults realize they do."—Joe Baker (conclusion from studies)

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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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.

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Single copy, three years\$1.00

Roll of 4 papers to one address, one year ...\$1.00

Write for prices on larger quantities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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O, God of grace and God of glory,
In darkest lands Thy light shall be,
A love that knows no breadth nor depth,
To guide the savage soul to Thee.

—Edward M. Brandt

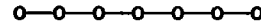
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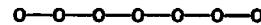
CHRISTIAN GREETINGS TO OUR READERS:

According to our usual policy, no paper was published for the month of August, which allowed time for our faithful co-workers and all of us to attend campmeetings in July and August. However, some activity continued here at the Lord's Print Shop through most of the summer. The mail was taken care of, and the orders for gospel literature were filled almost every work-day.

Quantities of gospel tracts, papers, and booklets were sent or taken to various campmeetings and tent meetings for free distribution. Through the year, thousands of pages of English, Spanish, German, and Philippine gospel literature have been processed, printed, and mailed out free of charge to distributors and readers in this country and overseas. Your free-will contributions have made this literature ministry possible, and thereby you are laying up treasures in heaven, as Jesus commanded, where they will never fade away.



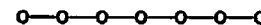
Our co-workers are back from the campmeetings and trips, and are again busy in their respective departments in the office and shop, printing and mailing out the gospel literature. "The Beautiful Way" paper and the "Bible Lessons" for the fourth quarter of 1979 are in preparation for the press, as well as this September issue of "Faith and Victory."



Former Co-Workers Plan Marriage . . .

Sister Elois Eck, a faithful co-worker here at the Lord's Print Shop for more than three years in the correspondence and type-setting departments, terminated her services here for the Lord on July 13, 1979, in preparation for her marriage to Brother Mark Spinks of Oklahoma City who is also a former member of the Faith and Victory family. He rendered service to the Lord in this literature ministry in the years of 1973-74.

Their wedding is announced for 6 p. m., Saturday, September 15, 1979, at the Church of God chapel in Enid, Okla., with Bro. Ostis B. Wilson officiating. May God's blessings rest upon this union, and grant them a long and happy life together in the service of the Lord.



It was the blessed privilege of this writer, his wife Maybelle, Sister Maude Hornbeck, and Sister Evelyn Taylor of Guthrie, Okla., to go in a company to attend the last few days of the Hammond, La., campmeeting which closed with victory on July 8th. The Word was preached with holy anointing. Many souls were saved, and much rejoicing and praises to God were heard. As usual, we enjoyed our stay in the home of our son Byron and his wife Clarice during the meeting and a few days afterward. For the first time we saw our first great granddaughter Christy, born June 5th, whose parents are Nelson

and Genece Doolittle. Christy is also the great granddaughter of Sister Evelyn Taylor who accompanied us from Guthrie.

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Books Just Off the Press . . .

The book, "Church of God Doctrines" by C. C. Carver, which has been out of print for many years, is now available for prompt shipment. Containing 180 pages in a heavy paper cover, the book is priced at \$2.00 each, plus 65c for postage and handling.

"To God Be The Glory" is the title of a new book which was written by Sister Naomi Jennings of Fresno, Calif. A record of her life story in brief and experiences with the Lord, the book contains 48 pages in a heavy paper cover. The price is 60c each, or two copies for \$1.00, plus 60c for postage.

"Divine Healing for Soul and Body" by E. E. Byrum is available only in the German language. Containing 281 pages in a heavy paper cover, the book is priced at \$2.25 each, plus 72c for postage and handling.

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The 42nd National campmeeting of the Church of God, held as usual on the campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, closed with a high note of victory on July 29th. People assembled from all directions in this country, and a number of saints from Canada. On the first Sunday there were perhaps more than a thousand people on the ground, and the attendance was good throughout the meeting. The Word was preached with the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Many yielded to the conviction of the Spirit and found the joy of salvation, believers were sanctified, and other spiritual and physical help was received as the showers of blessing came down time after time. The meeting will be long remembered for the presence and power of God.

Our Bible Book Store was open on the grounds where Bibles and other gospel literature were made available to those in attendance. It was our pleasure to meet many of our readers whom we had known before, as well as a number of new people who were there for their first time.

The date of the National campmeeting next year is set for July 18 to 27, 1980.

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Thirty-four years ago, in Aug., 1945, the American military airmen dropped atomic bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan which killed about 214,000 persons instantly. Another 111,000 are reported to have died later of injuries, radiation sickness, and disease. Japan is the only country to be attacked by nuclear bombs, and that tragedy of war has left a deep scar on mankind and the Japanese especially.

Most of the dead and injured were civilians, and such a massacre should leave a "deep scar" on the American conscience. God's unchangeable law still reads: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Gal. 6:7. This law of truth applies to nations as well as to individuals. As the song says, "God is keeping a record," and surely the United States is in line for a terrible reaping in retribution for the death of thousands of innocent civilians.

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Another shipment of 5,000 pounds of printing paper was received at the Lord's Print Shop on August 22nd which was ordered from the mill last April. As you can see, paper production is far behind the demand, and the supply is tight on many grades and finishes.

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On August 27, the Christian Path of Life school here in Guthrie began its second year of operation. Pray the Lord to continue His blessings upon this worthy effort to keep the saints' children under this Christian influence in their formative years, and that every spiritual and temporal need will be supplied. Pray also that the Lord will give special courage and grace to the teachers and administrators who are donating their time and effort in this worthy cause. Bro. Wayne Murphey is the treasurer, whose address is 1210 W. Noble, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

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This writer is pleased to report with much gratitude to the Lord that in the midst of affliction and pain He gives us courage and strength to work long hours each day in this gospel literature ministry. Though the healing touch has not come, my faith is steadfast in God's promises and fully decided to be "followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises." Heb. 6:12. It is said of Abraham that "after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise." God's way and time is always right. Praise the Lord!

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Our sincere appreciation is extended to our dear readers who have so faithfully co-operated with us in their prayers and financial support in helping to get the gospel out by the printed page in all directions. Be assured that "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love which ye have shewed toward his name." —L. D. Pruitt

PROPERTY PURCHASED ADJOINING NATIONAL CAMPGROUNDS

The trustees of the Church of God National Campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri have purchased the property at the south entrance to campground, which purchase was authorized by the saints at the last annual meeting. The purchase price was \$19,500. Purchase was made with personal loans of \$15,000, donations of \$2,551, and available general funds. We must repay \$4,500 in Feb., 1980, with the remaining loans due just after campmeeting next year. The property includes a small house and a vacant store building. The house is usable now. Improvements are required if the store building is to be used as sleeping quarters. The purchase of this land

(Continued on Page 14, Col. 2)

In Memorial

Francis Elmer Doolittle, the son of Albert and Olive Doolittle, was born on July 18, 1903, at Chelsea, Okla. He departed this life on June 27, 1979, at Pacoima, Calif., at the age of 75 years, eleven months and nine days.

