

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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Faithful Stewards



A steward once was thus accused:
His stewardship was found abused
By certain wasting of the gain
That really was his Lord's domain.

He called him to account for all:
"Thy stewardship is nigh to fall."
The steward trembled through and through
And said within: "What shall I do?"

"My stewardship he takes away,
I cannot dig, nor beg for pay;
I am resolved just what to do
That I might gain a friend or two."

The debtors of his lord he gave
A chance some money quick to save:
"What owest thou unto my lord?
A discount now I will afford."

Reducing thus their bills to pay,
New friends he gained that very day
That gave him welcome to abide
When he at last was put outside.

And Jesus said to us: "Make friends,
That when at last your journey ends
Eternal dwellings you will find
To shelter you with mercy kind."

Our stewardship is going to fail
For death is surely on our trail;
Oh, how we'll need a loving friend
To help us at our journey's end!

Unrighteous mammon soon will fade:
This money system man has made;
Are we our means good uses willed?
And is our motives Jesus-filled?

And if we're faithful in the least,
Our life by Heaven's wisdom pieced,
Then we'll be faithful in the much,
For God will surely render such.

(Luke 16:1-13)

—Leslie C. Busbee

The Simplicity of the Gospel



"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." II Cor. 11:3.

Paul's earnest exhortation to the Corinthian church comes with equal force and power to the church of God today. There never was a time when the gospel needed to be preached in its simplicity and purity more than now, because there never was a time when the gospel teachings were more perverted and corrupted.

Some of God's best gifts to mankind are very simple; such as air, light, water, food, etc. What is more beneficial to man's physical being than water? And yet how simple it is! It is colorless, tasteless, and odorless, but when man's taste becomes perverted water no longer satisfies him; he seeks to satisfy his thirst by strong drink and other harmful things, to his own destruction. So the gospel of Christ, as taught by Himself and His apostles, was not a complex system that only highly educated or the man of mighty brains could understand; on the contrary, the truths it contained were simple truths, taught in plain, common language so that the illiterate and unlearned could understand and believe to the saving of the soul.

Had men always been satisfied with the simple truths of the gospel we would not have the complex system of religion that we have today, but man's spiritual taste early became perverted. The simple truth of justification by faith did not satisfy him. Human works and meritorious deeds were substituted instead. The simple doctrine of the equality of God's ministers, the supreme authority of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit in the Church of God, were lost sight of; a human head was substituted for Christ, and opinions and traditions of men took the place of the Holy Scriptures. The Holy Spirit was insulted and rejected, and a lot of sect-machinery was invented in His place. The simplicity of the faith was departed from, and men were soon blindly wandering through

the misty, winding, torturous ways of the Roman Catholic sect; seeking rest and finding none.

The gospel is still the "power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." It is bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, and light to those who sit in darkness. But men today, like their forefathers, are not satisfied with it. Their hearts, perverted by error, clamor for something else. Like the Israelites who became tired of the manna from heaven, they long for the flesh-pots of Egypt. Even the important doctrine of the New Testament is being adulterated to suit the tastes of men. The precious doctrine of the atonement of Christ for sin, and His death for every man is being denied; and human merit, "Man his own Savior," taking its place in the hearts of men. They are not satisfied with the New Testament Church that Jesus built. They do not like the name "Church of God" which He called His; nor are they pleased with the equality of the humble ministry which He gave to feed Her; the few, plain, simple ordinances He gave Her to keep; or the discipline, written by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to govern Her. No, indeed, they must have something more to their liking; so they build churches (so-called) of their own invention, called by names suited to them, until the earth is filled with a multiplicity of sects and creeds and the cause of Christ is brought into contempt among men.

People are not willing to keep the plain, simple commands of Jesus where He said, "Be baptized," "wash one another's feet," and "partake of the bread and wine in remembrance of me." These three ordinances beautifully show forth the life of Jesus: feet-washing portrays His humility; the Lord's Supper, His suffering and death; and baptism, His burial and resurrection. But men either do too much, or too little. The devil does not care to what extreme they swing, just so they do not obey the Lord. Some people, therefore, deny the ordinances altogether; others substitute sprinkling and pouring for a burial; and still others go to the other extreme and bury the candidates three times, face down, as one writer put it, "making a somewhat ampler pledge than our Lord commanded." Some must eat the Lord's Supper every Sunday, but they reject feet-washing; and others kill an ox and have a great feast, although the Lord gave no such commandment. In the simple matter of dress people swing from the extreme of fanaticism—buttonless coats and bonneted heads—to the height of worldly conformity and pride. In the matter of dress there are three simple rules laid down in the Word of God which the people of all nations can obey. What are they?—plainness, modesty, and economy. These with the help of common sense and sanctified judgment, will enable us to keep in the "middle of the road," and be a burning light to this lost world.

—J. B. Branam

The nearer you live like Christ the nearer you live like you ought to live. The more you love Him, and love with Him, and love all things for Him, the more you will be like Him.

—C. E. Orr

How Sounds the Trumpet?

In Old Testament times trumpets were blown to warn Israel and to bring the people together. Exodus 19 tells us the trumpet was sounded loud and long, telling the people to come up to the mountain. The trumpet gave a certain sound and the people knew exactly which way to go. Rev. 8, tells us that John saw seven angels receiving trumpets and preparing themselves to sound them. Most Bible scholars will agree that as a usual thing *angels* refers to God's ministers, as they are the messengers of God. If the ministry is of God, they will get their messages from God and not from a publishing house. Any message of God is fully approved by the Holy Ghost and lines up with God's Word. In the midst of all the religious confusion, I believe God has some ministers that are sounding the trumpets loud and long, and with life-giving sounds. God's Word is forever settled in heaven, and the truly anointed ministry only sounds out the truth. First Corinthians warns us about the uncertain sounding trumpets.

We are in a battle now, so we must prepare ourselves for war; not physical combat, but spiritual warfare. Some uncertain sounds are: "You have to sin more or less every day," "join the church of your choice," and "we are opening the doors of the church."

Many people join denominations, thinking they are doing the right thing, thus becoming yoked up with unbelievers. Some come out when they see the sin of division, and some deny light and stay on because they have families down there. Jesus said, "I am the door." We must enter by Him, and to get out we must commit sin—no being voted in or out.

Man has taken the liberty to add prefixes to the name of God's Church, which is very wrong. God's Church is universal and it would be impossible for all people to attend a congregation in one geographical location. Paul wrote to the "Church of God which is at Corinth." He also spoke of caring for all the other churches, meaning the congregations of the Church of God. He constantly warned them all to speak the same thing. Jesus told the woman of Samaria that we must worship God in spirit and in truth.

God makes neither Catholics nor Protestants out of people but He does make saints out of living people, but never out of dead ones. —Effie Ray

The Cross

We heard of a dear old brother, who for many years took his stand, opposing the worldliness and drift in his church and community. His family insisted that things had changed and all was so different now, that he should give in and go along with the trends. His wife wanted to wear pant suits and cut her hair like the popular religious professors around her. The children tried to talk him into installing a television set in the home. He was told that he and his wife should put on rings now in their old age to

prove they were married. His girls wanted to wear short skirts, and his boys wanted to wear long hair. They all declared that they loved the Lord as much as he did and that the popular style was not so reproachful. He was troubled in his mind and wondered just what to do. It seemed there was no one who encouraged him to keep contending for the old paths.

One night he dreamed that he was carrying his cross. The cross was bunglesome, heavy, and painful to his back. In his dream, his family sympathized with him and suggested that he saw off a little of the cross. So he cut off part of the heavy cross. It was lighter, but still somewhat of a burden; so again he listened to their persuasion and cut off some more of his cross. He then found that his cross was less painful and much easier to bear. It appeared less obnoxious to the family and friends. Traveling on in his dream, he came at last to a chasm, deep and wide. Jagged rocks jutted from its sides and murky waters dashed and roared below. He realized this to be the river of Death. To cross it safely meant a landing on the sunny banks of sweet deliverance. To fail meant to be carried down to eternal regions of dark damnation. His heart trembled as he contemplated the treacherous crossing. How could he make it? Then a voice seemed to say, "The cross. Use the cross that you carry." He placed one end of his cross on the jutting rocks at his feet, then let it fall in an effort to span the gulf. He started to walk across but, alas, his cross was so short that it slipped off the edge of the farther side plunging him into the dark waters, as he screamed in despair, "If only I had not shortened my cross!" Awaking from his dream, he fell on his knees and promised God that he would never compromise or let down, even if he must go all alone.

