

FAITH AND VICTORY

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Behold Thy Mother!



While hanging on the cruel cross
To save the world from endless loss,
Christ looked upon her standing there:
His mother, Mary, sweet and fair.

What weight of sorrow pressed upon
Her heart to see her dying Son
So cruelly hanging on the tree
While sinful men looked on in glee!

And standing by the cross nearby
Was John who sought to soothe her cry,
As both in grief together bore
The sight of Him they did adore.

Then from the cross a voice was heard
That spoke a kind and gentle word:
"Oh, Woman, now behold thy Son!"
He knew His race was nearly run.

He sought thus in His dying hour
In all His goodness to empower
Provision for His Mother's care
Upon His dear disciple there.

"Behold Thy Mother!" As to John,
These words our hearts are placed upon;
Look and behold your mother now:
Her smiling face or care-worn brow.

"Behold Thy Mother!" Think how she
In childhood nursed and cared for thee;
Oh, canst thou fail to nurse and care
And comfort her in dark despair?

How much a special effort made
Would cause the shadows quick to fade;
"Behold Thy Mother!" Take the time
To help her days to be sublime.

"Behold Thy Mother!" Understand
It is Almighty God's command;
And great reward will come to thee
While Mother's love will cherished be.

—Leslie C. Busbee

The Need of the Holy Spirit

Living for God has to do with spiritual things, and a theoretical knowledge alone will never work. It must be lived in the Holy Spirit.

We must have the Holy Spirit in our hearts to guide us. It is not enough that we once had it; we must have it now.

Salvation includes nothing less than the rich grace of sanctification. Some have thought because they had learned of the doctrine and could quote Scriptures pretty well, and may have had a good deal of natural ability, that they were qualified to preach the gospel and go out as representatives of the Church of God. But, alas, there are sad wrecks to be seen along the way, and in every case it has been where men and women have undertaken to operate in themselves without the Spirit. Not that they intended that this should be, but they lost sight of the fact that the weapons of our warfare are spiritual.

The enemy wants us to attack him with such material as theory, intellect, and natural ability. He knows that we cannot harm him with such weapons. He can sit back in his easy chair and rest in the face of such an attack. But when God's ministers are filled with the Holy Spirit, and preach the truth by the power of the same, there is no rest on the part of the enemy. There is a commotion and persecution, and souls are enlightened and saved.

No man or woman is a minister in the Church of God unless qualified by the Holy Spirit, neither is any one a member of the Church of God unless he is born of the Spirit and maintains this heavenly life.

Some congregations get into a theoretical condition concerning the truth of the Church of God doctrines. They grow formal and careless spiritually, and yet love the truth, and would not give it up for the world, but on examining their true spiritual condition, they discover a sad lack. The church of Ephesus was in this condition when the message came from heaven through the Revelator. There was but one remedy—repent. They were doing many good things; they hated every evil thing; but they had to repent, or lose their place in the Church of God, and this would also mean that they would lose their place in heaven.

It is easy to get into this same state today. The elder was to blame for this, no doubt, and so it is in many instances today. There are men who are depending more upon other things than upon the Holy Spirit power, and such men will sooner or later have to be sacrificed, for they are sure to be ensnared by the enemy; and also, there is the sad fact that almost invariably, when they fall they take someone down with them.

There is not one person in the body of Christ who will be able to get along any length of time without the genuine experience of sanctification. The powers of evil are too strong, the deceptions too great, and man entirely too weak in his own strength. He is sure to go down unless he gets God's whole armor on and learns to fight the spiritual battles.

In the sectarian world men can go on without grace and keep up their profession unnoticed for the time, and perhaps go on into eternity in this condition; but in Zion the battle is too fierce. Nothing will stand the heavy spiritual tension but the Holy Spirit within.

—J. W. Byers

Stand Where Fire Has Been

A small party of pioneers were making their way across one of the central states to a distant place that had been opened up for homesteading. They traveled in covered wagons drawn by oxen, and progress was necessarily slow. One day they were horrified when they saw a long line of smoke in the west stretching for miles across the prairie, and soon it was evident that the dried grass was burning fiercely and coming toward them rapidly. They had crossed a river the day before, but it would be impossible to go back to that before the flames were upon them. It seemed as if they were hopelessly doomed, until one man in the party who had an understanding of the situation, commanded them to set fire to the grass behind them. As the wind drove the fire eastward across the grass behind them, the whole company moved back upon the space that was burned over. As the fire advanced from the west, a little girl cried out in terror, "Are you sure we will not all be burned up?" The leader replied, "My child, the flames cannot reach us here for we are standing where the fire has already been."

The parties in this story would have been victims engulfed in the flames, but they had prepared for the time when they would have to face the fire. Dear ones, there is coming a day when the fire of God's wrath will be poured out upon man because of sin. We can prepare for that time. Our works can be already tried by fire. The Bible says, "Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after." 1 Tim. 5:24. We can send our sins on beforehand and open them up to God through confessing them and with godly sorrow seeking forgiveness. The precious blood of Jesus will cover them, and when the last day comes we will be saved from the eternal fire. Just as sure as people die, they will meet God in the day of Judgment. Are you

preparing for that day? Are you taking the way of escape God has prepared for you? Jesus suffered and died on the cross and bore the punishment for our sins. "For he [God] hath made him [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him [Christ]." 2 Cor. 5:21. Won't you accept God's way of escape today from the judgment fires that are surely coming?

—Marie Miles

Christ on Mount Olivet

(Part II, in conclusion)

By Earl Langley

"And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south." Zech. 14:4.

Many years ago, I learned that a given truth can be natural or spiritual and still be the literal truth. It's a literal truth to say that "God is a spirit" (Jn. 4:24). That is to say, He is not flesh; nor, in fact, is He Christ in the flesh since He has become heavenly and spiritual in His human nature, nor is He to be known any more "after the flesh" (1 Cor. 15:44; 2 Cor. 5:16; Phil. 3:21). It stands only to reason, then, that the thing Jesus was teaching while here on earth—things pertaining to His Kingdom, His redeemed people—should be conformed to His spiritual nature, for they all were to be heavenly and spiritual, too. He very expressly taught, i.e., "It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: *the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life*" (Jn. 6:63). Here is truth of tremendous value and significance, for it covers the entire scope of His ministry. He always placed the highest degree of emphasis upon spiritual truth. In none of His teachings, nor in any of the teachings of His apostles, do we ever hear of Him as much as implying that this earth is yet to be made into a paradise; that the saints shall be physically raised from the dead to go about planting corn and potatoes ("business as usual"), as we hear so much from modern liberal teachers these days. Christ's whole emphasis was spiritual and heavenly: "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." To the woman at the well in Samaria, Jesus promised, on condition that she ask it of Him, that He would give her "living water . . . a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (Jn. 4:10-14), thus signifying the spiritual aspect of His Kingdom. On that great closing day of the feast, "Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (Jn. 7:37, 38). This, too, emphatically, belongs to the spiritual realm. These spiritual

utterances illustrate, characterize and embrace His whole point of view in His teachings. They supply the serious aim and real emphasis to the entire compass of all His ministry.

The apostles, likewise, so construed the teachings of Jesus and so applied the prophecies ("Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days" (Acts 3:24). In fact, they viewed the whole scope of Bible truth as one compact commentary on the great plan of salvation. We find them teaching the same spiritual truths that Christ taught, i.e., "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Rom. 8:9). Certainly we never find them looking backward and downward to the mundane things of time and earth where abide the carnal hopes of the worldly-minded. They never point to this earth as a suitable prospect for our future home, nor to Christ's future glory.