On Dec. 29, 1922, in Clovis, N. Mex., he was united in marriage to Mable Nichols. To this union seven children were born, three of whom preceded him in death. Sister Mable passed away on Nov. 17, 1967.

On June 11, 1972, Bro. Doolittle was united in marriage to Sister Gladys Williams in Oakland, Calif. She preceded him in death on May 11, 1979, at Pacoima, Calif.

Bro. Doolittle accepted the Lord at an early age under the preaching of Bro. Willis M. Brown, a pioneer minister of the Church of God. He remained faithful to the Lord until the end.

Survivors include two sons, Dale Doolittle of Neosho, Mo., and Glenn Doolittle of Elizabethtown, Ky.; two daughters, Mrs. Edith Huskey of Milwaukie, Ore., and Mrs. Nelda Sorrell of Bakersfield, Calif.; two step-children; three sisters, Mrs. Maxine Johnson of Tustin, Calif., Miss Ann Doolittle of N. Hollywood, Calif., and Mrs. Hazel Phipps of Arlington, Texas; 26 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, other relatives, saints and friends.

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Mart Samons, Sister LaVern Manuel, and Bro. Bob Forbes at Hammond, La., and interment was in the Oak Grove Cemetery, Loranger, La.

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Martha Mildred Johnson was born July 25, 1901, in Alabama, and went to be with the Lord on June 26, 1979, at Morse, Texas, at the age of 77 years.

Survivors include her husband Harvey of the home, two sons, one daughter, a sister, and six grandchildren.

Services were held in the Morse Community Chapel by L. J. E. Burkham, and interment was in the Lieb Cemetery, Morse, Texas.

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Sarah E. Scott was born on Dec. 2, 1890, near Granis, Ark., and departed this life on July 8, 1979, at Camp Verde, Ariz., at the age of 88 years and seven months.

On Nov. 20, 1910, she was married to Lawrence B. Scott. To this union were born nine children, one of whom preceded her in death. On March 16, 1912, Sister Scott led her husband to an altar of prayer, where he gave his heart to God in a revival meeting conducted by Bro. and Sister J. R. Hale. They soon entered the ministry, and for 65 years they worked together hand in hand.

She leaves to mourn her passing: her husband, eight children, 35 grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, and many brothers and sisters in the Lord. Interment was in the Skull Valley Cemetery, Camp Verde, Ariz.

Lydia Stark, eldest sister of the late Bro. Ira D. Stover, passed away June 22, 1979, at the age of 93 years and five months at Corona, Calif.

She is survived by one son, Herbert Stark; one sister, Edith Wittenborn, and one brother, George Stover.

Sister Lydia loved the Lord and embraced the truth of the Church of God in 1906. She left a good testimony of being ready to go.

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Inez Jean Copeland was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 20, 1945, and departed this life July 9, 1979, at the age of 33 years, 11 months and 19 days.

In 1966, she was united in marriage to Burbridge Copeland. To this union, eight children were born, one dying in infancy.

At the tender age of seven years she sought the Lord for salvation and was saved to all she knew. She felt the leading of the Lord for more truth and united with the saints in Akron, Ohio, in the summer of 1978. Through her influence several members of her family came to the Lord.

She had the testimony that she was willing to suffer for the glory of God, and she departed this life, trusting Him.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her parents, Frederick and Inez Dorsey; her husband, Burbridge Copeland; two sons, Craig and Kenath; five daughters, Leah, Keren, Catherine, Judith and Miracle; five brothers, Frederick Jr., Artis, Charles, James and Timothy Dorsey, all of Cleveland; four sisters, Mrs. Lina Fields, Mrs. Esther Warfield, of Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Patricia Rhodes of Tulsa, Okla.; Miss Anna Dorsey of Cleveland, and other relatives, saints and friends.

The funeral was conducted in Cleveland, Ohio, by Elder Edward Pearl. Sis. LaDolia Fuller, Sister LaVerne Shaw, and Bro. Hershel Hargrave also participated.

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Vera Madura (Hassler) Forbes was born at Abbott, Texas, to E. F. and Harriett Hassler on Sept. 27, 1893. She departed to be with the Lord on June 27, 1979, at the age of 85 years and 9 months.

She was early taught of the fear and love of God. At the tender age of ten, she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour, and maintained her integrity with God throughout the remaining years of her life.

On Jan. 1, 1914, at Abilene, Texas, she was united in marriage with Erle E. Forbes. To this union were born three sons and two daughters. Their older daughter, Leota, died at the age of 12 years. Erle and Vera Forbes first made their home in Clovis, New Mexico, where Bro. George E. Harmon was the pastor.

In 1922, the Forbes family moved to Calif. Here she and her husband became active and earnest members of the Church of God congregation in Glendale. Through the years that followed were many experiences, but through them all her faith was steadfast and firm. In 1948, the Forbes family moved to Pacoima, Calif., where eventually the Church of

God campmeeting was located. Even before moving to Pacoima, Sis. Vera had been given a special burden from the Lord to work with children of all races. This was the beginning of many fruitful years teaching children the gospel of the Lord Jesus, along with sewing and cooking classes. She thus won her way into many children's hearts. She was known as "Aunt Vera" to young and old alike.

Her husband, Erle Forbes, was called from this life on Feb. 8, 1961. In Sept., 1973, she moved to Guthrie, Okla., to be near her daughter, Sylvia, and her family. In April of this year, she moved into the home with her daughter. During the nearly six years with the Guthrie Church of God congregation she won the love and respect of all there. She will be greatly missed from their midst. Some of her last words included love and concern for her family and love for all the saints, with a desire to meet each one in heaven.

She leaves to mourn her passing: three sons, J. Warner Forbes of Foley, Al., Glenn E. Forbes of Burbank, Calif., and Ivan M. Forbes of Sylmar, Calif.; one daughter, Sylvia J. Busbee of Guthrie, Okla. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, beside a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

A memorial service was held at Guthrie, Okla., on Friday evening, June 29, 1979, with Bro. O. C. Porter officiating, assisted by Sis. Marie Miles. The regular funeral services were held at Pacoima, Calif., with Bro. Ostis Wilson officiating. Burial was in Grandview Cemetery of Glendale, Calif.

[Editor's note: For more than 60 years this writer has know "Aunt Vera" Forbes, as she and her family lived at Clovis, N. Mexico, when my parents were saved on the old homestead near there and first met the saints of the Church of God at Clovis in 1916. Ever since the beginning of the Faith and Victory publication in 1923, she and Bro. Erle Forbes were faithful supporters of this gospel literature ministry, having distributed many tracts, papers, and books from this office. Their daughter Sylvia, now the Guthrie pastor's wife, volunteered her services and faithfully worked here at the Lord's Print Shop about twenty years ago when she was a single woman. "Aunt Vera" is now at rest in the paradise of God with the untold numbers of saints, and the effects of "their works do follow them," not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. May God comfort the bereaved family and the whole church, as her passing was a great loss to all of us.]

