

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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Guthrie, Oklahoma

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Camp Meeting Time

Camp meeting time is here once more
When saints from far and wide
Will pray and preach the open Door
Of Christ the Crucified.

The Word in all His Spirit's show'r
From hearts from sin made free
Shall be proclaimed in Holy pow'r
As God would have it be.

A feast of fat things on the lees
Shall in God's love be spread
To build us up, the Lord to please,
A feast of Living Bread!

Come, let us go and worship Him,
And join in one accord
(While earthly cares are waxing dim)
To praise our blessed Lord.

And, as we come, oh, let us bear
Responsibility;
The work and duties let us share,
Whatever they may be.

There's preparation on work days,
There's money to be given;
There's pray'r and gratitude to raise
To Him, our God in Heaven.

The preacher sometimes needs a drink;
The older saints a lift;
Let us not from the labor shrink,
But count it as God's gift.

As one said, "Bring with us a rake
To rake the blessings in."
Look to yourself, 'tis a mistake
To watch for others' sin.

Camp meeting time is here again,
Come, let us work and pray,
And help the wand'ring souls to win
Back to the narrow way.

—Leslie C. Busbee

A Cheerful Countenance

"A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance;
but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken."

To the weary soul, laden with cares and sorrows of life, what is more invigorating than a cheerful countenance! When the enemy comes in like a flood and your soul is struggling to keep your head above the dashing wave, as it were, how are you made to feel by the presence of a smiling face and a cheerful "Good morning"? Then to the poor heart who has met with sorrow and disappointment till his life seems not worth living, to the despondent one who is void of the comforting love of the Savior, does not a bright, cheerful look from the face of a Christian loom up before him and cause a radiant gleam to shine far down his pathway? So little of heaven's perfume does the sinner get that the Christian's life should be so saturated with sweet, heavenly odors until his very presence will cheer the fainting soul. This world does not need our frowns and sorrows. We have only to open our eyes and look out on the faces today and see what they are groping after—cheer.

"A merry heart *maketh* a cheerful countenance"—then it is an experience that affects the heart. It first gets into the heart, then there is no trouble about the countenance. Get the right cause, and the effect is sure: you will not need to try to have a cheerful look, but that is the result of a merry heart. You only have to let sorrow creep into the heart, and the spirit is broken.

We are not urged to be cheerful when our walk is along a cool, shady nook or blossoming flowers. Then our pleasant surroundings arouse within our hearts the desire to sing and be happy. It is when we are passing over the slippery way that we are urged to be cheerful. You remember that when Paul and his crew (related in the twenty-seventh chapter of Acts) were sailing upon the rough sea they were toiling and working to their utmost ability to guide the ship in the desired direction, but to no avail, for they were "exceedingly tossed with a tempest." Not just one hour nor several hours were they thus rocked in nature's cradle, but for three long days. Even the sun and the stars refused to show their brilliant faces for many days. The night was dark, the ship was rocking and

tossing here and there; they thought they would never see land again. All hopes were gone, and they despaired even of life. No doubt, their hearts were sad by the thoughts of that cold, deep, troublesome ocean so soon being their beds of rest. It was then that an angel ministered unto Paul, and after his departure that Paul exhorted them to be cheerful, for no lives should be lost. I fancy that I can see the expression change on their faces by the comforting words of Paul. After a lengthy fast they refreshed their bodies by taking meat, and then were cheerful and happy, even while the storm was raging. Christ told His disciples that in this old dark world they would meet with many perplexities and tribulations, but He exhorted them to be cheerful through it all, comforting them by the thoughts that He overcame all of these things before He left them.

I have heard it said that some people are just naturally cheerful, while others are of a despondent nature. While this may be true in some respects, yet by diligent effort and careful cultivating of the things that tend to develop cheerfulness, and the help of the Lord, we can be able to overcome despondency. I quote from a little passage from Brother Orr's book *Hidden Life*: "The pictures you are viewing cast a shadow before them. Satan is in the picture business; so is Jesus. Satan's pictures, being dark and gloomy, will cast a shadow over your life if you look upon them. But bright are the pictures that Christ presents to view. They will cheer you, make sunny all your way. Be careful where you look." This is one way we can cultivate cheerfulness: never allow the devil to bring up past failures to discourage. Keep the "bright pictures" hanging very prominently upon memory's wall, and take down all others.

On the other hand, if you are in the presence of some one who has a desolate attitude and despondent look, he feels the effects of your despondency, and this will have a tendency to predominate; if discouraged, it will not inspire him to take courage in the Lord, but arouse sympathy and pity for self in the trial.