—Selected by Virginia Taylor

The One True Way

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." John 14:6.

There is but one way to heaven. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:13,14. Read the remainder of the 7th chapter of Matthew which are the very words of our dear, loving Master and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, the One who died for you and me. We must meet His conditions or be lost.

This world is full of false prophets and teachers, and false churches so-called. That broad way is lined with man-made denominations. No matter what you believe you can find a man-made church that suits you.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door unto the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." John 10:1. Truly, there is but one way to heaven. If God would take all the different beliefs to heaven as

they are here today, it would be only a continuation of this mass of confusion and every evil work. Sin can never enter heaven. Jesus didn't come to save us *in* our sins but *from* our sins. There is a price to pay, and if we are not willing to pay all the price, we cannot have salvation. God's people, all alike, are born again (John 3:3-8) and sanctified wholly. Read the 17th chapter of St. John. —Nathan Mobley

Ask Largely

There are said to be 25 million blind people in the world. Our hearts go out to every one of them in pity with a desire to help. But we cannot reach them; and if we could, we are powerless to heal except by the inspired prayer of faith. When we think of the spiritual blindness of their souls, we are grieved to realize that even if their eye-sight were somehow restored, many would not be prepared for Heaven.

But we have a great God. Let us talk to Him about these sightless people. He has a way of helping such if we will be faithful to petition God on their behalf. Now is a good time to begin. If you will unite what faith you have with occasional fasting and much prayer, you may find when you get to Heaven that great things were accomplished because of your prayer and self-denial.

The people God could help through you are those of all nationalities and stations of life. You would thus be a missionary, and what a glorious time of rejoicing will be yours when you hear the stories of how God led, saved and healed, how people heard God's voice speaking to them, and how He sent certain Christians around to help.

I am beginning such a mission as this today, and I am going to believe the Lord will carry on His good work wherever and however He sees best. He is looking for anyone who is willing to be used in the capacity suggested above. Will you be one who will answer God's call to prayer by saying, "Lord, here am I; send me"? —Mrs. E. E. Shelhamer

The Picture in My Heart

Within my heart there hangs a picture
Of One who died upon a tree.

With cruel nails His hands were riven,
And all to save a wretch like me.

When first I heard this sacred story,
I did not know 'twas for my sin
That He was led up Calv'ry's mountain
And crucified by sinful men.

A still small voice then whispered to me,
" 'Twas for your sins they nailed Him there."
In grief I bowed myself before Him;
He saw my heart and heard my prayer.

Lest I should e'er forget my Saviour,
Forget His bleeding, broken heart;
I asked the Lord to paint a picture,
And hang it up within my heart.

—Sylvia Forbes

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. (USPS184-660)

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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 service 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; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill 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.

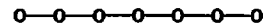
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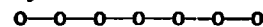
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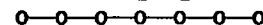
GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS: As in the past few years, this June issue is going to the press and in the mail just prior to the beginning of the Oklahoma State campmeeting here at Guthrie, so that our co-workers can be free to attend those services. The first service will start, Lord willing, at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 23. A large attendance is expected, and some no doubt will be coming for their first time. Our prayer is that the presence and power of God will be felt in every service, that the preaching of the Word will be accompanied by the convicting Spirit of God, and that many souls will respond to the gospel invitation. Jesus entreats with His hand outstretched, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30.



Scheduled for publication in June is a reprint of the book, "The Hero of Hill House" by Mabel Hale. First printed in 1922, this true story of Austin's heroic efforts to keep the children of the Hill family together after the death of their mother has been out of print many years. You will enjoy reading this heart-warming narrative. It will consist of 224 pages in a heavy paper cover. The price is \$2.00 each, plus 65c for postage and handling. Send your order NOW, and the book will be mailed to you as soon as they are ready in June.

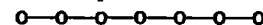


Scheduled also for publication this summer is the excellent book, "Food For Lambs" by C. E. Orr in English. That volume is already in stock at this office in the German language.



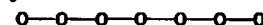
Woman Needed in This Literature Ministry . . .

The position is still open for an unencumbered Christian woman who can operate a typewriter to work in the correspondence and mailing departments here at the Lord's Print Shop. It is an opportunity to become directly involved in the work of the Lord. Anyone with a burden for God's work should contact this office by letter or phone for further information.



Guest Home Is On the Realtor's List . . .

The four-bedroom Church Guest Home here at Guthrie is now for sale by the realtor, Barbara Silvers, phone (405) 282-5500. Their price is listed at \$72,500.00. Anyone interested should contact her.



Bro. and Sister John Varghese, native missionaries in South India, are scheduled to arrive by plane in Tulsa, Okla., on May 19th. Bro. Richard Madden will meet them at the airport, take them to his home, and bring them to the Guthrie campmeeting which begins on May 23rd.

Booklet on Mission Work in India . . .

Sister Dorothy Keiser has written an interesting booklet entitled, "Evening Light Church of God Mission Work in South India," which is a brief history of the gospel work in India and her observations on her recent trip there. It also shows the spiritual and economic needs of that great mission field. The printed copy will contain about 60 pages, including a number of pictures, bound in a heavy paper cover. We had hoped to have it printed and ready before the Guthrie campmeeting, but it cannot be finished until some time in June. Sister Keiser is paying most of the cost of printing the booklet, and she is offering a copy to anyone for a contribution in any amount to the mission work in India. All proceeds and offerings, with no deduction for cost of printing, will go to Bro. Varghese for that work. He will likely have those books with him to pass out at the various campmeetings he will attend following the Guthrie meeting. Books will also be available from Sister Keiser or here at the Office on the same basis. If you want a book mailed to you, the cost of the postage and handling is 50c, plus your contribution to Bro. Varghese. The purpose of this project is to encourage prayer and financial support for the mission work in behalf of India's millions. A fund has already been started to purchase a suitable van for Bro. Varghese's use in India, but it needs much more financial support.

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The new evangelistic tent, purchased in Joplin, Mo., was brought to Guthrie on May 2nd by Brother L. D. Chrisman of Enid, Okla. Anyone desiring a tent meeting in this midwest area this summer will need to contact Brother Tom Melot, R. 6, Box 510, Guthrie, Okla. 73044, phone (405) 282-3611.

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Centennial Review of the Reformation . . .

A very rich heritage of Bible truth has been handed down to the present generation of the Church of God through the past one hundred years (1880 to 1980) of the Church of God reformation in this "evening time" of the gospel day which began about 1880 in fulfillment of Bible prophecy. "It shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light." See Zech. 14:7.

A historian has penned this significant observation: "No sooner had D. S. Warner and others begun to preach as men had not preached for time out of mind than men saw in their message the grandest truths the mind of man is capable of receiving. They saw the Church built up by Christ, led and organized by the Holy Spirit, the names of whose members are in the Lamb's book of life, which takes the Scriptures as its only discipline, and fellowships every blood-washed soul. Here is real Christian unity. Despised and rejected in 'religious' circles, these men preached more real Bible truth in one sermon than one would expect in months of the ordinary kind. They preached profound truths; and it created a furor wherever they went. Thousands received Scriptural light.

Many joyfully embraced the great truths they heard and spared neither pains nor money to spread the message everywhere."