Now let us take occasion to notice our text—God's message through His prophet Zechariah and the general purport of that message. I believe it can be clearly shown that this is one of the great and grand prophecies of the gospel, having their fulfillment in this present day dispensation of His redeeming grace. As to understanding any prophetic narrative, it is imperative that we understand the subject matter. To do that, we must explore the context. The words, "in that day," is a frequent expression used throughout the prophecies and always relate to this present age of Divine grace. This gives us a reliable starting point. To illustrate: The prophet tells us that, "In that day there shall be a fountain opened in the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and uncleanness" (Zech. 13:1), which has always been considered by students of prophecy, a most precious gospel promise. I cannot refrain from quoting a beloved passage from the apostle John: "... Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God. . . ." (Rev. 1:5, 6). Please observe, also, that in our immediate context we find the prediction, "And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced." When was this fulfilled? Let Peter answer: Standing forth with the eleven on that great day of Pentecost, and preaching to the throng, he addressed these memorable words: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified" ("whom they have pierced") "both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36); and thereafter, three thousand souls were saved. Let us make one other comparison: a component passage reads, "And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go forth from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former [eastern] sea, and half of them toward the hinder [western] sea: in summer and in winter shall it be" (Zech. 14:8). We have already seen that Christ applies "living waters" to the gospel of salvation, so there need be no doubt as to the meaning here.

It remains now to resolve the meaning of the Mount of Olives being cleft and half of the Mount moving toward the north and half of it toward the south. Applying spiritual analysis to this startling phenomenon, we can say with no hesitation that that is exactly what happened, and has been happening now for nearly two thousand years. We are here reminded of that obscure prophecy Jesus confronted the Jews with: "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Had not John slipped in the interpretation, "But he spake of the temple of his body," it is anybody's guess as to what Millennialists might now have made of this statement. A mountain is a symbol of a city or a nation, as is evidenced in Heb. 12:22, 23, "But ye are come unto Mount Sion, and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect."

We must pause here to give thought to the above marvelous Scripture. Here is represented a complete new order of things. This great new body of spiritual believers, "the elect of God" (Col. 3:12), "a remnant according to the election of grace" (Rom. 11:5), come unto spiritual "Mount Sion," to the "heavenly Jerusalem" and "church of the first born" God's own, true, spiritual Israel. God is through with earthly mountains and worldly cities. His Word is, "Neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem." "God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." And herein is that "holy nation" of which Peter speaks (1 Pet. 2:9). This is that same nation of which Christ threatened the Jews: "Therefore say I unto you, the kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matt. 21:43). And, again, that's exactly what happened.

Mount Olive, because of its close association with Jerusalem and events transpiring in and out of the city, and its close relation with the life of Christ, makes it a most suitable figure to represent the nation of Israel. The result of Christ's coming to that nation was that it was divided in twain. For "there was a division because of him" (Jn. 7:43; 9:16). Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth; I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law" (Matt. 10:34, 35). Here, indeed, is a valley wide and deep. We wish to liken it to a paraphrase on the statement of Jesus given in Luke 16: It is "a great gulf fixed" that cannot be crossed only through the blood of Christ.

And now, what a grand climax to a beautiful prophecy! "Living waters," says the prophet, starting at Jerusalem and going North, South, East and West; in Winter and in Summer, the year round, and in all directions—covering the earth. Praise Him for His wonderful salvation! I'm so glad it's true.

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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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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P.O. Box 518 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044
Office phone 405-282-1479; Home phone 405-282-2262

EDITORIALS



THE STREAM OF TIME will eventually end in the vast ocean of eternity. Our heavenly Father, who controls time and all things, has extended time to this campmeeting and tent meeting season again, when the Church in general makes a special effort to reach the unsaved with the gospel of Christ in various areas of the United States, Mexico, and this year, in Chilliwack, B. C., Canada. The summer season is the most suitable time of the year to conduct these tent and campmeetings.

Let us all agree in prayer continually through this special season that God's Word presented from the pulpit and press, and by personal contact, will find a response in a multitude of honest hearts, and that they will be translated into the Kingdom of God. Time is running out, and what we intend to do to rescue precious souls must be done quickly.



Brother H. H. Hargrave, pastor at Goulds, Fla., reports that the Lord gave them a very profitable campmeeting there which closed with victory on Easter Sunday, April 19. Some of the ministers laboring in that meeting were Bro. Keith Fuller, Bro. Egbert Allen, Bro. Carl Shaffer, and Brother Louis Kimble.

Brother and Sister James Huskey of Guthrie attended the campmeeting which was held the week prior to Easter at Ejido Patzcuaro, Baja Cfa., Mexico. They reported a very good meeting at that mission station where Sister Edith (Cole) Lara is taking care of the work.



Next on the schedule this year is the Oklahoma State campmeeting here in Guthrie, Okla., which will be held, Lord willing, from May 22 to 31, 1981. (See further announcement on another page.) A large attendance is expected from several states, especially over the first week-end, as the Memorial holiday comes on Monday, May 25. The saints are urged to come praying for a soul-saving session. Showers of blessings are anticipated. The Guthrie congregation extends a hearty welcome to everyone to come and worship the Lord together in the beauty of holiness at this 47th annual campmeeting on these holy camp grounds where the people of God have maintained the "evening light" Bible truth of the Church of God since the year of 1905. This writer has lived in Guthrie for 62 years and attended every one of these campmeetings.



Excellent Booklet Just Off the Press . . .

"God's Last Call To Planet Earth" by Hubert W. LaVelle, is the title of a small booklet with a very important and timely message for this day of "Babylon" confusion in which we live. The message is primarily addressed to God's people who, for one reason or another, find themselves affiliated with the creeds of men. Time is swiftly passing

away, and it is very urgent that the Lord's people be contacted with this vital message of Bible truth which is God's last call!

The booklet contains 60 pages with a very impressive and attractive heavy paper cover printed in three colors. The price is \$1.20 each, plus 55c for postage and handling, or five copies for \$5.00, plus 75c for postage and handling. Order several copies to pass out to those who need this special message. Please send your order and remittance directly to Hubert W. LaVelle, 1721 Woodburn St., El Cajon, Calif. 92021.

At the present time we are in the process of reprinting the 1914 edition of the excellent book, "What The Bible Teaches," by F. G. Smith. This doctrinal volume, bound in a nice cloth hard cover, has been in stock at this office since 1973. It is a book that should be in every home for study. Containing 576 pages, this book is priced at \$5.50 each, plus 97c for postage and handling. Send your order and remittance TODAY!

Another Oklahoma Work Day—May 2nd . . .

The response from the Guthrie congregation was very good for the work day of April 11 on the State campground. Bro. Ted Bock of Tulsa, Okla., was the only worker coming from out of town. A new composition shingle roof was put on the dining hall. Much more work needs to be done before the campmeeting starts on May 22. Shingles are here for a new roof on the men's dormitory, window screens need to be built, and there is much painting to be done on all outside woodwork. Volunteer workers could come anytime. The next work day is set for Saturday, May 2nd. Saints over Oklahoma, this is your State meeting. Please help repair and maintain these buildings for the cause of Christ, and He will reward you.

Observance of Mother's Day on May 10 . . .

A Sunday in May of each year has been designated as the time to especially honor the mothers of our nation. And it is well indeed that we recognize and honor our godly mothers because it is very largely true that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." The parents, especially the mother in the home, wield a great influence in forming the characters and traits of their children. The moral standing of a nation is determined by the purity, sanctity and integrity, or the lack of these virtues, in the homes or family units which compose that nation. As everyone knows, morality in this nation is at a very low ebb. It is to the shame of this country that it is the first civilized nation in history to legalize abortion, and abortion is murder! Furthermore, in many cases the taxpayers' dollars are used to pay for these abortions.