Let us be instrumental in lifting the load from another soul by a merry heart and a cheerful countenance.

—Bertha Cope

TOMORROW



Did you ever stop to think about the simple word "tomorrow"? Tomorrow is the next day, or the day after the present one. You very often hear the expression used, "I will do so and so tomorrow." That is they will do it on the next day after the one they are living in. We live today. We have lived yesterday, and it is now in the past. But when we lived yesterday it was today. Today is the present time. Tomorrow never comes. It is always ahead of us. Sometimes it is as far away as to be nearly twenty-four hours ahead of us. Again we put our task off until tomorrow. This time, as before, we think we have reached it. We come to the place where we can almost say, "tomorrow is here,"

but just then the next day comes, and tomorrow is still in the distance, still in the future.

Now dear ones, stop and meditate a moment. We have seen that tomorrow never comes. We are now a long way from it, then we keep getting closer and closer until we are almost there, then it is set ahead again; still we go on, day after day, and it never comes. Tomorrow never will come. But stop a moment. There is a time coming, somewhere in the future, when you will lay this old body down. It will go back to dust. This time is surely coming. Once you were many years from this day. But you are steadily, day by day, drawing nearer. Days, weeks, months, and years have passed. You are drawing nearer that time with every breath you draw. Still time goes on and you come to the place when you know it is very near. You can feel the cold grip of death stealing over you. Only a few hours, only a few minutes, only a few seconds more of life. Now death has come. The spirit takes its departure from this dwelling of clay. They are separated. One goes to its Maker, God, the other returns to dust. Death has come and done its work. Unlike tomorrow, it came closer and closer until it had come. It did not flee away at the very last moment. No, it came nearer and nearer, until it was here. Death which once was in the future has come. But tomorrow is still in the future. It will never come.

Take warning, precious soul, you who are continually waiting until tomorrow to get saved. Death and tomorrow are running a race. Death will win. Why? Because death will come some time in the future; tomorrow will never come. Throughout all eternity there will be no tomorrow. It can not possibly come. The end of this wicked old world is coming; then the great Judgment Day when we all shall be judged according to the deeds done while in the flesh; then eternity. If we have lived and died a saved man or woman, we shall enter the pearly gates of heaven; but if we have lived and died a sinner, we shall be cast into the lake of fire which burns forever. This is all coming.

As sure as death is to come to each one of the human race, just as surely will the judgment day come. Eternity, like death, is drawing nearer and nearer. Each breath you draw brings you that much nearer to the end of time. It will come. The time will come when time will be no more. ETERNITY will take its place. Every one will know it.

Take warning, precious soul. You will never live in that time called tomorrow. Thousands of precious souls are saying, "I will seek the Lord tomorrow. I will get saved tomorrow." Why not get salvation now, today? It is here. Tomorrow is fickle. You are waiting until a day which never will come. When we hear a precious soul say, "I will get saved tomorrow," we can see that they are on the losing side. Death and eternity will come first, and find them unprepared; it will then be too late. They will have to spend eternity in hell. It will not vanish and still be in the future as does tomorrow. No, it keeps drawing nearer and nearer, and the time is not far distant when these things will be a reality. The end of time, destruction of the earth, the

resurrection of the dead, the judgment day, the trial of souls, the passing of the sentences upon the sinner and saint, then the entrance into heaven or hell, to rejoice or suffer, to reap what has been sown.

When this time comes you can realize then, if you do not before, that it does not pay to put off your salvation until tomorrow. "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." Jesus never said, "Wait until tomorrow to get saved." Those who keep putting it off until tomorrow may never get saved. God said, "My spirit shall not always strive with man."

"Therefore be ye ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt. 24:44. Today is the day of salvation. —Clyde Anthony

Try the Spirits, Whether They Be of God

The more glorious and essential the truth, the more the evil one seeks to pervert and turn it into a curse by false teachers, or by the impressions of his own vicious spirit. "Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." 2 Cor. 11:14, 15. "Beloved, believe not every Spirit, but try the Spirits, whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1.

What shall we "try the Spirits" by? The Word; and that Word furnishes plain instruction to all, that none be left in the dark. "And when they say unto you, seek unto them that have familiar Spirits: . . . should not a people seek unto their God? . . . to the law and the testimony: if they" (the Spirits) "speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isa. 8:19, 20.