For the first thirty years, down to 1910, the ministers and saints proclaimed and rejoiced in these precious Bible truths that brought forth this glorious reformation. However, sad to say, at the end of thirty victorious years a spirit of compromise arose with the introduction of the "liberal conscience" doctrine and the cry on the part of some that they were out to "win the better class." In the years of 1910 to 1917 a "landslide" compromise and apostasy developed in which the majority of the members of the movement made a radical departure from the original Bible truths of the reformation. Nevertheless, God reserved and preserved a remnant of ministers, saints, and a number of congregations across these United States who did not bow to the compromise of 1910, and through the past seventy years, down to this centennial year of 1980, the original Bible truths and practices of this "evening light" reformation, plus more revealed light, have been maintained. Here are the names of a few of the pioneer ministers who remained true to the reformation principles: Chas. E. Orr, Willis M. Brown, Robert Glasgow, James Glasgow, Charley Forbes, John Strong, Frank Williamson, Cecil C. Carver, Henry Robinson, George W. Winn, Ulysses Phillips, George E. Harmon, J. W. Youngblood, E. M. Zinn, Drusilla and Ellen (Trent) Porter, Willie Porter, Cornelia Sunderland, H. W. White, George Bolds, Ostis B. Wilson, Sr., Mattie (Bolds) Wilson, George Peek, Samuel M. Helm, and others. Thank God for these faithful early ministers, and all those who have been steadfast in preaching and practicing the precious reformation truths through the past seventy years. May the Lord call and qualify many more holy men and women to herald these eternal Bible truths until the last trumpet is sounded and time shall be no more. —Lawrence D. Pruitt

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In Memorial

Jewel Wilord "Bud" Porter was born to Robert and Pearlie Porter at Carthage, Missouri, on September 25, 1906. He passed from this life May 3, 1980, at Springfield, Mo., at the age of 73 years, seven months, and eight days.

On December 7, 1929, he was united in marriage to Myrtle Lee Dodson, and to this union three children were born. "Bud," as he was called, owned and operated the State Street Barber Shop in Springfield, Missouri, for 51 years.

Brother Porter accepted Christ as his Saviour, and was a member of the Church of God. He endeavored to live a Christian life through many trials, and manifested a kind and loving spirit and attitude toward all.

He leaves to mourn his passing: one son, Dwane Porter, of Nixa, Missouri; two daughters, Donna Sue

Sorrell of Bolivar, Missouri, and Dena Porter of Springfield, Missouri; three brothers, Leo, of Springfield, Missouri, and R. M. and Don of the State of California; two grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Springfield, Missouri, by Bros. Leslie Busbee and Murphy Allen. Scripture text: Micah 6:8. Interment was in Eastlawn Cemetery of Springfield, Missouri.

—Leslie C. Busbee

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Sid Rabel was born August 31, 1955, and passed away suddenly April 27, 1980, at Prince George, B. C., Canada, at the age of 24 years.

Bro. Sid died in the faith, having accepted the "evening light" truth only last summer. We sorrow not as those who have no hope.

He leaves to mourn his passing: his wife, Betty; daughter, Julie; parents, John and Daisy Rabel; two brothers, Ben and Steven; two sisters, Sue and Melody.

Burial was in the Prince George Cemetery with Brother Tom Melot and Sister Sherry Rich officiating.

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Charles Dewey Dilley was born August 30, 1898, at Orlando, Oklahoma. He passed from this life on May 9, 1980, at his home in Guthrie, Oklahoma, at the age of 81 years, eight months, and nine days.

On December 19, 1918, he was united in marriage to Emma Kendrick. To this union were born three children: one son and two daughters.

He believed in Christ and gave a testimony that he was ready to meet the Lord.

He leaves to mourn his passing: his wife, Emma, of the home; one son, Vernon Dilley, of Guthrie, Oklahoma; two daughters, Audrey Lalicker, of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and Eleanor White, of East St. Louis, Illinois; two brothers, John R. Dilley, of Oklahoma City, and Ayers Dilley, of Manhattan, Kansas; also ten grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. O. C. Porter and Leslie Busbee. Burial was in Morris Heights Cemetery at Orlando, Okla.

The Words of Daniel Webster

If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country, I do not know what is going to become of us as a nation. If truth be not diffused, error will be: if God and His Word are not known and received, the devil and his works will gain the ascendancy: if the evangelical volume does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt and licentious literature will: if the power of the Gospel is not felt throughout the length and breadth of the land, anarchy and misrule, degradation and misery, corruption and darkness, will reign without mitigation or end.—In A.D. 1823 by former Secretary of State.

Campmeeting Dates for 1980

Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates for 1980, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:—

Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla. —
May 23 to June 1.

Holly Hill, South Carolina—June 6 to 15.

Tulsa, Oklahoma—June 6 to 15.

Green Bank, W. Va.—June 13 to 22.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 13 to 22.

Oakland, California—June 20 to 29.

Hammond, Louisiana—June 28 to July 6.

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico—June 30 to July 6.

Fresno, California—July 4 to 13.

Prince George, B. C., Canada—July 5 to 13.

Akron, Ohio—July 5 to 13.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri—July 18 to 27.

Missouri State Campmeeting at Myrtle, Missouri —
July 28 to August 4.

Bakersfield, California—August 1 to 10.

Orland, California—August 13 to 17.

(The above Orland meeting has been cancelled)

Boley, Oklahoma—August 15 to 24.

California State Campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif. —
August 22 to 31.

OAKLAND, CALIF., CAMPMEETING

The Church at Oakland, Calif. announces its annual campmeeting to be held at the chapel located at 9330 Walnut St., Oakland, which will begin on Friday evening, June 20, and continue through June 29, 1980.

Jesus is coming soon, and we want to be dutiful servants, laboring for the salvation of souls. Everyone is welcome to these services.

For further information, contact the pastor, Sister Velma Smith, 2901 Seminary Ave., Oakland, Ca. 94605, phone 632-8211, or Sister Doris Washington, 1447 72nd Ave., Oakland, Ca. 94621, phone 635-1786.

HAMMOND, LA., CAMPMEETING

The annual campmeeting of the Church of God will be held on the General Southern Campgrounds located on Fifth Avenue in Hammond, La., beginning on Saturday night, June 28, 1980, and continuing through Sunday, July 6, 1980.

The new entrance to the campground is on the north side of Fifth avenue, approximately six blocks west of the intersection of Fifth Avenue with Business 51 Highway South and Old Covington Highway in Hammond. This intersection is the third traffic light for those coming from the south off Interstate 12.

Turn left onto Fifth Avenue at third light and go about six blocks.

We wish to extend to all saints of all nations a very warm welcome to come and be with us in this meeting, and enjoy the fellowship of the Spirit in the brethren. We are praying that God will send the Spirit-filled ministers of His choosing to preach the Word of Truth needed in these last days.

Meals and lodging will be provided again as usual. The meeting will be supported on a freewill basis.

Please come praying that God will send forth His Word under the anointing of His Spirit; that souls will be saved, bodies will be healed, and His saints stirred to a closer walk with the Lord, and a close unity with the brethren.

For further information, contact the undersigned whose address is Rt. 2, Box 67, Amite, La. 70422, phone (504) 748-4957. —Bro. Bob Forbes

FRESNO, CALIF., CAMPMEETING

The Fresno, California, campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, July 4 through 13, at 388 N. First St., Fresno, California.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this meeting. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. Motor-homes, campers, and trailers are welcomed. All the meeting expenses will be met by freewill offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting, that souls will be saved, believers sanctified, and bodies healed.

Directions to the grounds are as follows: Those coming on 99 from the north will take the Belmont exit, go east three miles to First St., turn right two blocks to Grant. The chapel is on the corner of Grant and First. Those from the south, take Ventura exit, go east to First St., turn left to Grant. For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. E. J. Trotter, 1543 E. Brimer, Fresno, Ca., phone (209) 441-1758; or Bro. Charles Parrish, 5970 E. Fedora, Fresno, Ca., phone (209) 291-9958. —Lavern Moles

AKRON, OHIO, CAMPMEETING

The 1980 Akron, Ohio, campmeeting will be held, Lord willing, July 5 through July 13. We are looking for the Lord to send ministers and workers to assist in this meeting.

We extend a hearty welcome to all lovers of the truth in this northeastern part of the country. Meals and bedding will be provided on a freewill offering basis; all will be cared for.