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Raymond Lawrence Piper, the son of John Wesley and Nora Piper, was born Sept. 29, 1906, at Rosalia, Kansas, and passed away at his home at Longton, Kansas, on Aug. 7, 1979.

Raymond was married to Gladys Foudray in Wichita, Ks. on Nov. 3, 1945. They had lived near Longton since October, 1947.

Raymond is survived by his wife Gladys of the home; one sister, Mrs. (Sadie) Lowell Scribner, and

one brother, John Wesley, Jr., both of El Dorado, Ks., and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted at Longton, Ks., by Bro. Leslie Busbee, and interment was in the Blankenship Cemetery, Rosalia, Ks.

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MISSOURI STATE CAMPMEETING REPORT

We are very thankful to report that the Missouri State Campmeeting held at Myrtle, Mo., Aug. 1 to 8, was one of great victory. A large number of saints attended from many states across the nation. God sent the ministers of His choosing, and the Word went forth with power and authority. A large number of souls responded and sought the Lord for spiritual help at an altar of prayer. Our hearts go up in gratitude to God because He has once again favored us with a rich, spiritual feast from heaven. The church was strengthened and built up in the most holy faith. This meeting was one which will be long remembered, and only eternity will reveal all the good which was done.

— Harlan Sorrell

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FRESNO, CALIF., CAMPMEETING REPORT

The Fresno, Calif., Church of God campmeeting for 1979 is now history, but the glory of it lingers still. The Lord was so precious, and answered prayer in sending ministerial help. Twenty-three ministers were present during the meeting, the states of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri being represented, as well as California.

The glory of the Lord rested on the meeting from the first service and gathered momentum with each service, filling hearts with rejoicing until the shouting and praises were beyond description. Conviction rested heavily on souls, and some sought the Lord for salvation, others for a closer walk with God. In two services souls began going to the altar before the singing was over and had no need for a sermon. In one of these services about fifty sought the Lord, and they were coming so fast to the front that the people had to give up their benches to make room. In all, 125 or more sought the Lord for help. The services were so governed by the Spirit of God that it is beyond the power of words to describe it.

Before the meeting started, Bro. Trotter had asked that we pray God to do something out of the ordinary for us, yet it would not be out of the ordinary with God. He did just that in many ways. One especially, Sister Rosa Wilson, was at the point of death a short time ago, and was still very ill the week our meeting started. Unknown to her, Bro. Trotter began to pray God to raise her up and bring her to the meeting. On Wednesday, I believe it was, she came. How our hearts rejoiced, just to have her on the grounds! I believe it was the next service that she was helped to the chapel. She began to sing and praise God, testify of His goodness, and the more she sang and talked the stronger she became. Oh, it was so precious! I believe

she attended every service after, and took part in them, exhorting all to trust God, and be faithful.

At the end of the meeting we received some most solemn warnings to be faithful to God, not to leave the meeting feeling a need in our souls, for they felt great danger lies ahead of us. May we take diligent heed to this warning, and not let the devil catch us off guard.

— Lavern Moles

TENT EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS

Bro. and Sister Mart Samons, evangelists of Green Bank, W. Virginia, announce the following tent and revival meetings:

An evangelistic tent meeting will be held, Lord willing, at Kingsport, Tenn., from Sept. 1st to 9th, 1979. For more information, call Bro. Samons at 304-456-4469, or Bro. Charles B. Williams, at 615-246-9450, whose address is 1620 Haga Road, Kingsport, Tenn. 37660.

The next tent meeting will be held at Laura, Ohio, from Sept. 11th to 16th. The tent will be located one-half mile south of Laura on Route 721, which is thirteen miles south of Greenville, Ohio, on Route 571. For more information, contact Bro. Manford Sowder, phone (513) 941-1522, whose address is 3101 "S" Street, Laura, Ohio 45337.

Pray that the convicting Spirit of God will accompany the preached Word and that many souls will be saved in these tent meetings. The gospel seed may be sown and watered, but God must give the increase. Pray the Lord to give special strength, wisdom, and courage to the gospel workers.

The autumn revival meeting will be held, Lord willing, at Green Bank, W. Va., from Oct. 13 to 21, 1979. The Lord is expected to send the ministers of His choosing. For more information, contact Bro. Mart Samons, P.O. Box 127, Green Bank, W. Va., 24944, phone 304-456-4469.

CAMPMEETING IN WISCONSIN

The campmeeting at Shell Lake, Wisconsin, will be held Sept. 26 to 30th, Lord willing.

There will be services at 2:00 in the afternoon, and at 8:00 in the evening. Meals will be served three times daily. Some lodging is available, and campers are welcome. Come and share the good things of God with us. Pray the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing, and that man might seek God while He may be found.

For further information, contact Bro. Duane and Sister Sue LaVeau, Rt. 1, Shell Lake, Wisconsin 54871, phone (715) 468-2798.

REVIVAL TENT MEETING IN MISSOURI

Lord willing and conditions permitting, there will be a revival tent meeting held Aug. 31 to Sept. 9, on the Skyline School ground which is eleven miles south of Norwood, Mo. Take U.S. highway 60 to Norwood, then take "C" road south eleven miles to No. 76 highway. Turn left on No. 76 two-tenths of a mile.

Bring campers, sleeping bags and tents if you have them.

For further information, write Bro. Egbert Allen, Rt. 2, Norwood, Mo. 65717, phone (417) 746-4250. Everyone that can, please come and help us. We are expecting Bro. H. H. Hargrave and company, and other ministers.

— Egbert Allen

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT SPRINGFIELD, MO.

Lord willing, the church at Springfield, Mo., will hold all-day services on the fifth Sunday of September (Sept. 30) at their chapel located at 728 N. Kansas. Come and let us worship the Lord together in the beauty of holiness.

If any minister is burdened for a meeting at Springfield about that time, please contact Brother Murphy Allen at phone 417-865-6907, or Bro. Melvin Doolittle at phone 417-736-2400.

—Saints at Springfield

SPECIAL SINGING AND FALL MEETING

The congregation at Myrtle, Mo., is having, Lord willing, a night of special singing on Saturday, Oct. 6, 1979, followed by all-day services on Sunday, Oct. 7, and a revival meeting throughout the following week. We are praying for God to richly bless and send saints and ministers of His choosing.

For further information, contact Bro. Donald Sharp, Myrtle, Mo. 65778, phone 417-938-4410.

REVIVAL MEETING AT OKMULGEE, OKLA.

The annual autumn revival meeting will be held, Lord willing, at the Church of God chapel, 1002 East McLagan, Okmulgee, Okla., from October 15 to 21, 1979, nightly at 7:30.

Get a burden for this meeting, and come praying, looking for an outpouring of the divine power of God to be manifested in these last and evil times. Oh, how we need more of the fervency of the Spirit in our midst! Time is running out, and many are not saved.

A warm welcome is extended to all the saints, and the unsaved are urged to come and hear the gospel.