Considering the multitude of divorces, broken homes and scattered children, adulterous re-marriages, and legalized abortion, is it any wonder why

there is so great an increase in violent crimes, drug and alcohol use, robbery, rape, juvenile delinquency, and crimes of all kinds? Perhaps the Wise Man was looking down to this generation when he asked this pointed question: "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies." Proverbs 31:10. Holy women are scarce compared to the number who are not, but we do thank the Lord for the virtuous women, especially the godly and saintly mothers who have brought or are bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord as the Scriptures command. "Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord she shall be praised." Prov. 31:30. Since women are the large majority in comparison to the number of men, the women must take the greater responsibility for the moral condition of the nation. Our hats are off to God-fearing women, and we pray that their holy lives and influence will bring many souls, men and women, to Christ in repentance where they can find deliverance from sin and Satan, and have divine grace to live holy and virtuous lives in this present evil world.

Precious memories come to this writer of his own beloved godly mother, Mary Ann Pruitt, who departed this life to be with the Lord in 1954, about 26 years ago, at the age of 64 years. She had experienced many deprivations as a young pioneer wife and mother on a homestead on the high plains of New Mexico. For a few years my parents barely made a living on the homestead because of insufficient rain on the seed they would plant on that arid land. It was on that homestead that this writer was born in a "dugout" while New Mexico was just a territory before it became a state of the Union. My dear mother also sacrificed much for the cause of Christ in the formative years of this gospel publishing work and in the Guthrie congregation. Now she is at rest from her labors, and this writer expects to be with her in that grand reunion in heaven.

Another order of 10,000 pounds of printing paper has been placed with the paper agent. Delivery of 5,000 pounds is scheduled for the first of June, and the other 5,000 pounds a month or two later, at a total cost of \$4,635.00. Our faith and trust is in God to meet these obligations, and we solicit your agreement in prayer. The gospel literature must go forth to this sin-sick world. —Lawrence Pruitt

OKLAHOMA CITY REVIVAL REPORT

We truly thank the Lord for the good meeting He blessed us with at the Third Street chapel in Okla. City, Okla. We are also grateful for the ministers and other workers who came to help in this battle of winning souls to Christ, and for the anointed, soul-searching Word of God by which some were convicted and did accept Christ as their Lord and Savior. Some sought spiritual help, and others healing for the body. To God be the glory for all He has done.

May the Lord abundantly bless each of His children for his support and love. —Sister J. Parks

Partial List of Items Available

Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner by A. L. Byers. A reprint with additional pictures of pioneer ministers. Cloth bound, 496 pages. Price, \$5.50 each.

Prophetic Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation by F. G. Smith. It contains 260 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.50 each.

What The Bible Teaches by F. G. Smith. A reprint of the original 1914 edition, containing 576 pages in cloth binding. This is a book that should be in every home. Price, \$5.50 each.

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

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

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

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages. Nice paper binding is priced at \$3.50 each, and the cloth binding is \$5.00 each.

The Revelation Explained by F. G. Smith. Reprint of 1906 original edition (fourth reprint), plus two 17x22 inch wall charts in two colors. 464 pages in nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.50 each.

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

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

Christian Baptism, Feet Washing, and the Lord's Supper by H. M. Riggle. This excellent doctrinal book on the three ordinances of the New Testament contains 264 pages in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$3.50 each.

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 512 pages in a cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of God. Price, \$4.50 each.

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle. Reprinted verbatim in 541 pages, cloth binding. Price, \$5.50 each.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Battle of Armageddon by O. B. Wilson. A clear exposition of this much misunderstood subject in an enlarged 24-page booklet by the author. Price, 20c each, or six copies for \$1.00.

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

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

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

Rays of Hope by D. O. Teasley in the German language. It consists of 180 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50 each.

Food For Lambs by C. E. Orr in the English language. This English version contains 168 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50 each.

Food For Lambs by C. E. Orr in the German language. It consists of 127 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each.

The Hero of Hill House by Mabel Hale. A very interesting and inspiring true story, this book contains 224 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.00 each.

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

Secular Humanism: The Most Dangerous Religion in America, is the title of a book that everyone should read, especially ministers and teachers. It contains 81 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.00 each.

God's Last Call To Planet Earth by Hubert LaVelle, is the title of a small booklet just off the press with a very important message for this day of "Babylon" confusion. The message is primarily addressed to those of God's people who, for one reason or another, find themselves affiliated with the creeds of men. It is very urgent that the Lord's people be contacted with this vital message of Bible truth which is God's last call! Containing 60 pages in a heavy paper cover, the book is priced at \$1.20 each, plus 55c for postage and handling, or five copies for \$5.00, plus 75c for postage and handling. Send your order and remittance directly to Hubert W. LaVelle, 1721 Woodburn St., El Cajon, Calif. 92021.

No. 1 Stereo Song Record by the Phillips Evening Light Singers. Fourteen songs by the Phillips family on 33 RPM record. This No. 1 record may be ordered from

this office or purchased directly from Bro. Paul Phillips, 1220 Wabash St., Wichita, Kansas 67214. The price is \$5.00 each, plus 84c for postage and handling.

No. 2 Stereo Song Record by the Phillips Evening Light Singers. Eleven songs by the Phillips family—Bro. Paul Phillips and his six children. On the cover for the record is a large picture of the singers. This record No. Two may be ordered from this office or purchased directly from Bro. Paul Phillips, 1220 Wabash Street, Wichita, Kansas 67214. The price is reduced to \$5.00 each, plus 84c for postage and handling.

Stereo Song Record by the Evening Light Gospel Harmonizers. The twelve songs, just recently recorded, are sung by seven California gospel singers and composed by one of the singers, Bro. Philip Matthews of Fresno, California, who is also sponsoring the production of this record. Price, \$6.00 each, plus 90c for postage and the handling.

The Stereo Gospel Song Album titled, "Songs Mother Loved" by the Carver Family. Sung and dedicated by the Carver children to the memory of their mother, May DeLee (Jackson) Carver, who departed this life to be with the Lord in 1967. On the jacket of the record is a nice, large picture of Sister May Carver. The record has twelve songs which you will surely enjoy hearing. The price is \$5.00 each, plus \$1.00 for postage and handling. Since this office does not have this record in stock, please send your order and remittance directly to Lynette Melot, 1313 Whitehurst, Choctaw, Okla. 73020.

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

For postage and handling, add 65c for the first dollar and 8c for each additional dollar of total order.

Mail Orders To—

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

In Memorial

Meda Jane (Gregory) Wattenbarger was born May 30, 1893, in McMinn County, Tennessee, and entered into her rest April 2, 1981, at Salem, Oregon, at the age of 87 years, 10 months and 2 days.

She was married to Carter Wattenbarger, and to this union nine children were born—six daughters and three sons. Her husband preceded her in death on Feb. 18, 1942.

Sister Wattenbarger loved the Lord and His people and lived for Him many years. She attended the Church of God in Jefferson, Oregon.

She is survived by six daughters: Zella Mae Carroll, Athens, Tenn.; Nellaver Rogers, Hixson, Tenn.; Glenava Inman, Bradenton, Florida; Geri Federici, San Bruno, Calif.; Loretta Harmon, Orland, Calif.; Nicole Crial, La Habra Heights, Calif.; and three sons, Paul of Roy, Washington, Gordon of Independence, Oregon, and Harvey of Salem, Oregon; also 24 grandchildren (she reared two of these from infancy), 41 great grandchildren, 11 great-great grandchildren; and numerous other friends and relatives in Oregon and Tennessee.

Funeral services were conducted by Ostis B. Wilson at the Howell-Edwards Mortuary in Salem,

Oregon. That evening the body was flown out to Athens, Tennessee for burial there. —O. B. Wilson

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Margruette Allis King was born July 13, 1890, at Marshfield, Missouri, and went home to be with the Lord on April 11, 1981, at Jefferson, Oregon, at the age of 90 years, 8 months, and 29 days.