We desire your prayers for this sincere effort as we try to reach all honest and sincere souls in this area.

For further information, contact Bro. Keith Fuller, 869 N. Jenkins Blvd., Akron, Ohio 44306, phone (216) 773-3926, or Bro. Waymon Parmer, phone (216) 836-1907. The chapel phone and address are 421 W. Thornton St., Akron, Ohio 44307, phone (216) 762-2286. —Keith Fuller

PRINCE GEORGE, CANADA, CAMPMEETING

The campmeeting near Prince George, B.C., Canada, will be held, Lord willing, on July 5 through 13, 1980, as scheduled.

Through the passing of our dear beloved Bro. Sid Rabel others have embraced the truth. The Lord has marvelously provided an ideal two acres with two old buildings for a campground right on the highway south of Prince George.

Those coming should bring cots, sleeping bags, linens, and blankets. This campmeeting will be supported by freewill offerings. All who come will be cared for. However, we urge everyone to bring his own supplies as much as possible. There will be a men's and women's dormitory. Watch for the big yellow tent and signs twelve miles south of Prince George on Highway 97.

For further information, contact Sister Daisy Rabel, S.S. 3 Haldi Rd., Prince George, B. C., Canada V2N-2S7, phone (604)-964-4776.

FORTY-THIRD NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to attend the coming 43rd National Campmeeting of the Church of God in this "evening time" of the gospel day. It will be held, Lord willing, on July 18 to 27, 1980, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri.

This is the centennial year of the Church of God Reformation which began about 1880, under the labors of D. S. Warner and other reformers, bringing the light on the one true Church that Jesus built. During this national gathering of God's people we should remember with grateful hearts the rich heritage of Bible truth that has been brought down to us by the faithfulness of those pioneer ministers of the first thirty years of this reformation, and all those ministers and saints who remained true to the faith during the past seventy years to the present centennial year. Come to this national campmeeting and observe a people who are still teaching and practicing the Bible truths that brought forth this glorious "evening light" reformation. Ministers from across the nation will preach the Word under the direction and anointing of the Holy Spirit who is the Executive Officer. No instrumental music will be used in the services. Men and women of God will be dressed in modest apparel as becometh saints. (However, remember that everyone who comes on the grounds or attends the services is not a saint, but we want everyone to come so he can hear and believe the gospel.)

The campgrounds are located approximately five miles east of Neosho, Missouri, on Highway 86, the exact location being one mile east and 3/4 mile south of the intersection of Highway 86, and of Alternate 71 Highway. Those coming by public transportation, such as bus or train, will need to come to Neosho and take a taxi to the grounds, or call Granby, Missouri, phone number 472-6427 to arrange for someone to meet you and bring you to the grounds.

Meals will be served in the dining hall on a free-will offering basis as well as the lodging in dormitories and tents. We do trust that no one will stay away because of a lack of finances, as we are confident that God will supply for the needs as they arise. Dormitory space and tents will be available on a first-come first-serve basis. Motels in the area were listed in the May issue of this paper, and reservations at those motels should be made far in advance of the meeting. In addition, there are parking areas on the grounds for trailers, campers, and motor homes. Electricity, water, and sewer hook-ups are available at the trailer spaces.

Bro. and Sis. Austin McMillian will be working to assist in finding accommodations for sleeping. All correspondence regarding tent orders, dormitory space, etc., should be addressed to them at Rt. 7, Box 351, Neosho, Mo. 64850.

The work days to prepare for this meeting are scheduled for Saturday, June 28, July 4, July 5, and July 12. All that have a burden for this work are encouraged to come and help prepare the grounds and buildings for the meeting. If you are not able to come, please pray for the workers and that the Lord will bless us with a successful meeting this year.

Please send your contribution to the meeting or request for further information to the caretakers, Bro. and Sister Dale Doolittle, R. 7, Box 415A, Neosho, Mo. 64850, phone 451-2542, or to the business manager, Bro. Jim Wall, 5825 E. 64th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74136.

Come praying for the salvation of sinners, the sanctification of believers, and the divine physical healing of the sick and afflicted. —Editor

Field Report

Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Marie: May the Lord bless you and the workers at the Lord's Print Shop in putting out the Gospel "once delivered to the saints," is our prayer.

We thought it good to make a report on the trip just completed with Bro. Egbert Allen to the Goulds, Fla., campmeeting and the meetings on the way there and back.

We left Bro. Egbert's home at Norwood, Mo., on the 2nd of April, and our first stop was at Myrtle, Mo., where we worshipped with the saints. Bro. Allen brought the message, which was encouraging. The next day we drove to the home of Bro. Louie Marler, but stopped on the way and took dinner with his brother at Paragould, Ark. We enjoyed the evening and fellowship with Bro. and Sister Marler at Senath, Mo. From there, we drove to Carthage, Miss., and visited in the home of Bro. and Sister Bridges. They are a brother and sister in the flesh that took care of their dear parents, and the Lord has provided them a nice home until He calls them to their eternal Home.

Leaving Carthage, we arrived at the home of Bro. and Sister Griffin at Bay Springs, Miss., and had services at Zion Hill from Sunday morning to

Wednesday night. While there, we visited with a Brother and Sister at Laurel, Miss. They seemed much encouraged. We did enjoy the fellowship with the saints at Bay Springs. Bro. Cecil Carver comes once a month and preaches there. Also, others come in to help. It is a work that dates back to an early day in the Evening Light Reformation.

The next two days we drove on to the Goulds, Fla., campmeeting. The meeting was very good and the truth came down on many lines. The altar was filled time and again. Many sought a closer and deeper walk with God and others sought salvation of their souls. At the end of the meeting, I believe, there were nine who followed the Lord in baptism. Bro. Hargrave baptized, assisted by Bro. McIntyre.

Sister Isaac Chandler gave us a number of lectures in the afternoons on how the Lord blessed in their family and home. Also, she wished to encourage the young families to trust in the Lord and lean on His mighty arm in guiding the household. As I was raised in a minister's home, a family that held on to the old-time truth, I can remember how the Lord blessed in so many ways. We all enjoyed hearing the Sister's experiences in a home where God came first.

Coming north from Goulds, we stopped at Avon Park for dinner with the Thomases. We made a stop at Dalton, Ga., where we met some saints and young people who needed encouragement to get saved. We were kindly received.

The next day we drove to the home of Bro. Curtis Williams at Morehead, Ky., and enjoyed prayer with and for him. We are trusting the Lord will completely heal our brother and put him back on the firing line. May the Lord bless the entire family. We enjoyed a deep fellowship in their home.

From Morehead, we drove north to Dayton, Ohio, and enjoyed a few nights' meeting and the fellowship of the saints there. While there we stayed at the home of Bro. and Sister Bill Abbott. Leaving there, we stopped at New Castle, Ind., with Bro. and Sister Russell Rogers and sons. From there, we returned home and were so glad that Bro. Allen stood the trip well. We thank the Lord that he can be back on the gospel field. Pray that he will regain his full strength. We had traveling mercies on all the trip, for which we thank the Lord.

Your Bro. in Christ,

—Amos Porter

BOLEY, OKLA., REVIVAL REPORT

We thank the Lord for the good meeting He blessed us with in Boley, Okla., for the ministers and workers He sent to work in the meeting, for the souls He saved, and the Word of God that was anointed of the Holy Ghost. The spirit of the meeting was precious! The baptismal service was wonderful!

We were thankful to have Bro. and Sis. O. C. Porter with us. Bro. Porter taught Revelations from his charts, which was very good. We appreciate all the Lord did for us, and give Him all the praise and honor!