For further information, contact Bro. Woodrow Warren, the pastor, at 810 N. Porter, or phone (918) 756-6425.

— Erma Johnson

NEW CARVER SONG RECORD

The Carver Family has made an LP Song Record (12 songs) in memory of our mother, Sister May Carver, wife of Bro. C. C. Carver, titled "Songs Mother Loved." Interested persons may have this record for \$6.00 postage paid by writing to Lynn Carver, 836 Drexel Drive, Shreveport, La. 71106.

On the front of the record jacket is a picture of Mother encircled by a border of flowers drawn by my brother Arnett, and on the back are excerpts from her life history she was writing in 1967 — the year of her

death. Any profits realized will be used in church work.

With Christian love, — Lynn Carver

TABERNACLE FOR MISSOURI STATE CAMPMEETING

The construction of a tabernacle for the Missouri State Campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo., is planned. The saints and board of trustees at the recent campmeeting felt the need of more seating capacity since the attendance is increasing each year. The present chapel is too small to accommodate everyone.

Anyone who wants to contribute the Lord's money for this worthy project may send his offering to Sis. Carol Sorrell, treasurer, or to Bro. Donald Sharp, pastor, at Myrtle, Mo. 65778.

Campmeeting Pictures Available

The group pictures taken in color on the last Saturday (July 28) of the National campmeeting at Neosho, Mo., are now available. There are three different pictures — one of the young people, one of the ministers, and one of the whole group. On each 8x10 color print the price is \$3.00, plus 50¢ per order for postage and handling. Please send your order and remittance *directly* to Bro. Jim Lynch, Rt. 1, Box 281-B, Monroe, Oregon 97456.

Prayer Requests

Mo.—"I need the prayers of all the saints who read my request for my eye. It grows much weaker every time I strain it." —Lillian Denkins

Calif.—"Ask everyone to pray for me. I have cancer which has spread to my lungs."

—Sis. Ruth Turner (Essie Wilson's daughter)

Central America—"I have arthritis in my left foot, poor circulation and diabetes. . . . I know the Lord is able if I fully trust Him. I have had healing so many times. Why should I doubt Him now? Never!"

—Elizabeth Sheets

Okla.—Remember Sis. Dorothy Young in prayer. She has a serious affliction, but is trusting the Lord.

Okla.—Sis. Geneva Ray needs healing of arthritis. She has her faith steadfast in the Lord.

Note of Appreciation

We wish to thank the saints for their love offerings to us during our heavy trial. The prayers of the people of God, as well as their financial support, will always be remembered with deep gratitude.

—The Troy Gentry Family

"Salvation is more than a passport to heaven; it is deliverance from the dominion of sin in this life. (Titus 2:11, 12)."

REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO AND SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

The Lord richly blessed in the Ojos Negros, Mexico campmeeting, although it was started a day late due to the death of Lupe's six-year-old son. It was encouraging to all to see how God gave her grace through it all and made her able to be back on the first day of the campmeeting with a smiling face.

Visible results did not meet our expectations in the campmeeting, but all who attended are more responsible to God, as the Word was preached with authority and anointing.

We thank one and all, and may the Lord richly bless each one for every effort you have put forth for the furtherance of the gospel in that area.

Though I got behind in the printing work while attending the Ojos Negros campmeeting, the Lord is helping me to catch up. Some forty or more tracts and books have been added to the file of those ready for printing, having completed all steps necessary to get them in the hands of the printer.

From time to time, new pleas are coming in for Spanish tapes of the 35 preached messages we have on hand.

Pray for every channel of God's work and workers in all foreign fields.

Yours for gleanings of precious souls in Mexico, Bro. and Sis. Mayarino Escobar, Ap. Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico, and Sister Opal Kelly, 919 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (July 27)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints of the holy family of God: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the sweetest that ever was heard. Thank you for your letter dated July 2 with its enclosures.

This writer and his wife travelled approximately 900 miles to and fro in three states of Nigeria to visit and fellowship with the brethren. Umuguma-Owerri in Imo State was the first to be reached in our tour. Discussions were held with the four available young people, including Bro. Benson Oparaji. Pray for them of this station to be clothed with patience and humility. Moses' first attempt to reveal himself to Israel and become their leader ended in tragic and dismal failure. (Exodus 2:11-15). God had chosen him, but He had not yet sent him. How well this illustrates that human attempts to do divine service so often end in futility and despair. Only when one is conscious of divine sanction and presence can he do a successful work for God.

The brethren at Tombia and Port Harcourt in River State were met and visited in a joyous spiritual mood. They are always ready to leap for joy to welcome to their midst their co-laborers in the vineyard of the "Great I Am." The team work and true Christian love in existence here can hardly be excelled. The Lord is steadily adding to His Church

those being saved. Important discussions centered on matters of material interest leading to the promotion of God's work. Plans agreed upon will begin an experiment shortly, for which we pray the Lord to bless and prosper. The Port Harcourt brethren are finding it difficult to secure a suitable place of worship. The present small room in use is rented at an exorbitant rate. We are praying the Lord to provide them a more suitable house in which to worship Him. A request was made for this writer and others to come to Tombia in December for the evangelization of that area. Evangelism is the supreme task that must be done, a worthy cause that should win the support of all. Similar requests are already in hand from Auch, Ishan, and Ikot Eken. We definitely need the prayers of the saints to agree with us for the provision of funds to bring to pass these scheduled meetings. Lack of means is slowing effective evangelism.

Leaving Tombia, we made our way to Ikot Eken in Cross River State, where the congregation was found in a firm state in the truth and loyalty to the Lord God of Israel. Praise the Lord! The Ikot Eken congregation deserves encouragement, as this is the only congregation known to be standing for the truth in Cross River State. It is not impossible with the Lord to raise up many more in due course. We shall be there, Lord willing, in October for evangelistic meetings.

The gospel Van (VW) was recently involved in a serious accident. A pick-up truck ran into it and badly damaged the chassis of the door side and motor parts. Thank God that nobody was inside the Van when the accident occurred. The face of the Lord is being sought for help in this tragic loss.

Join me to praise the Lord for my healing. A paralysis affected the entire left side of my body, and I had terrible pain. Members of the Utagba-Ogbe congregation thought I would pass and wept bitterly when they visited me on June 16th after closing their Sunday worship service. They prayed fervently in tears for the Lord's intervention, and He heard prayer. I am back to perfect, normal health, and can now walk without the aid of a stick. Praise the Lord! Trust Him and never doubt.

Yours in Him,

—Titus U. Enu

[Editor's note: In reply to my letter dated May 22nd, Bro. Enu acknowledged the receipt of and offered his thanks and appreciation for the liberal offering forwarded to him from the saints of California through Sister Rosa Wilson.]

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (July 23)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, each dear one at the Print Shop, and the saints abroad: Our loving greeting to all of you in the glorious name of Jesus Christ who daily loadeth us with many benefits and blessings. Glory and praise to His name!