In 1905 she was married to Edward King. There were no children from this union.

Sister King had lived in Jefferson, Oregon for a good many years and had worshipped with the saints in the Jefferson, Oregon, Church of God. She was a very devoted and sincere saint herself and knew well how to behave herself in the House of God which is the Church of the Living God. She was a highly esteemed and well loved member of our congregation. She was always faithful in her attendance at the services of the Church and has been much missed from our midst since failing health and illnesses made her unable to attend for the last several weeks. She will be greatly missed, as she wholeheartedly supported the Church with her presence, her prayers, her money and her cooperation in every way. She was one of those people that we are never ready to give up, but wish they could continue with us on and on.

There are no survivors, her husband having preceded her in death Dec. 22, 1949. She always referred to the saints as her family, and she is survived by all of us.

Funeral services were conducted in the Saints' Chapel at Jefferson, Oregon, by Charles Elwell and Ostis B. Wilson. After the service, the body was taken to Gresham, Oregon, to be placed by the side of her husband in the Forest Lawn Memorial Park of that city.

—O. B. Wilson

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

Jerome D. Park, aged 41, the son of James A. and Leah F. Park, was born on June 28, 1939 in Huntington, Pa., and departed this life on March 21, 1981, at Mount Union, Pa., as the result of injuries suffered in a fall at his home on March 16, 1981.

A former resident of the Golden Rule Home at Shawnee, Okla., Jerome had been an architectural designer in Philadelphia.

Jerome is survived by his mother, a sister, a brother, a step-sister, and three children.

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Word has been received of the sudden departure on April 11, 1981, of Bro. Claude Johnson at his home in Hennessey, Okla. He had attended the State meetings at Guthrie, Okla., for many years. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his bereaved wife Lucille and family. (No obituary was received.)

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The reason that so many do not remain happy and advance as a Christian should, is because they fail to thank God for what He has done, and is continually doing; and when this is done the soul will be filled continually as long as this course is pursued.

—E. E. Byrum

Campmeeting Dates for 1981



Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates for 1981, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:—

Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla. —
May 22 to 31.

Holly Hill, South Carolina—June 5 to 14.

Tulsa, Oklahoma—June 5 to 14.

(Tulsa meeting will be a revival, and not a campmeeting.)

Jefferson, Oregon—June 12 to 21.

Oakland, California—June 19 to 28.

Chilliwack, B. C., Canada—June 22 to 28.

Hammond, Louisiana—Saturday, June 27 to July 5.

Ojos Negros, B. Cfa., Mexico—June 29 to July 5.

Fresno, California—July 3 to 12.

Green Bank, West Virginia—July 3 to 12.

Akron, Ohio—July 11 to 19.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs),
Missouri—July 24 to August 2.

Missouri State Campmeeting at Myrtle, Missouri —
August 3 to 9.

Bakersfield, California—August 7 to 16.

Durham, N. Carolina—August 19 to 23.

Boley, Oklahoma—August 21 to 30.

California State Campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif. —
August 28 to Sept. 6.



OKLAHOMA CAMPMEETING AT GUTHRIE, OK.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, May 22 to 31, 1981, at the chapel located on the corner of Sixth and West Warner Streets, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this 47th annual campmeeting on these grounds. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. Dining hall and dormitories are on the grounds. Expenses will be met by freewill offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting, the salvation of souls, sanctification of believers, and the divine healing of bodies.

Contributions should be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, Rt. 5, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. For further information, contact the pastor, Brother Leslie Busbee, 1014 West Mansur, Guthrie, Okla., 73044, phone (405) 282-2421. The phone number at the chapel is 282-5499. Come and hear the old-time reformation truth. Let us worship the Lord together in the unity of the Spirit and be brought to the unity of the faith of the New Testament.

—L. D. Pruitt



"Peaceable fruit! is it possible, Father?

Can joy spring from chastening? hope, from despair? Had we judged for ourselves, we had fancied the rather That peace implied freedom from sorrow and care.

Old-Fashioned Campmeeting at Chilliwack, B.C., Canada

The Church of God will hold, Lord willing, a campmeeting at Charis Camp from June 22 to June 28, 1981. There will be services daily at 10:30, 2:30 and 7:30. The young people will have the 2:30 service.

We extend a hearty welcome for all people to come and be with us. Bring bedding and extra food if possible. There is a \$1.50 per person per day charge by the camp. Otherwise, the meeting will be on the free-will offering basis.

Charis Camp is located about nine miles north of Chilliwack on Highway 1. Watch for signs.

Much emphasis will be placed on prayer and the reformation truths.

Pray much for this meeting.

For more information, contact Ron and Ann Walter, 576 Wellington Ave., Chilliwack, B.C., Canada V2P 2E9, phone (604) 792-5201.



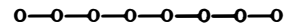
Meeting Notices and Reports

GOSPEL SINGING AT HOFFMAN, OK.

The Church at Hoffman, Okla., will have, Lord willing, a gospel singing on Saturday night, 7:30 p.m., May 9, 1981. Everyone is invited to come and be with us on both Saturday night and Sunday.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Woodrow Warren, 810 N. Porter, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447, phone (918) 756-6425.

—By Sister Lorene Payne

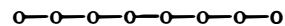


TENT MEETING IN ARKANSAS

Lord willing, there will be a tent meeting at Hot Springs, Ark., from Sunday, May 31, to the following Sunday, June 7, 1981. We plan to have two services daily—evening services at 7:30, and morning services at 10:30. We hope to have the tent located about one mile west of the bridge on Highway 70 West out of Hot Springs. Watch for signs and the tent.

For information, call Church of God, phone (501) 525-2962, Hot Springs, or Bro. Clarence Bennings, phone (501) 699-2390, Prattsville, Ark.

—Tom Melot



MYRTLE, MO., MEETING REPORT

We would like to let all the saints know of the successful meeting the Lord gave us here at Myrtle, Mo., March 29-April 5. The Lord sent our dear Bro. Tommy Melot and others here with a real soul-burden. The Spirit of God was poured out on each service in a precious way. Through persevering prayer, strongholds of the devil were broken and souls were saved. Believers were sanctified and the whole Church was edified. On the last Sunday of the meeting the Spirit was poured out in such a marvelous way! It will be long remembered by all who

were present. The good that was accomplished in this meeting will last eternally.

Our pastor, Bro. Donald Sharp, has been led of the Lord to move to Dayton, Ohio, to take on the pastoral duties there. We are praying that some God-called minister will feel the burden for Myrtle. Please pray for us.

—Harlan Sorrell

WICHITA, KAN., MEETING REPORT

Praises be unto our God for the glorious spring meeting with which He blessed us. He was so faithful to send the Word in its purity and with clarity so that it was easily understood. It went forth on the lines of God's ability to deliver and to keep us from falling. Almost every minister that preached warned about being ready and prepared, so we feel God was really trying to get that point across to the saints and sinners alike. We were told how to build our spiritual house, how to examine ourselves, how important it is to be sanctified, and the preciousness of being called out.

The Lord made Himself so real to us, and there was much shouting, rejoicing and praising God. Several sought the Lord for salvation, and a number sought the Lord for spiritual help. We trust the newly saved will settle it to go all the way, and will press on and endure to the end. The baptismal service was really precious, and a dozen followed the Lord in being buried with Him to rise in the newness of life. May the Lord remind them of the beauty of their baptism and cause them to be determined to be faithful to their precious Saviour.

There were a number of saints from distant states that attended the meeting, and we surely appreciated their presence and help. We surely give God all the glory, and mean to profit by what we heard and experienced to become stronger saints and better lights.

—Submitted by Shirley Knight

Prayer Requests

La.—“I am not well in body. I have very high blood pressure. I know the Lord can heal me. . . . I am 76 years old and need healing.”