—Sis. Katherine Williams

The Path of Life Christian School

The second year of the Path of Life Christian School here at the Church of God, Guthrie, Oklahoma, is drawing to a close. We are happy to report a wonderful year with God's blessings and help. It has been a lot of work and effort on the part of many who have labored and contributed to the success of the school financially, morally, and spiritually. We had about 27 students in attendance (in comparison with 14 last year), and three fine young Christian ladies will graduate. We want to thank the Lord for His help this year, and also thank all the saints for their prayers, contributions, labors, and all that everyone has done to make this school a success. There have been many problems that have arisen, and many more face us. But we are encouraged to look forward to another year next fall. We nourish hopes and plans coupled with prayer that the Lord will supply a better facility or building in which to operate the school, but until He does, we will go ahead with what we have and trust God to make it a blessing. Continue to pray for us at the Path of Life School here at Guthrie, and for other congregations of the saints that are desirous of a school, also. If any are interested, you may write to us in care of Faith Publishing House, or you may write to me personally. The Christian School is proving to be a blessing to the Church in this evil time.

—Brother Leslie C. Busbee

1014 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044
phone (405) 282-2421

Prayer Requests



N. Mex.—“Dear saints everywhere: Please remember me in prayer as I am up in years and not well.”

—E. B. Weir

Ky.—At press time we hear that Bro. Curtis Williams' physical condition is slowly improving, for which we thank the Lord. Let us continue to pray that the Lord will speedily recover him completely. The Word says that though He bear long, He will avenge speedily.

Ohio—“Pray for my father, Bill Abbott. He has a growth on his little finger that is about as big around as his little finger and about a fourth inch long. It has an infected look and has bled some. Lately he has had some pain in it. . . . Pray for him, as he has trusted the Lord completely for his body for about forty years, and is still trusting Him.”

—Sis. Della Gutwein

The devil would like to stamp out divine healing, but the Bible teaches it, and we have access to it through faith in God and His Word. Some might ask how to receive an increase of faith. The Bible answer is, “Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.” Rom. 10:17. Meditate upon this Scripture and put it into practice. Your faith will be increased.

—Sis. Marie Miles

LETTER FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO, MISSION

Ojos Negros, B. Cfa. (April 28)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I greet you in the holy name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who is above every name, giving thanks for all that comes to us, and desiring that this finds you with victory over sin and better in health.

Appreciated brethren, I begin this letter with much love and burden for lost souls. I give God thanks for the ministry that He has given me to carry His Word. It is glorious to serve and live for Christ.

The Lord is blessing us spiritually in the work here in Ojos Negros and in LaHuerta. The sisters are very encouraged spiritually.

It has rained much these last months. There have been some deaths, and many have lost their homes here. The rain came with much wind, and many roofs blew off. Here at the chapel the roof only shook. Through His great mercies we receive all with happiness.

We went to the campmeeting in Patzcuaro during Easter week, and all the services were precious. Since we have battled by faith through our afflictions, the Lord will give us a crown of life as the Apostle Paul said to Timothy in 1 Tim. 6:11-16. Pray for the work and for us especially.

We are preparing things for our campmeeting to be held here June 30 to July 6, and you are all invited. We hope you will come. Pray much for the campmeeting that God will provide for every need. We are trusting in Him.

I appreciate much the offerings for the mission work. May the Lord bless you and all donors greatly.

In Christian love,

—Mayarino Escobar Roblero and family

From the Mail Box . . .

La.—Dear Sis. Marie: . . . What would we do without the dear Lord? It's in Him that we live and move and have our being. I'm so thankful to be able to be up and about.

We were glad to get your encouraging letter. We do appreciate you and all the workers there in the Lord's Print Shop. It's so wonderful how the Lord blesses the work and keeps it going even in these days of such a high cost of living.

Sis. LaVern Manuel preached a really good message Sunday night on *attitudes*. She brought out how “two men in prison were looking out from behind the bars. One saw mud, the other saw stars.” This put me to thinking how we need to be looking up to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. Our attitudes just bring out what is in our hearts. If we have good kind, tender, and loving attitudes, they will manifest the fruits of the Spirit. If we are unkind, cross, pouty, heady and high-minded, that manifests the works of the devil. When I got home from meeting, I fell on my knees and prayed earnestly for the Lord to help me to always manifest the right attitude. I realize we can't do this in our own power. We

must have Jesus in our hearts to help us. Within ourselves we can do nothing. Another Scripture is so encouraging, "I can do ALL things through Christ Jesus which strengtheneth me." Praise the dear Lord! We need to live close to the Lord so we can hear His still, small voice. The desire of my heart is to live to please Him in all things.

Glenn (my grandson) and Karen's wedding was beautiful, although it was plain and simple. I believe it was pleasing to the Lord. They are very happy and real examples. Most all of our young people come to Sunday school, preaching, and prayer-meeting regularly. We do thank the Lord for each one of these and the interest they take in being in services. . . .

—Effie Miller

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Canada—Dear Sister Miles: Greetings in Jesus' precious name! . . . We are well and enjoying the blessings of our wonderful Lord.

How we appreciate the *Faith and Victory* paper and all the other good literature you publish!

The enclosed check for the Lord's work is in memory of my loving mother, Sister Sophia Krueger.

May God bless all you dear saints at the Lord's Print Shop.

—Martha McMorran

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Mich.—Dear Sis. Miles and saints: I pray that the dear Lord will richly bless each of you dear ones in body and soul, and may your lives be lengthened out for the good of many precious souls and to the glory of God. I pray for you and your work. May all of the saints there keep praying for me and my loved ones.

I am sending a donation for the tent fund.

—Lela Stewart

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



[Following is Part One of the testimony of salvation and divine healing from one of the dear saints of West Germany whose name is Reinhold Karlowski. He is a retired chief sergeant of the local police force in Lengde, W. Germany. During our visit to the Church there last year, Bro. C. Carver and I had the privilege to meet him and his family personally in his home. We were deeply impressed with his love and child-like faith for and in the Lord Jesus, His Savior. —Reinhard Mueller.]

Part One

W. Germany—Dear reader: After having read the book, *Divine Healing of Soul and Body* by E. E. Byrum, I truly agree with its contents. And now I, too, cannot hold my peace, but desire to testify to the honor of God and the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in telling you of His abundant grace and mercy which He has granted in the healing of my soul and body.

About 18 years ago I lost my good health. In the years following I went to five homeopaths and a number of medical doctors and specialists for help. It

cost me a lot of money, and I was required to take medication six times per day. At length they frankly told me that my body was entirely worn out and could not function much longer. I was assigned for the third and last time to attend a treatment cure in a certain resort area of Germany.

During my 30-day stay at this clinic, I had much leisure time to reflect on my past. I had taken my Bible and hymn book with me. In the stillness of those days my soul was troubled within, for in the light of God's Word I saw I was lost. Then a desire rose up in me to be at peace with God. The Lord made me to understand it was either now or never concerning my salvation. The Bible told me that the friendship of the world is enmity with God. James 4:4. Of God's enemies it is written: "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb. 10:31.

In those days of solitude I spent much time in earnest prayer, confessing all my wrongs. I made no effort to put any blame on others for the wrong deeds I had done; nay, I repented of my wickedness and asked God to forgive. By faith I claimed some promises of His Word. For example: "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me." Psa. 50:15. And: "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Acts 2:21. I believed His Word and found peace with God. To be at peace with God is glorious beyond description. A song writer expressed it this way: "O blessed hour when holy truth did shine into my soul. The burden is gone, my heart is light and now I can praise Him." While kneeling before the throne of God, Jesus entered into my life. My tongue cannot describe it now; it must be experienced.

Truly, it is nothing less than God's miraculous grace, which fountain of mercy was opened to us through the atoning blood of Christ. All honour and praise to God for a full measure of salvation in Jesus Christ. I have no desire to return to a life of misery in sin. I do not look back, but rather focus my entire attention on obtaining the goal of eternal glory and bliss, live or die, by employing all faculties of my soul and body. Rom. 8:38, 39

I was now born again through the Word and Spirit of God. I became a different man—a child of the living God. John 3:1-8. From this day on I had taken the yoke of Christ upon myself. I began to live a new life separated from the sinful world. Of course, the devil was not pleased, and before long I was in various afflictions of body and soul. However, I overcame with a single eye on Jesus, and by His help and abundant grace have come a long way on the narrow path. Along this narrow way I often felt as described in John Bunyan's book, *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

The Lord built up my faith while I was reading God's Word. I also began to read a number of books written by devout men of God like Warner, Orr, Byrum, Smith, Naylor, and others. Hence, I realized I was not alone, but was merely following the lead of others who have trod this holy way before me. It is

truly a path where self-denial must be exercised. It is also too narrow for supporters of sects, creeds, and human religion, but rather allows individual saints to walk thereon, each bearing the "cross" of Christ. Jesus leads the way. Praise the Lord! Therefore, let us remain close to our Lord and we will have a safe journey. It is very dangerous for a child of God to walk ahead of Christ or to step outside the narrow path.