Thank you very much for your very kind letter dated June 30, and the enclosures were noted with

much appreciation. May God bless each donor abundantly.

I was very glad to note that the Lord had blessed you in many ways this summer through the campmeetings. I am praying for the blessings upon the National campmeeting which is in progress now.

I was sorry to note that Sister Vera Forbes of Guthrie and Bro. Francis Doolittle of Pacoima departed this life, but glad to know that they entered into eternal rest in that heavenly Home. "Vera" in our language means *one who is courageous*. Sister Vera was a courageous woman to hold fast to the faith until her death. May God wipe away the tears of Sister Sylvia Busbee and all other relatives of both families.

Now we are having continuous rains. The political situation in India is getting worse. The present government has already resigned and is now oscillating. Everything will be shaken except four things: The Church of God, the throne of God, the Word of God, and the child of God cannot be shaken. Praise the Lord!

Chapel building is going on at Nadukkunnu, and another building on the new convention ground.

I got the car repaired and out of the work shop for my use. There is a debt in that connection which I hope can be cleared soon. By the grace of God everything is going well in the Church here.

We continue to pray for your health, and pronounce a blessing upon you as Moses did upon Asher, "As thy days, so shall thy strength be." (Deut. 33:25) May God give you strength as Caleb had at the age of 85 years.

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

From the Mail Box . . .

Mo.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: . . . We are so thankful that we can still report that we have peace, courage, and victory in our souls, even though we've not gained victory entirely over our affliction. We are glad the Lord gives us grace to wait upon Him for deliverance to come. We are just waiting and expecting it anytime. We know there comes a time for the Lord to bring things about. Praise His dear and holy name!

. . . We both are tired and I have weak spells often, but the Lord brings me through and I can get up and go again. I do have to rest when these weak spells hit. At times the other affliction pains very badly, but the Lord gives us grace to bear it. It does work on my nerves, but we are not complaining, for the dear Lord is very precious and good to us. We feel the Lord is holding us up and giving added strength to do as we do.

We enjoyed the campmeetings that we were privileged to attend, and we felt that the Spirit of God worked. We trust that the souls who sought the Lord will work hard to maintain their experiences and be faithful. Time is quickly running out. May

we be able to do what we can for souls in this journey of life.

May God bless you and your labors for Jesus.
—Murphy and Natalie Allen

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Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, that name which is above all names.

I grew up believing that Jesus was an impostor and the cause of all the discrimination that we suffered being Jews. I now know that He is real and has brought joy and peace into my life, such as I could not dream of. My cross is a heavy one, but He furnishes the grace and makes me able to stand. In times past He has always made a temporary way of escape that I might endure, but now He has made me able to stand. Nothing can move me. I thank and praise Him. He is more than worthy. To serve Him without reservation in any capacity is the least I can do. Words cannot express my appreciation of this wonderful life that He has given to me. . . .

In the love of God,
—Bob Mickelson

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

Miss.—. . . Jesus gave Himself for us and I love Him more and more. I just passed my 78th birthday. I know I am here for only a short time more, and I am glad I can say from my heart that I am ready any moment. I love my Jesus, my Saviour, and my Lord. There are so much sin and sorrow in this world until there is nothing here to make one want to stay.

I am a little late in sending my offering in memory of my sweet mother who passed away five years ago. I still miss her. She was such a sweet mother and I loved her so much.

I want to continue to get the *Faith and Victory* paper as long as I live. My mother enjoyed it also as long as she lived. . . .
—Grace Gill

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Ala.—Dear Sis. Marie: I really appreciate your letters very much as I am so alone and have no one to talk with about the Lord; but I know I am not alone, for I have our heavenly Father. Jesus said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." He said He would be with us always, "even unto the end of the world." . . .

I know that if I look at the waves I will begin to sink as Peter did when he walked on the water. I know discouragement is the devil's best tool. As we get older we have to take a firmer stand against depression and discouragement. Sometimes I just say, "What am I living for anyway?" But I know God has a purpose and a plan for me. Even though I can't go to church services, I can still worship God at home. I know there is a great need for prayer for all of God's children and for the gospel work to be carried on. This I can do — pray for those who can get out in the work. I am sure that many times the workers get weary when they do all they can to spread the gospel and so few people respond. We are living in perilous times. There are now more things to attract old and young alike than ever before. . . .

I am very tired tonight, but so thankful that at the age of 73 I can still work part-time to take care of my needs and to have money to help support the Lord's work. . . . Please continue to pray for me.

—Frances Everhart

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

Miss.—. . . This leaves me trusting in the One who has all power in heaven and on earth. He knows our every need, both for soul and body. Praise His holy name. . . . I do have plenty of gospel tracts and I surely enjoy reading them.

I had my 70th birthday June 4. Yes, I feel my age very much. Thank the good Lord for His mercies to me and also to others who are near and dear to Him. . . . Please remember me in prayer. . . .

—Rosa Watson

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Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This leaves me well in body and soul, looking for the coming of the Lord. May God bless all of you, is my prayer.

—Bro. Andrew Senti

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Penn.—Dear Sister Miles: I do enjoy reading all of the material I get from Guthrie, especially my *Bible Lessons*. May our precious Lord continue to bless all of you, and here is a little love offering to be used wherever you feel it's needed most.

—Sister Agnes Gaston

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Mich.—Greetings to all the saints here and there: Today finds me yet saved and on the highway of holiness, and I mean by heaven's grace to prove faithful unto the end. I am enclosing this small check to help where it is needed most. Do keep my family and me in your prayers. May God bless all of His saints everywhere.

—Lela Stewart

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

Kansas—Dear Bro. Pruitt and fellow-saints: We give glory, honor, and praise to God for still being saved and encouraged to go up the King's highway. These are trying and pressing times, and we have to be determined and honest to stay on the old path. The enemy is so sneaky and conniving that he is able to trick people and cause them to leave the right path, and they don't seem to realize they have done so. These are extremely serious times and I find many perplexing and confusing things, and desire some revelations from God. No matter how perplexed though, I am determined, like Paul, that nothing shall be able to separate me from the love of God. My motto these days is: "Heaven at any cost." I am convinced that God honors that type of determination and will lead us safely on.

Enclosed is my offering for August to be used for the foreign missionary work where needed.

Christian love,
—Shirley Knight

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

Mich.—Dear ones in Christ: The days go by so fast, and the first thing we know another month is here. I guess that is just the way it is with our lives

—“here today and gone tomorrow”— the motto of the Chicken Coup eating places. “One day will soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last.” The motto is written on their place of business, on the cups, napkins, etc. That makes one think. I wish we had more eating places like that.

Here is an offering for you to use for the glory of the Lord and to win souls for His kingdom. . . .

—Sis. Merrill Burd

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Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. I got back home safely from the National campmeeting. I was certainly glad to be at Monark Springs and I enjoyed the good services, as well as seeing many of my friends and meeting many of the saints. . . .

Pray that the Lord will have His way in my life. I surely would like to be in the camp of the saints.