—Sis. Myrtis Alexander

Okla.—“I think I am a diabetic, but I know God can heal. Pray for me.” —Mrs. Patricia Munoz

Mo.—“Please pray earnestly for me that my faith will be stronger. . . . I have colon trouble,

—Mary Conaway

Ala.—“Remember me in prayer. . . . I am seriously afflicted. I know nothing is impossible for God to do.”

—Ora Adkison

India—Pray earnestly for the healing of Bro. John Varghese' wife who has serious heart trouble. She fell unconscious on the road as they were walking to a meeting. Their faith and trust are in God.

Okla.—Pray for Bro. Charles Smith who is very ill and unable to be out of his home. Also, pray for

a solution to the problems arising at the Golden Rule Home.

Let us be encouraged. Some say, “There surely are a lot of the saints who are sick.” But one day I was thinking about that, and it seemed the Lord spoke to my soul and said, “Look at those who are well.” I began to think about those who are well, and of the ones the Lord has healed. The number of those sick is very small in comparison to the number of well saints. We must be careful and not discredit what God does for us. He keeps His children well and heals them of many serious afflictions that they are sometimes not even aware of. How precious it is to trust Him for the healing of our bodies!

I had a severe attack of pleurisy. My breathing became so short that I couldn't talk very well and it was hard to swallow my food. The pain in my side (below my rib cage) was at times very severe. The saints in Wichita, Kan., became burdened for me. On their fast and prayer day during their spring meeting, Sis. Ruby Stover called, saying that they were remembering me that day. When she knew that I was hardly able to talk, some of them came down that day to pray for me. Oh, how I do thank God for the love of the saints and their care! God honored the prayers that had been prayed, and when they anointed me and prayed, the Lord instantly took away the pain in my side, the shortness of breath, and the fever. That pleurisy was gone! Praises be to our God! I felt the touch of the Lord go into my body and do the work. Last week I had another attack of it, but the Lord has healed me. It's wonderful to trust the Lord for both soul and body.

—Sis. Marie Miles

Foreign Field Reports

BRO. HAMMOND ARRIVED IN PHILIPPINES

Bro. George Hammond landed at the Manila Airport in the Philippines on April 15, to labor in the gospel work in those islands. He was thanking the Lord for a safe journey from the Chicago airport via Tokyo, Japan, where he had to change to another plane. Bro. Tangunan met him at Manila, and they went by bus to his home in San Jose City. Much mission work needs to be done in that needy field, so pray for Bro. Hammond and the native brethren that they will be able to reach many souls with the soul-saving gospel. Bro. Hammond expects to be there about three months. You may address your mail to him in care of M. S. Tangunan, Stall 26, Bldg. A, Public Market, San Jose City, N.E., Philippines 2331.

GOD CARES

He knows our burdens and our crosses,
Those things that hurt, our trials and losses,
He cares for every soul that cries,
God wipes all tears from weeping eyes.

—Edward M. Brandt

**Brother Titus Enu
standing with car
recently purchased
for his mission
work in Nigeria,
West Africa**



Bendel State, Nigeria, (March 18)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and church abroad: Greetings in the conquering name of Jesus, our Captain who has never lost a battle.

Thank you for your letter dated Feb. 2, 1981, which I received on March 11. Poor postal facilities in Nigeria continue to cause an alarming delay to correspondence passing through the post.

We are going ahead and gaining ground, compromising with none to preserve the sacredness of Zion. Thank God for those coming out from among them (Babylon), whose silver is become dross and their wine mixed with water. Isa. 1:22.

The congregations at Okpai, Obetim-Uno, and Umuachi-Afor were recently strengthened through evangelistic meetings held with them. A week each of marked evangelistic concentration was spent at the three sections of Osemele village and Obetim-Uno. The Okpai meeting was blessed with the addition of souls to the congregation, so also at Umuachi-Afor.

It is with honor and praise unto our God that I inform you with joy that the foundation of the Church of God chapel in Kwale was laid on Feb. 19, 1981. Work has commenced on its construction. Pray with us for access to our Father's treasury for the funds for its completion. Saints here have been donating encouragingly, enabling the work to proceed with great rapidity. Kwale, as a central point of take-off, should have a chapel in which to worship our God. Please reach us with your help as you can individually and collectively afford, knowing the project to be the concern of all the saints no matter where your place of birth or residence may be.

Another report of much interest came from Port Harcourt, arising from the successful acquirement of a piece of land from the River State government on which has been erected a temporary chapel through the joint efforts of the Tombia and Port Harcourt brethren. We rejoice with the brethren to own a place of worship there. Much is still to be done to build a permanent chapel, and your prayers and co-operation are requested. The attention of all is invited to the Lord's work in Africa for your maximum co-operation while it is yet day.

It is doubtful that this writer and his wife, Mary, will be in the United States by this summer to participate in the campmeetings with the beloved of Mount

Zion, all due to the enormous work in the field of the gospel demanding my personal attention. However, we have decided to procure our traveling documents and report the final position to Bro. Pruitt in due course. Letters are held from saints of the U. S. congregations inviting us to come over.

Yours devotedly, —Bro. Titus U. E. Enu

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

South India (March 23)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and the saints everywhere: We send our Christian greetings to all of you in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour "who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens." Heb. 7:26.

Thank you very much for your letter dated March 3, which arrived here on March 23. Mail service is very slow nowadays. The enclosures were noted with much gratitude and appreciation.

Now we are busy with the local special meetings in the local churches which we have to finish before the middle of May as that is when the rainy season starts. Our next convention will be held at Koottarvila from April 23 to 26. The new chapel finished at Koottarvila will be opened for services in the last week of April. Some more conventions will be conducted in May also.

We have to wait a little more time for the opening of the chapel at Kodali. At present there is no water in that area as this is the dry season. We must wait for rain in order to get the chapel finished.

The next chapel that we need to build is at Athani. We expect the prayers and support of the saints.

I plan to visit this week, Lord willing, the church in the northern parts of Kerala.

We continue to remember you and your efforts in our prayers.

Yours in Christ,

—John Varghese

From the Mailbox . . .

Tenn.—Dear ones: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus! We are thankful for His many blessings to us. Trust all is going well with each of you. We do appreciate your continued and faithful ministry. May God anoint and add His blessing to each paper, tract, or publication that goes out.

I am enclosing a little offering to help in whatever way is needed.

We desire your prayers, especially for some elderly and feeble members of our families. Our prayers and best wishes are for you and yours.

Christian love, —Charles B. Williams

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Va.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I have been thinking of you good people at the publishing house. May God continue to bless each one. We are so thankful for people who publish the truth.

I am past 75 years old, and I don't get out as much as I used to, but I do thank the Lord for the health I have. I also thank Him for the good *Faith and Victory* paper. It makes my days much lighter and better. . . .

—L. W. Dunman, Sr.

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Mich.—Dearest Sis. Marie: . . . The Lord surely has been good to us. He blesses us with so many rich blessings and such lovely weather. We did have very high winds this last weekend, but the Lord spared our home and lives.

Thank you for your good letter and tracts. I received my *Faith and Victory* paper and the *Beautiful Way* papers in good order. There are such good things to read in them for our souls.

As we draw near to the blessed Easter season, we refresh our thoughts upon our dear Savior who died on the cruel cross for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. How wonderful to have Jesus for our Refuge and Strength from day to day! It wouldn't be worth living if we didn't have Him on our side. "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised forever and forever." We are so glad that Jesus loves and cares about us. He watches over us and protects us. He knows what our needs are and provides us with everything we need. We surely are indebted to Him. It was a bitter death that Jesus had, and the wicked don't even give it a thought. They just go on in their wickedness day after day. They think Easter is just for a good old time of drinking and everything else. How sad! But the day is coming when every eye shall see Him and every knee shall bow; then it will be too late to repent. May God help us that we never fall back into sin. . . .