By the grace of God I also learned to offer up my body as a sacrifice to God and determined to trust Him forevermore. One day I severely injured the thumb of my right hand. The fingernail was split in two halves throughout its root. For the space of one year I suffered much pain and had many sleepless nights. The two doctors I saw at the time were of the opinion that the nail had to be stripped off to prevent further complications. They gave no hope that I could ever have a new healthy nail again. Our knowledge is truly piecemeal. With regret I now admit it was not until after one year of suffering that I was ready to trust God in this affliction; however, God harkens to the cry of His children and He places much importance on child-like faith and trust. He always rewards. God had mercy upon me and healed my thumb very quickly, whereupon I showed both of my thumbs to the most unbelieving doctor, asking him which of the two nails looked more beautiful. He then pointed to the one the Lord had healed. When I told him that this was the one the Lord had healed in answer to prayer, he examined it and squeezed it in all directions and was very astonished. Praise God! I not only bear the mark of God's mercy on my soul, but also on my hand. —Reinhold Karlbowski

(Part Two in next issue)

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Calif.—Dear saints: We send greetings of love in Jesus' name, that Name above all names.

I want to testify of some healings of late. In the last part of 1979, I got up one morning with my lower back pain so much, making it very difficult to walk, and it continued to get worse until it was so painful to walk across the floor. I could hardly stand, but yet I had to move about because I alone have the care of my dear companion. Getting up through the night to care for him, it was so painful to get out and in bed, but I found the dear Lord a present help in time of need. His grace was sufficient. Two dear sisters brought food prepared, sparing us that much responsibility, for which I was so thankful. I had a funeral to take care of at the time, but I was unable to take care of it alone, yet the Lord helped me to take a part. I could hardly get up when I got down, but the Lord so touched me the day of the funeral that I got up with all ease. Thank the Lord! But I was really in a battle as the devil would bring to my mind that I was going to be a cripple. I stood against the devil, the adversary of our souls, and claimed the victory, and I have victory today. Praise the Lord! It lasted over two weeks. One night before the Lord healed it, I sat down in a

chair a little crooked or something and, oh, what pain it brought on! It was so intense that Bro. Gene called the Sisters over and they stayed and called on God until relief came. What a mighty God we serve!

The Lord also healed a big knot that came on my hand. It was the size of a large marble just below where I broke my hand years ago. Praise the Lord forever! He is just the same today.

Also, when Bro. and Sis. Willie Murphey and Sis. Marie Miles were here recently, they anointed and prayed for a place on Bro. Gene's neck which had been there over a year, and now it is just about all gone. Thank the Lord! Who wouldn't want to serve a Friend like that? He is so mindful of all that touches His children. The Word says He has engraved us in the palms of His hands. Isa. 49:16. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not his benefits." We have our battles, but, oh, the victories are so sweet and precious.

Husband and I have resigned the work as pastors here at Orland, and anyone interested in that position may contact us at the address below.

Yours in Him,

—Sis. Loretta Harmon

507 "A" Street, Orland, Calif. 95963

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

Md.—Dear saints: I want to thank the good Lord for life this morning. I can't thank Him enough for the things He has done for me. . . .

Last year I had not felt well for a long time. . . . No matter what I ate I kept getting larger and larger. Because of the way my stomach felt I believed I was getting a tumor. I had told Paul, my husband, in the summer that something was going wrong. About a week before Easter of last year, I kept getting terrible pains in my right side which affected my breathing. I had to take short breaths. On Easter Sunday, while I was cooking dinner, I turned toward the refrigerator and I had such pains in my heart that I could barely get my breath. I sat in a chair until the pains left. . . . On the following Wednesday I started getting so nervous that I called my brother George's wife and told her I had had a heart attack and to please pray for me. She also called the saints in Missouri for prayer.

That night I started getting worse. I shook badly and it looked like the Lord would take me any minute. I told my husband that if I didn't get better I would soon be gone. I told him to call my brother George and also tell my other brother to come. He wanted me to go to the hospital, and said that I had to have help. I was numb up to my knees and felt very cold. I could feel the numbness coming on up. I said, "Please don't take me to the hospital." He said there was no one else around to help me. He said with tears in his eyes, "Do you want me to stand here and watch you die?" I said, "I want to trust the Lord." I asked him to call Bro. Mart Samons and ask them to pray for me. They said they would. While he was on the phone I kept trying to raise up, and finally I pushed myself up and I started feeling better, but still shaking badly. I had to sit propped up

in bed all the time to be able to breathe. I was so weak that I had to be helped to the bathroom. When morning came, Bro. and Sister Samons came and anointed me and prayed for me. I kept improving, but it was the 17th of May before I could do my housework.

The day I was anointed and prayed for, I passed blood and infection, and also a time or two afterward. I lost twenty pounds. I had cracked my ribs in 1974 on the left side and that had bothered me ever since and that is where the tumor was. Anyway, it felt like a knot there, and after all that passed, it quit bothering me.

I was still having pains in my body. One night I couldn't sleep, and I asked the Lord that if He was going to heal me to show me by taking all the pain away. The pain all left right then. Everyone was worried about me, but the Lord was taking care of me. I was threatened by some because I didn't go to the hospital. They said that I was running a chance I might have died. I said, "I would have been running a chance if I went to the hospital."

Some asked, "What have you decided to do? Are you going to just lie there until the Lord takes you?" They said, "Don't you think you should go and get medication, and maybe you will live a few more years. You might die and leave this house." I am glad for our new home the Lord has allowed us to have, but leaving it is the least of my worries. I don't want a house or anything to get between me and the Lord. I just want to do as He wants me to. I said, "I am going to lie right here. I had rather the Lord take me than anyone else, and I figure if the Lord wants me He will take me no matter where I am or what I am doing."

I don't get any encouraging words from anyone nor does my husband, but the Lord will take care of us. He knows that we are all alone here. There are no saints around. The closest ones are at Green Bank, W. Va.

I want to thank all the saints there, and the ones in Kentucky and Missouri, and other places, for their prayers, all the nice letters, and get-well cards. I pray for you and think of you often, and I hope you will live true to God. My husband and I still need everyone's prayers very much. We still need healing in our bodies, and I know nothing is impossible for the Lord.

We get to go to Green Bank sometimes to the meetings, and everyone is so nice to us. We enjoy being with them and in the meeting. We live one hundred miles from there, so it doesn't take long to go.

—Lucy Hauser

Little Things in Life

If any little word of ours can make one life the brighter,
If any little song of ours can make one heart the lighter;
God help us speak that little word and take our bit of
singing,

And drop it in some lonely vale and set the echoes
ringing.

—Selected

Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Why are not more of God's people getting healing for their bodies? Is it not His will to heal them? In the early days of the reformation they had some really outstanding healing services. Also, I read in the account of S. O. Susag of the miracles God performed at the hands of His servants, such as cancers healed, dead raised to life, insane people returned to their right minds, etc. So many are in need of these same works by the hand of God today. In Isaiah it says, "With his stripes we are healed." Surely the Lord did not suffer those stripes in vain.