Your Brother in the one Body, — Floyd Hines

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings in Jesus’ name to all of you, and praying God’s blessings upon all the faithful workers there.

Another National campmeeting at Neosho, Mo., came to a close with many victories, as battles were fought for King Jesus. Praise God forever! I prayed for the meetings. Sorry I didn’t feel able to go, as my health is not good for traveling or camp life. Nevertheless, God is still with me, and enables me to be up each day and do a little more for the helpless.

I have been enjoying the good articles in the *Faith and Victory*. They encourage my faith to follow on in the narrow way, the way of the cross which leads to victory and eternal glory in heaven.

God’s Word is so precious and wonderful to study, search and obey, in order to obtain God’s rich blessing. What a wonderful life is the life of the saints of God!

May God give all of you precious victory over all afflictions and many cares.

In His love, — Sister Julia Llewellyn

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FIFTY-FIFTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Calif.—We (Armilda and Sam E. Abbott) were married on Aug. 26, 1924. God has blessed us in many ways over these 55 long years. We have seen many miracles that God performed, and have witnessed His healing power many, many times in sickness, car wrecks, and major and minor afflictions.

About a year ago, Bro. Abbott was suddenly overcome with a severe weakness in his body, and unable to dress and help himself in any way. We called mightily on God to undertake for him. Bro. Abbott asked us all to pray that “God’s will be done.” After some time he gained a little strength, and began to eat a little while he was in that weakened condition. His heart also began to give him much trouble, and we often had to call Jack and Alberta (our children who live close) to come for an agree-

ment of prayer. Praise God, it pays to trust Him. Bro. Abbott is reasonably well now, although he still has trouble with his heart. A wonderful Saviour, Healer, and Keeper is the Lord. He will soon call for us, and we are keeping ready to go. We are encouraged in the Lord, for He knows all about us.

— Sister Armilda and Bro. Sam E. Abbott

[Editor’s note: Congratulations to Bro. and Sister Abbott on their 55th wedding anniversary! They have been faithful ministers of the gospel for many years, and may God’s presence preserve them unto that heavenly kingdom. Neither one is well in body, and a card or letter from our readers would mean so much at this time. Address: Bro. and Sis. S.E. Abbott, 1435 S. Towne Ave., Pomona, Calif. 91766.]

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



Ky.—Dear saints: ... It was about a year ago that I had a bad spell and it looked like I would die. I was taken to the hospital, although I didn’t want to go. The dear Lord brought me out of that place and I am still here. I praise His name! He is the only Friend we have. He has stood by my side all the way. I am going to give Him all the praise.

I wrote you once before and told you about my leg. I know the Lord can heal my leg. I have to wait on the Lord. I want the people to know what the Lord can do.

I want all of you to pray the Lord to work to get me out of this place. I know the Lord can do all things. I am 81 years old. I want to go all the way with Him. I love the Lord. We can look up to Him and He is always there to help. Remember me in your prayers. . . .

—Alma Humphrey

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Oregon—I wish to testify to God’s glory of how the Lord healed me of high blood pressure, a severe back attack, and a painful big toe joint that swelled and enlarged until I could not wear my shoe. I was visiting Lucille Trimble and we ate a Senior Citizens’ dinner. While there, they took our blood pressure and discovered that mine was dangerously high. I was warned to see a doctor at once and get medication. I refused, saying that I did not take medicine, but trusted the Lord. They looked shocked. Some of my family were also troubled and begged me to see a doctor, but they knew how I believed. I felt no ill effects as some do. I put myself in the hands of God and did not worry about it in the least. A couple of times I did go to our fire department and had them check my blood pressure, only to find it had not gone down much. I was then anointed by my pastor, Bro. Ostis Wilson, and the saints agreed in prayer. I refused to have myself checked anymore and went on living a normal life, feeling no ill effects. Recently a friend was checking blood pressures and took mine. Praise the Lord, it was completely normal. So I felt it was time to let folks know that God is still in the healing business. Healing was part of the atonement

when Christ died for our sins. "By His stripes, we are healed," if we only have the faith to claim it. He will surely honor faith by healing our bodies.

I also twisted my back recently doing some heavy work, and twisted my foot some way, so that my toe joint was injured. I suffered a lot with it and was quite crippled in my foot. I called Maybelle Pruitt at Guthrie early one morning and they agreed there in prayer for me. I was anointed, as is commanded in James 5:13-15. I was not healed instantly. It took some trust, by faith and not by sight, but in a little over a week the pain left. My foot began to get better and I was completely healed. I never once doubted, but held right on and I got the victory. The Lord will not fail His people. He never has. I never took any remedies of any kind. It was all done through His power. What a mighty God we serve! He has healed me many times of various afflictions. I plan to trust Him to the end. —Sis. Grace Jones

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

Oklahoma.—I am rejoicing in the God of my salvation. I've been privileged to witness at the campmeetings this summer the wonderful workings of God again. He is faithful to His trusting children. His Word has come forth with power. I've seen more of a melting down among all the saints and felt more of the sweet fellowship. I love this way, and I see Zion as the City set on a hill, pure, clean and holy. I mean by the grace of God to go right on.

Oh, may our love for souls reach out, and may we travail in prayer until Christ be formed in precious souls. Pray for the saints' children everywhere. Our burden for them should never cease. Those precious souls, if redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, could be a power in the hand of God to wield the sword of truth against the enemy of hell-bound souls. I'm sure there are millions out there in the world that need our prayers and concern, too. Let us not give up the fight, but pray on until the answer comes. Let us be sober and watch unto prayer. The great day of God Almighty is coming, and who shall be able to stand?

Every soul that professes the name of Christ should be steadfast, rooted, grounded, and unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

In His Service, —Erma Johnson

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

Ohio.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus' name, which is above all names—a name we can trust at all times. Praise the Lord!

I am still saved and encouraged to press on unto the end. We have had some battles, but through His name we are more than conquerors. Thank the Lord! I mean to be true to God. I'm glad to be a member of the family of God. Pray for the work here in Sandusky, Ohio. —Bro. James Bruner