We are very thankful for what the Lord has done for my parents. It's amazing how my father is so much better. He had a fall in the garage last Saturday. He stumbled over something and fell so hard. His hand is quite swollen and blue, but he could have broken some bones. The Lord surely was good.

We appreciate all your prayers for us. We are so glad we have God's dear children on our side and that they care. We pray for all of you dear ones, too,

that the Lord will richly bless all of you day by day, and that He will soon heal Bro. Lawrence.

—Sis. Olive Gettersson and parents

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Ga.—Dear saints: My paper came today. I have read it all. I really enjoy the good testimonies and everything in it. It's almost like seeing someone, and knowing people who love the Bible. I especially enjoy reading Sister Marie Miles' testimony. She seems to have so much faith in the Lord's power to heal. I have always believed the Bible teaches that Jesus still heals. I do know the Lord can take every bit of fear from us, even when we are facing death, and that means so much to me. I am trusting Jesus. I really am thankful to be able to walk out in the sunshine and see the beautiful trees and flowers. I do praise the Lord for His mercy to all people, and for His Son's dying for sinners.

We need your prayers always.

—Sister Ray Sloan

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Ohio—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints abroad: Greetings in the name of Him who provided our redemption and salvation, washed us from our sins in His own blood, and made us kings and priests unto God.

This letter leaves us encouraged in the ways of God, and well in soul and body.

We are thankful how the Lord blessed us in our recent move from Myrtle, Mo. to Ohio. We have been directed of God in pastoring the flock in Dayton, and we do covet your prayers in the work here.

We do not regret our labors in Myrtle, Mo., for the past few years. Our stay there was a profitable time through the help of Him who doeth all things well. We left there with love and a sentimental feeling which we committed unto God.

I trust this letter finds you and yours encouraged and pressing on in your trial of faith. We have you in our prayers daily. The Scripture reminds us that "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." *Psa. 34:19.*

Keep us in your prayers that we will be guided in the ways of wisdom.

With much Christian love, our new address is: Bro. and Sister Donald Sharp, 128 Marchmont Dr., Fairborn, Ohio 45324. Phone number is (513) 878-3862.

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Calif.—My heartfelt greetings to you, Bro. Lawrence, and all the consecrated workers there at the Print Shop. I trust that all are well and encouraged in the Lord and on this earthly sojourn. . . .

In my life God has dealt so faithfully and taught me to appreciate His withholdings as well as His providings. He is wise, sees ahead, and works for our eternal welfare as well as for our present needs.

I was so glad to know that all six of you children are planning a reunion in the near future, and I trust that all will be able to come together there at Guthrie for this very refreshing event. . . . Some of the

children I haven't seen in many years, but my love and regards are to all as the reunion takes place.

My health is very good for my age, and my desire is to be a faithful steward of all our Father entrusts to me. My dear family are all very attentive also to me. . . .

With Christian love, prayers, and many precious memories of all your family, —Robert Longley

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Ohio—Dear friends in Christ: I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper very much. It's one of the best. I love the Bible truths, and I read God's Word twice daily. I have read the New Testament through so many times that I should know it by heart, but I cannot contain it all.

God is good to me. I am past 81 years now. I have had a bad heart for years, but God has seen fit to leave me here. I depend on Him for every heartbeat, every ounce of strength, and every breath I draw. Surely I have much to praise Him for.

I pray daily for all you people who work at the Print Shop. Pray for me that I will always do the Lord's will. —Mrs. Fred Ross.

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

Ohio—Dear Sis Marie: I feel that I owe the Lord a testimony. I am so glad that I'm saved again after all those years in sin.

I never did lose that fear of being lost, and I thank the Lord for a praying father (Bro. Earl Sharp, and grandmother, Sis. Maudie Sharp, and other faithful saints). I know those prayers are what protected me. I got very involved in the world. I was into disco and many other things which could have taken me to hell. Music had a terrible hold on me. That's what caused me to lose my experience as a young girl. There is a bad spirit in worldly music, and it has a lot of young people bound, but the Lord has the key to unlock those chains.

I was saved and freed March 25, 1979. My father had invited me to church that Sunday morning, and I went because I didn't want to hurt his feelings. Bro. Tom Melot was holding a meeting, and it wasn't long after the service began that I became so much under conviction that I knew I had to make a decision in my life. I was working at a place that I knew I couldn't work if I were saved, and the devil was telling me I would never make it. The devil is a liar. Praise the Lord! I now have a better job than I've ever had, plus peace of mind. If some dear soul who reads this is bound down by the world's glitter, the Lord is able to deliver you and set you free. It happened to me. Please pray for me that I'll always be faithful. I mean to go right on. I also desire prayer for my children. —Carol Addis

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

Kansas—Dear saints scattered abroad: Greetings in the love of our Redeemer. We are glad for the blood of Christ that was so freely shed for the sins of the

whole world. It is sad that so few really believe to the saving of their souls. We are thankful He also made a way for the healing of our bodies.

Over a week ago, on Sunday evening at services, I took ill with what I thought was the flu. I was sick at my stomach, with hard chills and high fever. On Monday I spent the day in bed trying to keep warm. In the evening I got up for a drink, and I had a soreness in my ankle to my groin. I spent some restless nights. On Tuesday morning my right leg was inflamed, and it grew worse and worse. The pain was so severe that I could not bear to be on it at all. Not knowing what it could be, whether a blood clot or other problem, I realized I must trust God's wisdom as well as His power. Many times we have told the Lord that we wanted to be true to Him unto the end. The neighbor lady came to be with me while Husband attended a funeral, and she was concerned about the outcome, but I was glad that I could tell her all was well, which ever way the Lord chose for me. She was so sweet to accept my own personal decision to trust the Lord with it. We called different places for prayer. Some of the saints came on Friday night. The Lord removed the severe headache, and I have been gaining ever since. I still have a dark red blister, the size of a hand, on my leg, and it is swollen some, but it is definitely on the mend. To God be the glory for all He hath done!

We appreciate all the calls, cards, food, and prayers in our behalf. The Lord surely has answered prayer.

May the Lord bless all and encourage our hearts to trust Him unto the end.

(April 9) The blister has dried up. There is still quite a discolored area. The Lord is taking care of that, too.

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Inez Beisly

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

Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints: Greetings in Jesus' holy name! This leaves me well in soul and body, and looking for the coming of the Lord. As I grow older I have to hold fast to our Lord, Jesus Christ who has done so much for me and for all saints. I still get out every day. I do not walk very good, but I do get where I am going and back again. I am living alone with Jesus who is a great comfort to me. Great are His tender mercies. The love of God passeth all understanding.

Much love and prayers, —Bro. Andrew Senti

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Calif.—Dear Sis. Marie: Today finds us pressing the battle on with victory in our soul. Our Lord is a present help in time of need. He never fails me when I need Him. If only people would taste and see that the Lord is good! I want to be faithful to the end of my journey here just as Daniel was. He went into the lion's den, trusting God, and we know God did not fail him. God has sufficient grace for us in every time of need. The tests and trials we go through are needed in each of our lives to purge us from all dross. We would not be fit for heaven otherwise. Our Lord

knows what each of His children needs to be fitted for that heavenly home. I do not want to miss heaven at any cost.

May God stir His people to redeem the time.
Christian love, —Letha Reece

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Okla.—Dear saints of the Most High God: Great is the God of heaven, and worthy of all praise! How wondrous are His ways! yea, beyond our finite minds to comprehend, nor within human speech to describe Him! I count it a gracious privilege to commit my *entire* life to Him, and hold *no* area in reserve. Yea, I willingly submit completely all I am, or hope to be, into His hands and unto His will!