One of the sure marks of the leading of a false spirit, is they scarcely ever refer to what God says in His Word, as a reason why they do, or do not, believe or disbelieve, this or that; but "the Spirit has revealed to them," this or that, or "they have been impressed" to do or not do thus and so, without any, or but very little regard to what He has said about the matter in His Word. Though led by the Holy Spirit in the past, they now imagine the Lord has licensed them to indulge in conformity to the world doing many things forbidden, or refusing to do many things enjoined in the Word.

Another mark: they are unwilling to acknowledge they were wrong, no matter how great or manifest the mistake they have made. The ultimate fruits of false leadings are always bad; so "by their fruits ye shall know them."

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16, 17. So whatever is contrary thereto cannot be of God; for God "cannot deny," or contradict Himself. "Holy men of God spake as they were moved

by the Holy Ghost." Hence all "revelations" and "impressions" contrary to their teachings cannot be from the spirit of darkness. The Holy Ghost is the very God, and never contradicts Himself.

Never was there a time when Satan was busier than now, "with all power, and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." 2 Thess. 2:9-12. His ingenuity is taxed to the very utmost to deceive the very elect, in these "last days." The soul that does not stick to the Word, as the rule of faith and practice, is at sea without helm or compass, the sport of the winds and waves of deception, which will soon engulf and wreck him in eternal destruction.

Let none ignore the glorious privilege of this dispensation, the endowment and guidance of the Holy Ghost; but let all try the spirits by the Word, that none be deceived. Refrain from all that is of doubtful righteousness, according to the Word: "For he that doubteth is condemned" if he partake. It is safe to give the right the benefit of every doubt, the Word being the judge. —Selected from *Gospel Trumpet 1884*

LOST YOUR WAY?

You don't know how to find it? You have asked and received many confusing answers. In this day of carnival religion it is no wonder you are confused. Hear them cry, "Look! Look! See what we have for you. What we are offering is one of the greatest wonders of religion. Hear the sounds of horns and trumpets." You can't think because of the pounding sounds of man trying to sell his religion? STOP right where you are. "STAND STILL and see the salvation of the Lord." (Ex. 14:13) LISTEN! Don't you hear it? "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." Isa. 30:21. What is this way? "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." Isa. 35:8. Do you see the WAY now? Good, walk in it.

—Elias McCart

You can nowhere find more of heaven upon earth than in a Christian home. Look at the picture: A father with the Holy Bible, the mother and children listening in reverence to the heavenly message. Where, I say, can you find more of heaven? Such a scene is most sweet and sacred. Methinks the angels bend low to catch the chants of praise that arise from those devoted hearts to the gates of heaven. Thank God, such a home can be real in life, and it is your duty as a Christian to help make it so.

—C. E. Orr

FAITH AND VICTORY

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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 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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EDITORIALS



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 28. 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.

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The Guthrie area experienced a flood scare on May 18 when the Cottonwood Creek and Cimarron River arose above flood stage. The night before, the workers of the Guthrie congregation had raised the material from the floor of the dining hall and chapel to a higher level in the buildings. The Lord averted the flood, and though some areas of Guthrie were flooded slightly, it did not get across Noble Avenue toward the Guthrie chapel. Thank the Lord for His protection.

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It was a sad note to this writer on May 20, when he set his last line of hot-metal type on the Model 31 Blue Streak Linotype machine, which we have had in operation in the Lord's Printshop for the past 34 years. It was purchased new in 1948. Of course, the machine has been obsolete several years, but I had been setting type on it for my editorials until this June issue. A part has worn out (about like myself) and we will not spend any more money on the machine.

In memory, I think of the year of 1925 when I first began learning to set type on an old Model 5 Linotype in the shop while I was in junior high school. I have set much type over the years, but that day has ended.

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

Bro. George Hammond has been doing maintenance and shop work here since May 5, when he arrived from Wisconsin to make Guthrie his home base of work for the Lord. We appreciate his sincere concern for the cause of Christ.

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Needed Storage Building Under Construction . . .

The Lord's Print Shop is in need of more convenient storage space for the gospel literature. Therefore, the Lord has directed us to construct a concrete block building, size 16 by 28 feet, just a few feet from the Shop. The concrete footing and floor are poured, and we will soon be ready to lay the block walls. This building will cost several thousand dollars to complete, and we are praying and trusting the Lord

to supply the means. He knows the urgent need for this convenient storage space for His Print Shop. Please pray with us about this matter.

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We have let our stock of printing paper run down in order to have a lower inventory when our fiscal year ends this month on May 31, 1982. Now we will have to soon order mill shipments of 5,000 or 10,000 pounds. This writer is praying and trusting the Lord to keep this gospel ministry going forward with the same standard of Bible truths as it has done over the past years.