Answer: Of course, the Lord did not suffer those stripes in vain. He never did anything at any time in vain. Those stripes purchased healing for every one who will receive it. We must recognize that there are some conditions to receiving healing, or any other blessing from the Lord, and those conditions must be met. Before considering any of those things, I would first hasten to remove any stigma from God or His Son, Jesus Christ, for having changed His mind or altered His purpose or will. He said in Mal. 3:6, "I am the Lord; I change not. . . ." Again in Heb. 13:8, we read, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." We must believe this and stand firmly upon it or we will have no way of knowing where we are. If He were to vacillate or change or waver in any degree from any of His plans, purposes, or promises on any point, we would never know if we could trust Him securely on other points. The Bible says that in Him is no variableness nor shadow of turning (James 1:17). That has to be so in all His plans, purposes, and promises. I believe and teach the people that whatever we read in the Bible that Christ was when He lived and walked among men in this world, He is that now. Whatever the Bible says He did when He was here on the earth, He does that same thing now. If He healed all manner of sicknesses and diseases when He was here, He heals all manner of sicknesses today, too. We see this going on around us and rejoice in it. But I hasten to say that it is not on as big a scale or as general as I would like to see.

I also hasten to add that if we allow the enemy to get our minds on this and our eyes on cases that have not been healed and get to wondering about that, we will rob ourselves of our own personal victories and blessings. I believe and teach the people that if all the cases they know of were not healed and they never knew or heard of anybody anywhere ever being healed, they still have a right to look to God and His Word and be healed of whatever sickness or disease they have if they will earnestly seek Him and believe His promises.

As to the *whys* and *wherefores* for any lack along this line of healing, I would say the causes could be as numerous as the cases. Every case is determined upon its own merits. We may not be able to discern the cause in every case. But God who searches the

heart and tries the reins of all, and who works according to certain fixed objectives, will determine what to do or not to do in every individual case according to His own will and wisdom and whatever objective He is striving for. God deals with every person as an individual and not according to groups. So I say to every individual saint to just look straight to God and His Word and expect it to be fulfilled and verified to you.

I am reminded of when I was in Junior High school. At one time we had a problem in algebra which was quite complicated and a little tricky. I worked on it until a late hour at night and finally got it solved (so I thought) and came up with an answer. I was eager to go to class the next day because I did not think many would get that problem, and I had it (so I thought). Sure enough, I was called on the next day to work that problem out on the board and explain it to the class. I went forward with all confidence and put the problem on the board and began to explain it. The teacher interrupted me before long and wanted to know where I got all of that. I started over, thinking I might show him a thing or two, and got to about the same point when he stopped me again and said, "Where in the world did you get that?" By that time I began to lose my confidence. Then I discovered that this problem was contingent on the one before it, and we were to take the figure that we got in a certain step of solving that problem before it for a beginning point for this problem. Well, I had not solved the problem before it, so I did not have a proper beginning place for this one; therefore, all my working it out meant nothing.

We may in some sense have a situation like that to consider here. Individuals may have spiritual problems in their lives and the Church may have its problems also. But if we are passing over all of that and trying to solve this problem of healing and miracles, etc., it just will not work; we will not get the right answer. I say that healing and miracle-working power are just the natural outflows of a Church in an up-tight spiritual condition, and the problems of lukewarmness, carelessness, indifference, laxity, and shabby living among many professed saints in our time must be solved before we have a proper beginning point to solve this problem. In the second verse of III John we read, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospers." We see here that our health and other prosperities are contingent upon our spiritual condition and prosperity.

As to the things that were done in the early days of this reformation: I know of them principally from reading the writings of those early saints and ministers, and by word of mouth from older ministers that I knew in growing up. But along with that, I read in those early writings of the simple, consecrated, dedicated, holy lives those people lived in those days—saints as well as ministers. In general they lived really close to God, and God shone forth the perfection of beauty out of Zion through them. In

this age of affluence and easy credit when money is of such importance and people have to work all they can (overtime and sometimes two jobs) and in many cases husbands and wives both have to work in order to keep up all their payments and have money for living expenses, God is crowded too much out of too many people's lives, and many have no time, or very little time, for God. You can see that we have a different situation than prevailed in the early days of this reformation. So we are not seeing healings on as broad a scale as in the early days of this reformation; but we are thankful and rejoice for what we are seeing, and recognize that God is doing a great deal for faithful saints in this day, too.

This may be a little severe, and it is; but you asked the question and I am answering it according to my best perspectives, and I doubt if many, if any, will gainsay it.

The Saints of God Reign with Christ, When and Where?

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." Revelation 20:4-6.

We have in this description another division of the subject introduced—a history of God's people, or one phase of the church, during the same thousand years following the casting down of the dragon. "They lived and reigned with Christ." It was those who had "part in the first resurrection" that were exalted to this honored position with Christ. Millenarians always assume that this refers to a literal resurrection at the second coming of Christ, but no such thing is hinted at. Not one word is said about literally resurrected saints reigning. John says, "I saw the *souls* of them which were beheaded for the witness of Jesus . . . and *they* lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Nothing whatever is said about any reign on earth at all; but the description shows plainly that it was disembodied spirits that were reigning with Christ in Paradise during the period that followed the casting down of the dragon, which was in reality one of long apostasy and darkness on earth. Before and during this conflict with Paganism the Church of God was publicly triumphant on earth. Afterward, during the apostasy, a false church was, in the public view, triumphant, while the Church of God was crowded out of sight into the wilderness. However, the reign of God's

saints did not cease; for when they were slaughtered by their relentless persecutors and deprived of their reign on earth, they were, as symbolized by the man-child, caught up to God and to his throne and there "lived and reigned with Christ" during the thousand years under consideration.

This same thought concerning the reign of the martyrs in Paradise while the powers of evil triumphed on earth, was brought to view on the opening of the fifth seal in chapter 6:9-11. "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the *souls of them that were slain* for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: and they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their *brethren, that should be killed as they were* should be fulfilled." This quotation will make clear one point concerning the refusal of the martyrs to worship the beast and his image. We are not to understand that every soul of the martyrs John saw in these visions reigned during the entire period under consideration; but he beheld the reign of the saints above during the one thousand years, and he saw there the souls of all the martyrs—such as had been slain in the early days of Christianity (chap. 12:11); such as refused to worship the beast and were martyred therefore (chap. 13:7); and also, such as "should be killed as they were" (chap. 6:11) and were put to death shortly after the formation of the image of the beast. Chap. 13:15; 16:6.

This company of souls that the apostle saw reigning with Christ above were those who had had part "in the first resurrection," which had made them "blessed and holy." They were not on earth; they were disembodied spirits above, hence had not been literally resurrected. The Scriptures clearly teach that mankind in their ordinary condition are "*dead in trespasses and in sins*," and that through salvation, which makes them "blessed and holy," they are "quickened" to a new life in Christ. Eph. 2:1. That this is Scripturally "the first resurrection" is proved most positively by the words of Christ—"Verily, verily, I say unto you, the hour is coming, *and now is*, when the *dead* shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear *shall live*. He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, *hath* everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is *passed from death unto life*." John 5:25,24. Although many other proofs could easily be given, this of itself is sufficient to establish the point that the host of early Christians who had "passed from death unto life" in Christ and who gave their lives gladly for the sake of Christ, constituted the ones referred to as having had "part in the first resurrection." According to verse 6 it was only on those who had part in the first resurrection that the second death had no power. The church at Smyrna received the sure promise from Christ himself that

they should "not be hurt of the second death" (chap. 2:11); and this shows beyond all question that even at that early date they had had part in this first resurrection that makes men blessed and holy.

It is the trick of Beelzebub to deceive souls by causing them to overlook the fact that this first resurrection that made men blessed and holy is of a spiritual nature and to fix their hopes in two literal resurrections at the end. There will be but one literal resurrection then, as is clearly shown by the account given of the judgment in this chapter, verses 11-15. The writer of the Revelation declared positively, "Behold, he cometh with clouds: and *every eye* shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him." Chap. 1:7. If this does not prove that there is but one literal resurrection when Christ comes, then I would not know how to state such a fact if I desired. Furthermore, Jesus himself, in the same chapter in which he described "the first resurrection," says most positively that all the literal dead shall be resurrected at the same time. "Marvel not at this," He says: "the *hour* is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28,29. This *hour* certainly cannot signify more than a short period of time. In their efforts to prove two literal resurrections, millenarians always quote with emphasis, "The dead in Christ shall rise first." 1 Thes. 4:16. In doing so they, either ignorantly or wilfully, wrest the Scriptures to their own destruction; for any one can see at a glance that no such things as two resurrections is even hinted at. Verses 15-17 simply teach this, that the righteous who are living on the earth at the time Christ appears will not ascend to heaven *before* the righteous dead are resurrected, but the dead will rise first, then they will all be caught up together at one and the same time. The wicked are not mentioned in this connection; for, as stated, Paul was writing this only for the comfort and the edification of the church. In the following chapter, however, their "sudden destruction" at the second coming of Christ is mentioned as a warning to the church.