I have been locked up for approximately two and one-half years on a life sentence, and God has already influenced this government to consider me for parole! How about that! Miracles are still being done in the mighty name of Jesus! Hallelujah!! I have struggled to follow the Holy Spirit at *all* times, and He led me through unknown waters. My feet couldn't touch the bottom, nor could I see the shore, yet He led me on! As Abraham of old, I knew not where I went. I cried out to my God, and He heard me, and told me to "fear not"! (Oh, how I wish I could explain the wonderment of it all!) May God bless each one with His Spirit to understand what I am attempting to say.

The way of the Lord is the most exotic adventure man will ever embark upon! Those who fail to travel God's way will miss the most glorious splendor of the universe! I earnestly bid all—"Come and see!" And to those of you who have been prayer warriors with me, I thank you! May you share my rejoicing and drink of this cup and eat of this bread, for my victory is *your* victory. We are brethren and joint-heirs of the Kingdom! Praise God!

Let us lift this banner high that all the world may know "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." He has not lost His power, nor have His people been vanquished! Praise God! No! and never shall be!

May the God of heaven bless His people, and may their shout be heard around the world!

Yours in Him, —Bro. Elbert Johnson

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Ky.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: My prayer is that the Lord will ever bless you there at the shop, and that you will always be able to send out the *Faith and Victory* paper. I love to read it. It is food to my soul. It is all right from the Bible, and I love the Bible better than any other book I have ever read. I don't know what I would do without my Bible. I put almost all of my spare time into reading it. I am just now finishing reading the New Testament through one hundred nineteen times since October of 1969. I have read the Old Testament through nine times. Bro. Pruitt, I believe every word of it, without taking from or adding to any of it.

I am now past my 88th year, so the dear Lord has been good to me. I stay by myself, since my dear

wife passed away. She has gone to be with Jesus, and I hope to meet her up in heaven some sweet day, so pray for me that I will ever stay true to my Lord.

—Frank Dunaway

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Canada—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and co-workers: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. We are so thankful for His wonderful love and mercy toward us. He loved us so much that He made a way that we could be saved and live a holy life. Praise His name forever! Surely, we do thank God for His precious Word and Holy Spirit to lead and guide us into all truth. We are encouraged to believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, and that all the promises of God are for all true believers in our day and time, even as they were in the morning time.

We have had some good experiences with the Lord in trusting our body to the Lord for healing. I was sick some time ago with prostate trouble. I put myself in the hands of the Lord, refusing the doctor's orders to have an operation. Praise His holy name, I am feeling fine now! No more complications. I told the doctor that I was trusting the Lord, my Savior, and my Healer.

Dear Bro. Pruitt, we always pray for you and all the workers in the Lord's Print Shop. You are always a blessing to us. Keep up the good work in sending out the printed page.

Lord willing, I will be in the campmeeting in Chilliwack, B.C., Canada. I already have my air tickets to fly there. I am so happy that the good Lord is making it possible for me to go. I will meet many saints there, I believe. Let's pray that the Lord will save souls there as He did in the good meeting in Guthrie at Christmas. Bro. Wiens had many good things to say about that meeting.

We are thankful that the Lord is blessing all of you there.

Yours in Christ, —Bro. and Sis. G. Schroeder

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Kansas—I am saved and fighting in the army of the Lord. I am thankful to the Lord for His precious dealings with me.

I was shut away in prayer one day, seeking earnestly for some special blessings I felt that I needed for my soul. It seemed I was not getting very far, then I picked up my Bible. The Lord just let me turn straight to Isaiah 30:18. I don't remember reading it before; if so, it had not registered in my mind. It reads: "And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him." The Lord had waited a little while, but, oh, how I did appreciate His being gracious to me now! And how I did exalt Him in my heart! I do appreciate His mercy more than before, also His righteousness and judgment. A little farther on I read this verse, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. . . ." This brought to my mind a song that Bro. Lewis Williams had last year and wanted

some more verses added to it. He spoke to me about writing some more. The title of the song is, "Teach Me, Lord, to Wait," so I prayed to the Lord. He helped me to come up with these three verses:

Teach me, Lord, to wait, let You lead the way;

Oh, Lord, please keep me still, in Thy hands let me stay.

Just keep me content, and whatever betide, While here I dwell, let me walk by Thy side.

Teach me, Lord, to wait, when the storms of this life

And deep billows roll; when there is trouble and strife,

All is in Your control, and when it's Your sweet will,

You will speak to the storm, and will say, "Peace be still."

Teach me, Lord, to wait, when I've fought a good fight,

When I've finished my course, and I've walked in the light,

There's a mansion for me, Thou hast gone to prepare,

And you said where you'd be, I would also be there.

By God's love and mercy, I mean to make it there. Please pray for me. —Sis. Elizabeth Freeman

Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Questions: Please explain about Melchizedek. Who was he? Was he Christ in the flesh, or do we have any record of Christ being manifested in flesh in Old Testament times?

Answer: Melchizedek appears one time only by way of identification in the Old Testament (Gen. 14:18-20). "And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God." This is all the introduction we have to him and no details are given, so I suppose it would not be possible to know very much about him or comment on him extensively. However, this text describes him as "King of Salem," and in Heb. 7:2 this is interpreted as "King of peace." It also specifies that he was "the priest of the most High God." In other words, his priesthood was of divine appointment direct from God and not by appointment or election of men.

The writer of the Hebrew epistle enlarges a little on this man's identity in Heb. 7:2 where he says, "... first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace." It is widely believed that this man was of the Canaanites, and because of his superb righteousness, justice, and judgment among men, was singled out by God as a king and ordained as a priest to represent God before men. Adam Clarke in his comments on

Gen. 14:18 refers to him as a "Canaanitish Prince." Matthew Henry also refers to him as an outstanding person among the Canaanites.

At first we might challenge this and wonder how God would reach down among the Canaanites, a people slated for destruction because of their idolatry and wickedness, and pick out a man to represent His Son Jesus Christ as a type. But we should bear in mind that at this time there was no established people of God in the world as there was later on, and God could freely choose whomsoever He would among men of whatever nation to be His priest and represent Him before men. In fact, Abraham whom He called to head a new race of people (the Jews) who were to be His chosen people throughout the Old Testament times, and with whom He established His covenant of salvation and blessings to all the nations of the earth and who became the "Father of all who believed," was from an idolatrous people and an idolatrous family (His father served other gods, Joshua 24:2). Therefore it is not altogether unlikely that Abraham practiced some idolatry himself in his youth. But God's eyes were running to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts were perfect toward Him of whatever tribe or nation they were; so it should not be thought a strange thing if He chose a Canaanitish man of outstanding righteousness and made a great man out of him. These men may have been idolaters or they may not; but in any case, God saw into their hearts and saw they had qualities He could use in a great way.

In my present thinking, I do not think of this being the Son of God in flesh. In fact, I do not at this time think of any instance where He appeared in flesh in the Old Testament. 1 Pet. 1:19, 20 says, "But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot; who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you." This was something reserved for "these last times." Heb. 1:1-2 says, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." The manifestation of His Son in the flesh and speaking unto the people by Him directly, seems to have been reserved for these last days—this last and glorious age of time. John 1:14 says, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us . . ." To further emphasize this point, Paul says in 1 Tim. 3:16, "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." This was clearly Jesus, but Peter says this was in "these last times," and Heb. 1:2 says it was in "these last days."

In Heb. 2:1-18 Christ is presented as taking on Him the seed of Abraham and flesh and blood as were His brethren and being made like unto them in all things. It was specified in verse 14 that this was

so He could be made subject to death. He was to die for sin and to shed blood to make an atonement for the sins of the people, and that is the only cause I can find for His taking on flesh and blood at all.

In Phil. 2:6-8 we see that Christ was in the form of God and equal with God; but He laid this all aside and took on Him the form and fashion of man (took on flesh and blood), and in this form and state He died on the cross. This was all for the purpose of accomplishing the work of redemption.