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

N. Carolina.—Dear saints: I recently purchased the book written by the late Bro. Fred Pruitt, *God's Gracious Dealings*. It is giving me such a blessing. I can imagine how wonderful it must have been to be raised in a godly family. I pray that the Lord gives

my husband and me strength to live up to God's standards in rearing our child. I see so many parents letting their children learn to love the world. Young girls are in bikinis and have make-up on before they even reach their teens. I wore these worldly fashions — gold, pants, and tube tops. I used to wear so much eye make-up that my husband said I looked like I had two black eyes! But, praise the Lord, God took the love for those things away. Many people cling to their wedding rings and give everything else up. But do wedding rings make one's marriage? I've seen marriages break up, and both partners had expensive rings. These rings are only for vanity's sake — for others to admire. Pants are not modest by any means. Many women say pants hide one's legs and keep them warm in the winter. Pants do cover the legs, but they also show the shape and expose too much through their material. If a woman wears her skirts long enough, there is nothing more feminine and modest. Since I gave up my jeans and slacks, I feel more like a woman. As for my make-up, there was nothing so false as made-up eyes. It is nothing but vanity. Wives say they make up for their husbands, but how do these husbands see their wives before bedtime and after baths? It is not only for husbands, but for the competition of other women, too. I, myself, wanted other people to envy my made-up face, rings and clothing. There is no other name for it but vanity. But now by the grace and love of Jesus Christ, I want people to give these things up for the Lord. Instead of investing in Maybelline, I invest in the Kingdom of God. Vanity is a great device of Satan and many people are bound to it. It is so hard to visit with people who are clinging to the world. The clothes they wear, what they say, and their actions go against our precious Lord's teachings. But isn't fellowship with the children of God beautiful? I truly believe that the fellowship and the love of the saints is our refuge in these times when everywhere one looks Satan has his hand. We no longer desire to go to movies, dances, or discos, but we have fellowship gatherings, services and campmeetings. You can enjoy these, for they are of the Lord. When some say the wearing of gold is not wrong, show them 2 Tim. 2:9. When TV is being defended, show them Psalms 101:3. Saints, we need to stand on guard and put on the full armour of the Lord. —Sis. Cheryl Ann Yocum

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and Sis. Marie: . . . "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. There is a river [the river of life] the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her [His people that trust in Him]. She shall not be moved; God shall help her and that right early." His church is founded on

the Rock. "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge." Now this gracious truth reminds me of the song "Faith Is Not What You Can See."

Thank the Lord, I am happy in my soul and healed in my body. The call for prayer a month ago for numbness, pain, and possibly a stroke, brought healing from the Lord within an hour. Likewise, my call last Sunday for what seemed to be a heart attack, brought results from the Lord. I was bedfast about three days. Today I'm healed. Thank the Lord for all His mercy, goodness, and love, and for keeping me saved and the Holy Spirit abiding in my soul. Surely, I praise Him with my whole heart.

I have been enjoying the articles in the *Faith and Victory* paper. Keep praying for me. It is our duty to pray for you and others.

In Christian love, —Sis. Hazel Clark

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

Wash.—Dear Sister Marie and all: . . . We love Jesus with all our heart. He is a very present help in every time of need. He is still blessing our little Sunday school class in our home. We have ten on the roll at present. It is a real blessing to be able to teach these children. Most of them are little ones. With God's help we hope to instill something in their hearts that will bring forth fruit unto salvation.

My family and I are quite well at present. I had a problem physically at campmeeting time in June. But thank the Lord, He has healed me! I surely do thank and praise Him for His mercy to me. . . .

— Sister Violet Thomas

[You, too, would receive a blessing and be a blessing if you would invite your neighbor children to your home for Bible study. I'm praying God to burden more to do this. — Sis. Marie Miles]

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

W. Va.—Dear saints: I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Lord for His dealings with me. I can't put into words how rich and glorious His name has become to me. Having been reared by saved parents, I have been acquainted with the truth most of my life, and like most saints' children, I have sought for an experience of salvation many times. In my teen-age years I was pulled to the world from one side, yet I felt the Lord tugging from the other side for my soul. I determined, like a lot of other young people, "I'll wait until I get out of school to get down to business with the Lord." Somehow or other, that attitude caused me to "ride the fence," like the double-minded mentioned in James 1:8. Believe me, I was unstable in all my ways. The problem with this attitude is, it doesn't disappear when you get out of school. The devil took some of the things I dabbled in and began weaving little traps around my soul, and I woke up to the fact that at twenty-seven years of age I was still straddling the fence. I put in for help and found myself falling back into the same rut again and again.

Praise God, just recently, I came to myself. I realized that I was no more a child but nearing thirty, and I saw that I was endangering my soul more and

more every day. The devil could have very easily deceived my soul or taken my life, and I would have been lost. I'm thankful for God's mercy to me and for His wonderful salvation that takes all the guilt away.

Then during the recent West Virginia campmeeting, the Lord sanctified me wholly and put a burning desire to live for Him in my heart. I used to wonder about the song that said, "Is the Spirit glowing in thy heart?" When God sanctified me, He put a burning love down in my soul that I have never known in my whole life. I can't thank Him enough for this wonderful salvation and sanctification!

—Toney Samons

That Wonderful City



I read of a wonderful city
Up yonder above somewhere;
Where space is elaborate and roomy—
Its beauty no one can compare.
They say it glitters in splendor—
This haven of the sweet by and by.
You can gain it by being holy—
That beautiful Home in the sky.

I heard of the white-robed angels,
Singing sweet music to the ear.
Thousands and thousands are waiting
To welcome the prodigal there.

I've been told it's beyond expression;
The flowers, the buildings so fair.
You ne'er shall want or go hungry;
No worries, no sorrow nor care.

They tell me it is without money;
No tickets to buy on the way.
Repent and get right with your Saviour;
He's waiting to save you today.

We must be ready to meet Him,
Our lamps trimmed and burning bright.
We'll tarry and wait for Him daily
And watch for Him through the night.

—Mary Worley

[An oldtimer in the Church of God, Mary (Forrest) Worley is living in Fresno, Calif. at the age of 99 1/2 years.]

PROPERTY PURCHASED (Cont'd. from Page 5)

was made by faith, and we are looking to the Lord to provide the means for the payment of the loan. Please send all free-will offerings directly to the undersigned business manager, whose address is 5825 E. 64th St., Tulsa, OK. 74136. Be sure to make all checks payable to the Church of God.

—Bro. Jim Wall

MEETING AT GUTHRIE, OKLA.

Bro. Ostis Wilson of Jefferson, Ore., will hold, Lord willing, a meeting here at Guthrie starting Sunday, Sept. 16. All within driving distance are urged to come on Sunday and each night.

Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Should women braid their hair? I believe it is wrong to bind ornaments in the hair, but some saints tell me that it is all right to braid the hair. What do you think?

Answer: 1 Tim. 2:9 and 1 Peter 3:3 are the two Scriptures in the New Testament which refer to women's hair with reference to its arrangement, etc. 1 Tim. 2:9 says, "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold or pearls, or costly array;" 1 Pet. 3:3 says, "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel."

It is important to the thought to note that both of these Scriptures have the emphasis on ornamentation and adornment. The doing of the hair is mentioned in these texts right along with gold, pearls, costly array and different adornments and ornamentations. Therefore the particular method of fixing the hair in these verses is to be identified with ornamentation and adornment. This could hardly be said of just the plain braiding of the hair as we know it today and as the saint women do it. It is just another way of fixing the hair. Some do up their hair in a "bun" on top of their heads; some in a similar way but wear it on the back of their heads; some put it up in a figure eight on the back of their heads; some wear it in a French roll down on their necks; some (especially the younger sisters) just let it hang full length; some braid it and let it hang or put it up in different arrangements on their heads. Of all these ways the women arrange their hair, I do not see that any one of them could be singled out as worldly adornment any more than any other. No doubt, each sister tries to fix her hair in the way that is most becoming to herself.