It is evident that the first resurrection as applied in this connection specified particularly that phase of the church which, as symbolized by the man-child, was caught up to God through martyrdom and there "lived and reigned with Christ." The other phase of the Church, symbolized by the woman, is not said to reign with Christ a thousand years, but, on the other hand, is represented as driven into the wilderness, her public reign on earth being ended by the holy city being trodden under foot of the profane multitude of apostate beast-worshipers; and the two witnesses, clothed in sackcloth, were prophesying only in a few isolated, individual hearts.

A careful study of this Scripture, taken in connection with others in the Revelation applying to the same object, will show that all God's people, both those here brought to view during the thousand years

and those following that period, are spoken of as dead people resurrected and reigning. They are considered under two phases—those who, as symbolized by the man-child, were caught up to God through martyrdom and there lived and reigned with Christ; and those who, as symbolized by the woman, were deprived of their public reign on earth and were driven into the wilderness during the same period. The first phase were “priests of God and of Christ” and reigned with him in Paradise (chap. 6:9-11); but “the rest,” the phase symbolized by the woman, did not live and enjoy their public reign again, as in the early days of Christianity, until the expiration of the thousand-year period. It is true that individuals on earth received life from God and were thus spiritually resurrected during the thousand-year period; but the dominant beast-power martyred them by thousands, the two witnesses were then in their sack-cloth state, and thus the public triumphal reign of the saints on earth ceased. The statement of verse five that “the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished” should be applied not in an individual, but in a general sense, the same as the reign above during the same period is considered. There is also some doubt as to the authenticity of this sentence. It is not found in the Vatican Manuscript, which is one of the oldest in existence; and the Syriac Version, which has come down to us from early days through an entirely separate channel, does not contain it. However, it is evident that the phase of the Church symbolized by the woman actually reigns triumphantly on earth after the thousand years is finished; for verses 7-9 of this chapter show that the dragon, combined with Gog and Magog, goes forth on the breadth of the earth to compass the camp of the saints just before the end of time.

—By F. G. Smith in *Revelation Explained*

Mine Twice

A boy made a sailboat. How much he did enjoy watching it sail on the water! He was especially happy about this little boat because he had made it. He had given much thought about every detail of the little boat. He wanted it to be perfect. He had great plans for the little boat and looked forward to its completion so he could enjoy it. Day after day, he took it out on the water and enjoyed it immensely. Then he would put it up for the night and eagerly wait for the day so he could enjoy it some more.

One day he went out to get his little boat, but it was not there. Someone had stolen his boat. How sad he was! He began to look for it. Day after day he looked for his boat. How happy he was when he saw it one day in the window of a pawn shop. He went in and asked about the boat. He explained how someone had stolen his boat and how much he loved it. The pawnshop keeper said that the boy could not have it unless he paid the price set on the boat.

The little boy went home. He made plans for buying the boat. Finally, he came up with the price. He went into the store and gave the man the price for

the boat. How happy the boy was when again the boat was in his hands! He stepped out of the store and looked at his boat. He said, “You are mine twice.” The boat was the boy’s by creation and then through paying a price for it. (Told by Bro. John Varghese, India.)

How true this is concerning man. First, man was God’s through creation, but the devil stole him. Then God paid a price for man. He sent His only begotten Son to this world to live, die, and rise again to pay the price for man’s deliverance from the one who stole him—the devil. God then said of those who accepted Jesus Christ as their Redeemer from the devil, “You are mine twice! First, I created you, and now through paying the price, I have bought you!” “Feed the church of God [the body of Christ, Eph. 1:22,23], which he hath purchased with his own blood.” Acts 20:28. “For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.” 1 Cor. 6:20.

—M. Miles

Divorce and Remarriage

Much has been written on marriage and divorce, but few stay within what the Bible teaches. In recent statistics given it was stated that we would soon see one in three marriages ending in divorce. There is a reason for this. Past history proves to us what happens when the family unit encounters such destruction.

God’s Plan for Man

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . . So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him. . . . And the Lord said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. And the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:18, 21-24.

The Sacredness of Marriage

“The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he 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 doth commit adultery." Matt. 19:3-9.

The goal of Jesus was to stop divorce and remarriage. Matt. 19:8. The goal of the Pharisees was to justify divorce and remarriage. Matt. 19:7 The goal of evil in these last days is to promote divorce and remarriage and to break down the family unit. In our large cities, lawyers and courts are flourishing from divorce cases.

"But Jesus said, But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the Ark." Matt. 24:37, 38. Do you see what was happening just prior to their destruction? They were eating and drinking. Don't we see this on almost every corner and out on our highways? There are eating places and booze taverns of all kinds. Most large eating places have alcoholic beverages also, and our nation and the world are doing the same things they were doing when the flood came and destroyed them all. They were also marrying and giving in marriage. There is nothing wrong with getting married. This is God's plan. But they were marrying, divorcing, and remarrying again, contrary to the divine plan of God. Please read 1 Cor. 7:13-16.

"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." Rom. 7:2.

"And unto the married I 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." 1 Cor. 7:10,11.

"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." Rom. 7:3.

"The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord." 1 Cor. 7:39.

"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." 1 Cor. 6:9,10.

Friends, in Genesis 2:23, 24, God made no provision for divorce when he instituted marriage. Divorce was not permitted by the Ten Commandments. The 7th and 10th commandments were given for the purpose of preventing divorce.

Folks should be taught the sacredness of vows taken before God. What did you say when you stood at the marriage altar? You were taking a vow before God. Did you say, "Until death do us part," or "Until divorce do us part"? Did you say, "For better or for worse," or "If it gets worse, I'll get a divorce and get another"?

Friends, Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. If Jesus could lay down His life for us, how much more love should we have for our lifelong companion? Young people, don't marry anyone until you can come to the place that you can do this. We are surely living in a terrible period, when the air is full of deceivers, preaching for doctrine the commandments of men, lining their pockets with filthy lucre, building great cathedrals, and getting great followings of those that know not God and His way.

Having lived a single life for many years now, I can testify to the fact that it is not an easy life, but it is not impossible. Like Paul who said in Phil. 4:11, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." God is our refuge and strength. We are nothing within ourselves, but He promised that His grace was sufficient, and I am standing on the Word of God and expecting God to carry me through to that mansion in the heavens. I earnestly covet your prayers that I will be found faithful. Amen.

—Earl B. Bliss

Ten Rules for Raising a Juvenile Delinquent

1. Begin in infancy to give the child everything he wants. In this way he will grow up to believe the world owes him a living.

2. When he picks up bad words laugh at him. This will make him think he is cute.

3. Never give him any spiritual training. Wait until he is twenty-one, then let him decide for himself.

4. Pick up everything he leaves lying around: books, shoes, clothes. Do everything for him so that he will be experienced in throwing all responsibility on others.

5. Quarrel with your spouse frequently in his presence. In this way he will not be shocked when the home is broken.

6. Give a child all the spending money he wants. Never let him earn his own. Why should he have things as tough as you had them?

7. Satisfy his every craving for food, drink, and comfort. Denial may lead to frustrations.

8. Take his part against neighbors, teachers, and policemen. They are all prejudiced against your child.

9. When he gets into trouble, apologize for yourself by saying: "I never could do anything with him."

10. Prepare for plenty of headaches. You are sure to have them.

—Selected by Audrey Henry

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