Now let us return to Melchisedek. Heb. 7:3 says of him, "without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually." This verse would be quite baffling without some explanation. First, if we accept the statement, "abideth a priest continually" as a literal fact, it would mean the priesthood of Melchisedek would have continued right on and would still have been in effect when the Levitical Priesthood was set up and the law was given, and this would have meant a dual priesthood running throughout the law age for 1400 years. This could not be possible. In Heb. 7:12 we read, "For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law." In other words, there could not possibly be a dual priesthood in the scope of God's plan. The law made the Levitical Priesthood, but Christ was not of the tribe of Levi but of Judah. Therefore He could not be established in His priesthood as long as the first covenant with its Levitical priesthood had a standing. It was necessary that the first be abolished to make room for the second. So then it is recorded of Christ in Heb. 10:9, "... He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second." This was necessary for Him to enter into His God-appointed, God-ordained Priesthood because it could not be in the plan of God that a dual priesthood exist. I have dealt with this point here to establish what God's plan and attitude were regarding a dual priesthood, and also to confirm the fact that Melchisedek's priesthood could not literally have continued on perpetually without running head on into this kind of a situation with the Levitical priesthood.

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"Stand Ye Still"

"Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go ye out against them: for the Lord will be with you." 2 Chron. 20:17. Then Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, bowed his head with his face to the ground. Following his example, all Judah did likewise and worshipped the Lord.

The people of God were in trouble, as the Moabites, Ammonites and others had banded together to come against Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat took a wise course and set himself to seek the Lord, proclaiming a fast throughout all Judah. The people

gathered together at Jerusalem and the king led in prayer. In his prayer he acknowledged the greatness of God and reminded God of how He had driven out the people of that land and had given it to them. He spoke of God's promise to help them if evil came upon them and they sought Him in their trouble. After acknowledging that they had no power nor might against the enemies, he prayed, "But our eyes are upon thee."

Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon one of the Levites and he said, "Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's." The people believed the message, went forth to battle the next morning singing the praises of God, and God wrought a great victory for them without their fighting at all.

Different times in our life when problems were confronting us and it seemed to us like a great multitude had come out against us, we waited upon the Lord. Then He gave us these words to encourage and instruct us, "Stand ye still and see the salvation of the Lord," and "Be not afraid, for the battle is not yours, but God's." Oh, the comfort those words brought to the people of God that day as they believed God's message! Oh, the comfort it has brought to our hearts different times in life when we were burdened, perplexed, not knowing what to do. It brought such rest to our souls as our faith took hold that it was God's message to us, too.

We read of another time when the Israelites had fled out of Egypt and Pharaoh's host pursued them. There was no way of escape for them, but Moses said to them, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord." Then as Moses lifted up his rod and stretched it out over the sea, God divided it, and they crossed over the sea on dry ground. The Egyptians following them were drowned as Moses again stretched out his rod and the sea returned "to his strength."

The God of Israel still lives today. His power is just the same. As we look in faith to God in the trials and problems and difficulties that arise in our lives, God has different ways and means of encouraging us and giving the needed help. Sometimes we just need to stand still for a while, turn our problems over to God, and wait for Him to work. He can handle and manage things better than we can. Sometimes we try to help (without God having directed) and only make matters worse. It is encouraging to our hearts to note how God let the cloud that was guiding the children of Israel move from before them and stand behind them between the two camps. On the Egyptian's side it was a cloud and darkness, but on the Israelite's side it gave light. Praise our God! He is able to help us in like manner today when the need arises and our spiritual enemies pursue us seeking to take our (spiritual) life.

These experiences of literal Israel can be a help and encouragement to us today. We are spiritual Israel and have spiritual enemies to cope with. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against

principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12.

—Fern Stubblefield

The Hour that Changed the World

(Scriptures Paraphrased)

"These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee" (John 17:1).

Father God: Isn't there any other way that man can be saved, except I suffer, bleed, and die on that cruel cross and be placed between those two thieves in disgrace?

No, Son: There is no other way, for the shedding of blood of bulls and goats is not sufficient to save my creation from sin. Besides, it was prophesied by your forefathers that there would be a more perfect sacrifice, and that sacrifice is You, my Son.

But Father: I am only human, for I was born as man; therefore, I suffer pain and agony the same as man.

Yes, my Son: I know, and that is the reason why you must suffer; you must be the first fruits, you must be the first to suffer so that man will have no excuse and say they suffer more than you, for this was brought on by sin in the Garden. Also, you will be beaten with many stripes to alleviate that pain and suffering of man.

Yes, Father: I have already given my followers power and authority over devils and to cure diseases and to heal the sick in my name. Now I see why this cup of suffering cannot pass from me.

Now Father: I would like to make a request; keep my followers in your name that they may be one as we are and all others that will believe in me through their word, that the world might believe that you sent me. While I was with them I kept them in your name, and in the future I ask that all our followers be kept in your name; not in the name of Paul, nor Apollos, nor Cephas, nor Christ; nor any other person. While I was with them I taught them your Word and they were hated because of me. They are in the world but not followers of worldly customs, lusts, and pleasures, and I pray that they be kept from these evils. I have lost none but Judas. Although I built my Church, I am only the builder, the chief Cornerstone. You, Father, gave me the pattern to build your Church, the same as You gave the pattern to build the ark. For you have declared the end from the beginning.

Yes, Son: I will grant your request, and in the future I will instruct our chosen ones to establish congregations of God throughout all Judaea, and the utter parts of the earth, and in a few days we will again be together as we were before the world was.

Thank you, Father: Now I must go tell my followers to sleep on, for it is finished, the hour has come and gone, the hour that shall change the world.

—By Walter Van Scoder

Behold The Man!



Let us think back to the time of Christ's trial and crucifixion. With the crown of thorns pressed into His brow and the blood coming down His face, Jesus stood clad in a purple robe, which the soldiers had found somewhere in the palace and placed around His shoulders. For a scepter they placed in his hand an ugly reed. Bowing down before Him, they cried, "Hail, King of the Jews."

As we visualize that scene, it is startling in the extreme and astonishing beyond measure. Behold the Man! Look at Him, the crowned prince of glory in heaven before the world was made. He is none other than the manifestation of God in the flesh. The Scriptures expressly state, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. . . . And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten Son of the Father)." John 1:1-14. This Christ is God manifest in the flesh. The apostle Paul said, "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" (Col. 2:9); "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person . . ." (Heb. 1:3). This is the Creator of all the universe. "Who being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God. . . . And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:6 and 8). Behold the Man! Think of Him in glory, the prince of heaven, God himself. The heavenly and earthly contrast is astonishing. He stood before men meek, bloody, crowned with thorns, prepared for execution and death. Behold the Man!

Look at the startling contrast at His crucifixion to the nativity in Bethlehem, the first Christmas night. Think of how the angels sang and how the shepherds adored and worshiped Him. What a beautiful, glorious night of nights when the heavens turned to the praise and glory of God, for the Word had become flesh. Bethlehem's manger held the Christ child, the Son of God. Think of Him then in His ministry—the lowly, humble Jesus going about preaching the gospel to the poor, doing good, healing the sick, opening the eyes of the blind, unstopping the ears of the deaf, cleansing the lepers, raising the dead—the sweet, gentle, and lowly Jesus. Then at last as He stands trial, He is bloody, beaten, outcast, despised, rejected, and prepared for crucifixion and death. He was crucified and raised again, and is now sitting on the right hand of God that we might have salvation.

Christ suffered the depths of pain, humiliation, scorn, and loneliness, all for our souls' salvation. He is now in a glorious kingdom looking upon us with mercy and pleading eyes. Can you turn Him down? Behold the Man!

—Pearlene Whitson