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Sister Rebecca Sorrell, who has faithfully and efficiently worked here at the office in the mailing and correspondence departments for quite some time, felt a burden and responsibility to go to Thayer, Mo. and help take care of her sister, Eva Lou Gaines, who is very ill and needed her assistance. She went to her sister's home on March 27. May the Lord bless and reward Sister Rebecca in a special way for her time and service at the Lord's Print Shop.

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With his consent, we have enlisted Bro. Randall Flynn, one of our faithful printers and pressmen, to help me with the editorial work, leading to his taking over that position. Bro. Wayne Murphey, another faithful and concerned worker, agreed to assist Bro. Flynn in the editorial work.

Bro. Bob Sallee, our other faithful male co-worker, takes care of the computer data processing for our three publications. He also knows the printing and press work.

These changes will no doubt call for some of the Lord's consecrated young men to volunteer their services here at the Lord's Print Shop to learn the printer's and pressmen's trades. Begin asking the Lord what He would have you do about this phase of His work.

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The Redemption of the Body . . .

On the cross of Calvary, Jesus paid for the redemption of **both soul and body**, and there He conquered death, hell, and the grave, providing immediate deliverance from sin for every soul of man who would believe the good news.

However, Jesus and the Apostle Paul speak of the future inheritance of the actual "redemption of the body." Jesus, in speaking of the signs of time just prior to His coming, said, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28. Here He refers to a future redemption at His coming when the general resurrection takes place.

The Apostle Paul writes: ". . . the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Rom. 8:21. Bro. Paul also testifies, ". . . even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." Rom. 8:23. He had a bright hope of the redemption of his body

in that glorious resurrection. Paul testifies in 2 Cor. 5:1, 2, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven."

Paul wrote thus to the Ephesians: "In whom [Christ] ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory." Eph. 1:13, 14.

Full redemption for soul and body was purchased on Calvary, but the consummation of the redemption of the body is postponed until the general resurrection at Christ's coming, for He must reign on His mediatorial throne until "He hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all." 1 Cor. 15:25, 26, 28. "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor. 15:54, 55, 57, 58. Thank the Lord for that blessed hope of that house from heaven not made with hands.

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Thank the Lord that He has not permitted any more hemorrhages to this writer since April 15, but my strength has been very slow in returning. The Lord still enables me to go to the office a few hours each work day. Since my condition seems to get worse and the pain is intensifying, I am trying to turn more of my office work over to my good wife, Maybelle, and our other co-workers. Maybelle works about full time at the office, and has done so for many years. She helps to keep up the mailing lists for the three publications, and does practically all of the bookkeeping work. Please pray the Lord to help us in this transition period. We want to see God's work move forward without any delay or hindrance.

By the power of God I am still holding to His promises for healing to His glory, but I am also submissive to His will in my life. He promised never to permit more to come on us than we are able to bear. Please pray the Lord to give me enduring grace and faith for every test.

—L. D. Pruitt

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When you are forgotten or neglected, or purposely set at naught, and you smile inwardly, glorying in the insult or the oversight, because thereby counted worthy to suffer with Christ—that is victory.

—C. E. Orr

In Memorial

Frank Wiens was born October 14, 1914, in Grunthel, Manitoba, Canada. He departed this life May 1, 1982, at the age of 67 years and 6 months.

In 1942, he was united in marriage to Anna Giesbrech. This union was blessed with four children, one son and three daughters. There are also nine grandchildren.

Bro. Wiens was saved many years ago, and loved the Truth as the Lord revealed it to him. He enjoyed being in the Church of God, and radiated with victory in Jesus Christ. He ever kept heaven in view, never looking back. He lived a meek and submissive life, always manifesting a sweet, Christ-like spirit and humble attitude.

He will be missed by his dear wife, children, grandchildren, and other relatives and the saints in Canada and the U. S. A. Our loss here is heaven's gain.

—Bro. G. Schroeder

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Note of Appreciation

I thank the saints far and near for every prayer, words of comfort, and songs of cheer for my sister, Essie Moore. Many thanks for the wonderful food and fellowship of the saints while I was with her. May the Lord bless everyone for their labor of love in coming to help care for her. Thanks also to all her children.

Christian love, —Her sister, Nellie Lovell

Who Will Carry the Cross?

There are many who love the high places,
And are willing to share God's best,
But when the way gets rugged and lonely,
They're hardly strong for the test.