But in the Bible times it was different from the common braiding that saint sisters use in our day, and with which we are familiar. In the Scriptures it refers to something directly identified with worldly adornment and therefore something to be avoided by saints. Let us look at what was under consideration in these Scriptures and why such was written in the Bible at all.

1 Tim. 2:9 refers to "Broided" hair (the margin says "Plaited") and 1 Pet. 3:3 refers to "Plaiting" the hair. "Broided" and "Plaited" hair involves more than the common braiding with which we are familiar today.

In the article on dress in the Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary edited by Merrill C. Tenney we read these words: "Women often added to their adornment by an elaborate 'plaiting' of the hair. 1 Pet. 3:3 finds it necessary to warn Christian women against relying upon such adorning to make themselves attractive." It is clear here that this writer at least,

connects the statement in 1 Pet. 3:3 with worldly adornment and ornamentation.

Smith's Bible Dictionary in the article on hair says, "The women wore their hair natural, but braided, and dressed with strings of silk with ornaments." Also in the article on dress it says, "Jewesses did not veil their faces but covered the hair only. Women wore the hair long, braided, curled, etc., and decorated with jewels and coins. . . . there were many ornaments in use for the hair, head, ears, nose, and neck . . ." All that is said here concerning the hair is in regard to adornment and ornamentation.

1 Tim. 2:9, "Not with broided hair, or gold" is variously translated in other translations of the New Testament as follows: "Not with braided hair, and gold" — American Standard Version; "And not with wreaths of gold ornaments for the hair" — Twentieth Century New Testament; "Not with plaitings and ornamentation of gold" — Rotherham; "Not with (elaborate) hair arrangement of gold" — New English Bible; "The adornment of a Christian woman is not a matter of an elaborate coiffure" — Phillips.

Adam Clarke comments on 1 Pet. 3:3 as follows (in part). "Plaiting the hair, and variously folding it about the head, was the most ancient and simplest mode of disposing of this chief ornament of the female head. . . . Thin plates of gold were often mixed with the hair, to make it appear more ornamental by the reflection of light and of the solar rays. Small golden buckles were also used in different parts; and among the Roman ladies, pearls and precious stones of different colours."

The word found in 1 Tim. 2:9 is "broided" hair. "Broidered" is defined in the dictionary as, "To ornament with needlework; embroider." The thought here is the imposition of ornamental work on an already existing cloth or fabric. Then to broider hair would suggest the thought of imposing ornamental substance onto the already existing hair in whatever way it might be arranged.

Nothing that is said above by the various writers, dictionaries, and various New Testament translations could refer to the plain common braiding of the hair as we know it in our day, but would involve the addition of ornamental and adorning substances and materials with it. The ornamenting of the hair, or any other part of the body to create eye appeal or invite admiration is branded in God's word as evidence of pride in the heart and is forbidden for all saints, both men and women.

As far as I know this has been the position of the saints and early ministers of the Evening Light Reformation from as far back as I can remember and still is, as far as I know.

The tie of Christian love is the tie that binds God's people together (Col. 2:2; 3:14). It is the strongest tie that is known. It held the early Christians in unity through all the vicissitudes of the pagan persecutions. It was said, "Behold how these Christians love each other." —C. W. Naylor

Love Covereth



"The tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" James 3:5.

I am sure we all have heard this verse many times, but it comes to my attention that we sometimes don't apply what we have heard to our conversation. As saints of God, we need to apply this matter to our hearts, search it out and see if we need improvement. So often we say or repeat things to others that should not be said at all. If it is not edifying, why say it? We often do this with no maliciousness toward the person at all, but if we repeat a mistake, fault, trial, or hardship to another, we can leave dents in the first person's reputation. We need to realize that what we repeat to others about someone may follow them all through life. We are our "brother's keeper." We need to keep his reputation intact.

We realize that people in this world are going to make mistakes and have faults. It is sometimes through our own mistakes that the Spirit purges out the dross in our lives by making us see our need of the Lord. So, when we hear about, or are involved in a situation with another person, we should not tell others about it. We are not protecting our brother's or sister's reputation when we do that.

It has been explained to me in this way. When we tell or repeat a tale on someone, it's like what happens in a pillow fight. If one of the pillows rip, the feathers will go everywhere. We are not able to retrieve all of the feathers. So it is when we tell someone about a fault in another person. That person may tell five others and those five may each tell five; then the brother's or sister's reputation is blackened by many. If the brother or sister corrects the situation, receives help and gets clear before God, the mark is still on him because others have spread it around. The ones hearing about the brother's or sister's fault may never hear about its being cleared up. The mark on his reputation may remain throughout his life. That person's testimony or God-given gift loses its power because some have lost confidence on hearing about the mistake or fault. That person may be clear before God, and yet we are still remembering the mistake that may have happened years ago, and has now been cleared up.

Can we not see how damaging this talebearing is? We are ruining people's reputations by repeating things to others. We need to search our hearts to see if we find ourselves partaking of this damaging practice, and ask God and the ones we have talked about to forgive us. May God help us to see ourselves.

"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother." Matt. 18:15. We should have such a love and compassion for our brother and sister that we will not tell others about the trespass.

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Gal. 6:1. If we had a son or daughter who was taken in a fault or sin, would we tell it all around, or would we try to shield and protect our own? Don't we realize that our brothers and sisters in the Lord are our own? We're all "bought with a price" and in the family of God. We need to protect one another. We are to esteem others better than ourselves, and have a strong binding love for each other. To be perfect in love covers a lot of ground. "Hatred stirreth up strifes; but love covereth all sins." Prov. 10:12.

Let us look to God for help in controlling our tongues. "I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me." Psalms 39:1. We need to pray as David: "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips." Psalms 141:3.

The reason I write these things as a warning to others is because I found myself hurting and offending someone. I had to ask forgiveness for the hurt I had caused. Let us be careful what we say, and consider our brothers' and sisters' feelings. It's God's way!
—Sister Sheri Rich



Who Is to Blame?



Pray tell me, neighbor, who is to blame
For so much cursing, guilt, and shame?
I see and hear it both far and near;
Sometimes more than I can hardly bear.
I seldom hear much thanks and praise,
As I did in former days.
So much profanity around me swirl
It seems I'm in another world.
Songs of thanks and holy cheer
Once fell so sweetly on my ear.
Has someone failed the youth to teach?
Has the parson failed to preach?
Train up a child when he is young;
It surely will affect his tongue
To speak words of thanks and praise,
In his youth and younger days.
Someone failed when the colt was young
To put a bridle on his tongue.
And some women, sad to say,
Have slipped and fallen in the cursing way.
Of all this cursing, I complain.
God said, "Take not my name in vain."
If you reach heaven and wear a crown,
You'll have to throw your cursing down.
Let's teach our children to watch their words,
So they'll be ready when the Trumpet's heard.

—Ulysses Phillips



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