The world is reeling and rocking,
Everyone going their own way,
And Jesus is almost forgotten—
Oh, what a sad, sad day!

The masses seem to be seeking
Some way to gain wealth and power,
But who will carry the cross for Jesus
In this awful crucial hour?

My friend, right now are you willing
To lay aside every sin?
And carry the cross for Jesus,
And have the victory within?

It's easy to say, now just try it:
I challenge you, don't turn away,
For who'll carry the cross for Jesus
The last long mile of the way?

—Leila P. Lewis

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Campmeeting Dates For 1982



Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates for 1982, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:—

Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Oklahoma,
May 28 to June 6.

Tulsa, Okla.—June 11 to 20.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 11 to 20.

Chilliwack, B. C., Canada—June 21 to 27.

Oakland California—June 18 to 27.

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico—July 5 to 11.

Fresno, Calif.—July 2 to 11.

Green Bank, W. Va.—July 2 to 11.

Akron, Ohio—July 11 to 18.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs),
Missouri—July 23 to August 1.

Myrtle, Mo.—August 2 to 8.

Bakersfield, Calif.—August 6 to 15.

Boley, Okla.—August 20 to 29.

Durham, North Carolina—August 21 to 29.

California State Campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif. —
August 27 to September 5.

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

The Church of God will hold, Lord willing, a campmeeting at Charis Camp from June 21 to June 27, 1982. 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 freewill 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, or Paul Sorrell, 6407 Mt. Baker Hwy., Deming, Wash. 98244, phone (206) 599-2014.

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NO CAMPMEETING AT HAMMOND, LA.

Word has been received that the campground at Hammond, La., has been sold, and therefore there will be no campmeeting in Hammond.

Plans are being made, Lord willing, to begin construction of campground buildings on the Oak Grove chapel grounds at Loranger, La., which is about ten miles northeast of Hammond.

Pray that means, material, and labor will be provided for this new building project, and that it will be ready for campmeeting in 1983. —Editor

GREEN BANK, W. VA. CAMPMEETING

The campmeeting of the Church of God at Green Bank, W. Va., will be, Lord willing, on July 2 to 11, 1982. There will be two services each day—at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Meals will be served on the grounds. The meeting will be supported by the freewill offering plan.

Green Bank is located on Hwy. 92 which is 57 miles north of White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., or 50 miles south of Elkins, W. Va. All who come will be cared for. There are motels close. Motel phone (304) 456-4667 or 456-4808. Bring a coat, as the nights are cool. Come praying for a Holy Ghost-filled meeting.

We are in the process of building the tabernacle for the campmeeting. The material is on the ground and some is already up. We want to have it ready for campmeeting.

The congregation here had a meeting concerning a Christian school. We are thinking very strongly of trying to start this coming fall. The work here is moving forward. We need all the saints' prayers for these things. Any support will be much appreciated.

Yours for the truth,

—Bro. and Sister Mart Samons and congregation
P.O. Box 127, Green Bank, W. Va. 24944
Phone (304) 456-4469

AKRON, OHIO, TENT CAMPMEETING

The Akron, Ohio, campmeeting will convene on July 11, through July 18, 1982. All are welcome to attend. We are praying that the Lord will send laborers to assist us in the cause of Truth in this area of the country.

This year's campmeeting will be held, if the Lord wills, in the gospel tent at another location in the city. (Approximately one-half mile from the chapel.) Following Interstate 76 into the city, come off at the Bowery Boulevard exit. The tent will be located at the intersection of Bowery Street and South Street, and can be seen right after you exit the Interstate. The tent will sit on a grassy lot adjoining Summit Lake.

The chapel address is 421 West Thornton Street, Akron, Ohio, telephone (216) 762-2286. For further information, contact Bro. Waymon Parmer, phone (216) 836-1907, or Bro. Keith Fuller, Pastor, at 244 Storer Ave., Akron, Ohio 44302. Telephone (216) 864-1128.

Your Brother in Christ, —Keith Fuller

NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

The Church of God is looking forward to the forty-fifth National Campmeeting to be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, July 23 to Aug. 1. In years past, saints from many states, Canada, Mexico, and other foreign countries have gathered to enjoy Holy Spirit-led worship services at the National Campmeeting. You are cordially invited to come and enjoy the meeting.

Christ came teaching the doctrines of repentance, baptism, sanctification, divine healing, holiness, and the unity of His people. Compromise and error have removed all or part of these truths from the popular religions of today. The true Church is still teaching and practicing these same Bible doctrines, and you will be able to witness this at the National Campmeeting.

Campmeeting time is a time of thanksgiving. Surely we have much to thank God for! It is a time for us to examine ourselves as we hear the truth preached. It is a time to hear and help share the burdens of our fellow saints. It is a time to let the love of God work among us, to strengthen the bond that gives unity to God's people. It is a time for the saints to unite their efforts for the salvation of the lost.

The Monark Springs campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, Missouri. The exact location is one mile east and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of the intersection of Highway 86 and Highway 71 Alternate.

Those coming by bus or train may come to Neosho and take a taxi to the campground, or call 472-6427, Granby, Missouri, to arrange for someone to meet you and take you to the campground.

The campmeeting is conducted on a freewill offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campground. We trust that no one will stay away because of lack of finances. We are confident that God will supply for the needs as they arise. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space, tents, and trailer spots are available on the campground on a first-come first-served basis. Trailer spots include electricity, water and sewer hook-ups. Motels are available in the area but it would be advisable to make advance reservations.

All correspondence regarding tent orders and dormitory space should be addressed to Sister Idabelle McMillian, Rt. 7 Box 351, Neosho, Missouri. She will be co-ordinating all requests for sleeping quarters on the campground.

The caretakers of the campground are Dale and Dora Doolittle, Rt. 7 Box 415A, Neosho, Mo. 64850. Phone 451-2542. They will be moving to another house near the campground before campmeeting, but mail can be forwarded if necessary.

Please come praying for the salvation of sinners, the sanctification of believers, and the divine physical healing of the sick and afflicted.

—Bro. Jim Wall (Business Manager)
5825 E. 64th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74136

When the morning light is gently dawning,

Gently dawning in the eastern sky;

When the darkness fast away is fleeing,

Duties of the day are drawing nigh,—

Down before the sacred, hallowed altar,

Christian, bow before thy God in fervent prayer,
Giving thanks to Him for life's sweet blessings,

For the day imploring His kind care.

—C. E. Orr

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

Profitable Meeting Reported in Coffeyville, Ks.

Sister Inez Beisly reports that their recent meeting closed with victory, although they held only the first service under the tent. The weather was too cool, so they held the rest of the meeting in the Coffeyville chapel. As far as attendance, they had the best response yet from the neighborhood. The saints appreciated those who gave of their time to be with them, and they feel that people there have been stirred.

—Editor

BOLEY, OKLA., SPRING REVIVAL REPORT

We surely thank God for how He worked in the Boley, Ok., spring meeting. Also, we are thankful how the Lord sent ministers, anointed of the Holy Ghost, to expound the Word of God, and for the souls that made their way down to an altar of prayer and were saved and then baptized the last Sunday of the meeting. Praise the Lord!

The Lord sent a good rain during the meeting that was much needed. Thank the Lord! The attendance was good.

We appreciate all the ministers and workers that helped in the meeting. We give God all the praise for all that was accomplished. —Katherine Williams

TENT MEETINGS IN PENNSYLVANIA AND KENTUCKY

A tent meeting will be held, Lord willing, near Duncannon, Penn., from July 11 through July 18, 1982. The location of the tent will be approximately eight miles north of Duncannon on Rt. 849. Everyone in that area is urged to attend.

For further information and directions, contact Sister Virginia Myers at phone (717) 834-4595, or Bro. Bill Huss at phone (717) 567-6062.

We also hope to have a couple of tent meetings here in Kentucky, but we won't be able to get dates in time to print in the paper. For information about these meetings, anyone may call or write the undersigned after the first of June.

Christian love, —Curtis and Burnice Williams
Rt. 1, Box 656, Morehead, Ky. 40351
Phone (606) 784-7769

GOSPEL OUTREACH IN NEW ORLEANS AREA

An evangelistic outreach tent meeting will be held, Lord willing, from August 28 to Sept. 5, 1982, in the New Orleans (Kenner area) at Williams Blvd. and Third St., Kenner, La. Bro. H. H. Hargrave and his family are accepting a burden for this meeting. Those who are led of the Holy Ghost to come to this meeting will be cared for as the Lord provides. Someone will pick up those who are traveling by plane, bus, or train. There is also room for campers and tents, but no hook-up facilities. There are also motels in the

area. We are expecting street meetings daily and other outreach efforts. Come fasting and praying for the welfare of souls.

For further information, contact Bro. Louis Kimble at phone (504) 738-9017, or Sister Liurie Sanders at phone (504) 821-8839.

Yours for souls,

—Bro. Louis Kimble

Prayer Requests

Okla.—Bro. Elbert Johnson, who is in the Okla. State Prison, requests special prayer of the Church in regard to a desire which lies heavy on his heart. Pray the Lord to work it out to His glory.

Grand Cayman, B. W. I.—“I haven't been well for the past weeks. Though I am not young, my Father is near and dear to me. So I mean to hold fast to Him until He calls me Home. Please pray for my healing.”

—Mrs. Olivene Jackson

Indiana—Pray for Sister Sue Morrison who is suffering with arthritis.

Texas—Pray for Sister Louise Strickland for the healing of her eyes.

Okla.—Bro. Gene Beisly has been suffering for a number of months from a skin disorder affecting his feet and legs, hands and arms. Pray earnestly for his healing.

Calif.—“Please pray for me. I need a miracle from God.”

—Bessie Walker

Okla.—Bro. Harry Gellenbeck has not been well in body for quite some time. He would appreciate your prayers for his healing.

Word has been received that Bro. and Sis. H. H. Hargrave of Goulds, Fla., are being faced with another appearance in court this week of May 23, concerning their daughter Rachel. Let us continue to pray God to give them victory in all their battles and tests of faith. We do thank and praise God for how He has helped and answered prayer for them in many ways.

—L. D. Pruitt

Foreign Mission Reports

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (April 20)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, the dear saints at Guthrie, and the saints scattered abroad: Greetings of Christian love to all of you again in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Thank you very much for your kind letter dated April 1, 1982, and the enclosures were noted with much appreciation and gratitude. May God bless abundantly and richly each donor to the work in India.

I was on the bed with influenza a few days, hence I am a little late to reply to your letter.

By the mercy and grace of God the Church is moving on well every day. The indoor and outdoor meetings, house visitations, tract and paper monthly distributions, monthly meetings, women's meetings,

and Sunday schools for children are all progressing. We had a profitable ministers' meeting at Karikkom on April 10, which helped to co-ordinate the Church activities and make decisions.

Bro. Mathai, aged 60, of Thrikkannamongel congregation finished his course and went to be with the Lord on April 17, 1982. He was ill with heart disease. He was a good example to the whole Church. The funeral service was conducted in his home by this writer, and other pastors, and interment was in the Church of God Cemetery.

Our continuous earnest prayers are for your healing. May God show mercy and take all pain from you.

With love and prayers, —John Varghese
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REPORT FROM CHILLIWACK, B.C.

Dear Bro. Lawrence and Print Shop family: Very much interest is being shown for the gospel light here in Chilliwack, B.C. More than ever before, people are getting saved, baptized, sanctified, and coming out of sectism. It is a very busy time for our small congregation. It is indeed growing, probably twice the size of that when we came. To God be all the praise!

The people here are really hungry and zealous, but we need much wisdom as we face decisions. Responsibility is heavy upon us. Pray the Lord to give us that divine wisdom from above.

Christian love, —Paul Sorrell
6407 Mt. Baker Hwy., Deming, Wash. 98244
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PHILIPPINE MISSIONARY HEALED

Bro. Xavier G. Prado, one of our native missionaries in the Philippines, requested special prayer last month for his healing of a painful growth at the base of his neck. Now he is thanking the Lord for his healing and the saints for their prayers. He writes, "The inflamed part of my neck has abated, and the severe pain has ceased—without any medicine. Thank God, there is no blister or eruption."

He has been translating gospel tracts to the Cebuano language, from which we will print the tracts and ship them to him for distribution. Pray that all their spiritual and temporal needs will be supplied so they can continue spreading the gospel light in that great mission field.

—Editor
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NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (April 28)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings of heavenly love to all in the Church that Jesus built. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Thanks immensely for your letter dated April 1, 1982, contents of which were noted with exceeding great joy. We find that you are still able to work some at the Lord's Printshop and to communicate with us of the foreign field. All the saints in Nigeria are solidly behind you in prayer for the complete healing of your body from these afflictions of long duration.

Special praises of the saints went up to the most High early this month for the deliverance of this writer and two others from death when my car, in which we were traveling to Lagos on April 2, 1982, to attend the wedding of Bro. and Sister Paul Oluwasegun, was involved in a traffic accident six miles from Benin City. The car was driven by a hired driver who knows Lagos better for driving through. Although damaged to an extent, the car could have been demolished except for the miraculous work of God. It is sure to be roadworthy again in a short time. We trust the Lord for funds to cover its repair.

Evangelistic meetings of three days' duration were held at Onya, a town on the bank of the River Niger. It closed with victory. Two new congregations were opened at Obi-Ofu and Utu-Okwu through the labors of the Umuolu congregation. Bro. Bernard Chukwumah, based at Warri-Irri, has been charged with the care of Utu-Okwu congregation, while Obi-Ofu will be looked after by the Umuolu congregation.

Cultivation of crops on the experimental farm of Kwale area congregations is progressing admirably. Personal supervision of this experimental project with a view to making it a reality is confining this writer to Nigeria throughout the year. We cannot fold our hands while the work of the Lord in Nigeria is left to suffer. To find a solution to the problems has driven us to this experiment which, by God's grace, shall succeed.

Yours devotedly, —Titus U. E. Enu
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SISTER KEISER'S LAST MISSION REPORT

On the evening of Feb. 26, we went to Anayam, S. India, for a one-day service. Bro. Raju is the pastor there. Only the home folk were present. They have no electricity, and something was wrong with the lamp, so we resorted to small candles for light. A flash-light was used on the Bible for the reading of the Word. I brought a message on Jesus and some of His mighty works. When I spoke about Jesus casting out devils, the devil blanked my mind for a few seconds. As I looked to the Lord, I was soon recovered. It reminded me of how real the devil is, and that he is everywhere. We had a good season of prayer before the meeting closed.

The next morning we left Karikkom by car to attend three short meetings in North Kerala. We spent two nights in the same hostel we had stayed in before, and two nights with Bro. Mathunni, wife, and family in Trichur. We were in three services with Bro. Devassey at Kodassery. (Bro. Devassey is seriously afflicted, having lost the use of his legs. He needs the prayers of the saints.) This was the first work in North Kerala, and was pastored by Bro. Baby John who has started a new work in Chalakudi. They were outdoor meetings, and were well attended. The spirit of the meetings was precious. I once again had the opportunity to present sanctification from the chart. As I have written before, this experience has not been widely taught in India, so it opened the door for consideration of the deeper experience for the believer. Most of the

saints walk to the meetings. A few have bicycles, and as we left the last meeting the dear ones stopped us all along the way to say last good-byes.

We were in two evening meetings with Brother Iyyukutty at Kalazhi. He has two congregations started and no place in which to worship. He rented a building for the meeting on a very busy and noisy street. The building, perhaps 15x25 feet, was packed both nights with people at the windows and some sitting outside. God is giving the Brother souls, and we are believing He will give them a place in which to worship.

On March 3, in a morning meeting, the new church house at Kodali was dedicated. Bro. V. J. John is the pastor. There were about 60 saints present, coming in by foot, bus, and bicycle from all directions. A number of ministers were present. It was a very precious, sacred service. On our way home we stopped at Kanjiramottom to visit Bro. A. C. Joseph who has come out of the Anderson movement and has taken his stand with the saints. He conducts services in his home at present, and is in the process of building a red brick church house in which to worship.

From March 5 to 7, a meeting was held at Nadakunnu where Bro. John Samuel is pastor. His father started this work, but he has started another work at Chirattakonam. Bro. John Varghese, Bro. Mathunni, Bro. Iyyukutty, and myself were the speakers. The services were outside, very well attended, and with a good spirit. A number of people were prayed for.

On the Sunday morning before I left India we had our last Bible story for the children. It was on the crucifixion, the resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. There were over 90 children present. Three of them had brought ten new children to the services, and they received New Testaments in the Malayalam language. Little gifts of notebooks and ball point pens were given out to the others. We had prayer again for those who wanted to be saved. This work with the children was a highlight on my trip to India. Right after Sunday school we went to Vilayanthur, where Bro. Russel pastors, for the morning service, and a special Sunday school service in the afternoon. Then they had a Sunday evening prayer meeting for Madamma in Brother John's home, as she was returning to the United States the next day. It was all very precious. There must have been one-hundred people there to pray and to say good-bye.

I arrived home in Shawnee, Ok., on March 20. I have appreciated God's allowing me the privilege of visiting India another time, to be with the saints and to enter into their labor for souls. . . . These are all precious, never-dying souls who need to become acquainted with Jesus. May God help us to be faithful in our prayers and our giving to this needy field, and pray for me that I shall ever be found in the will of God.

Yours for souls, —Sis. Dorothy Keiser

SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

Dear Ones: Greetings in the name above all names—Jesus. Recently, a letter was received by the writer, from La Oroya, Peru, S. America, stating the following: "I desire to testify concerning the tracts you sent me. I quote from a letter I received. 'Brother, I plead that you come to my house because my family and I have met and want to give our hearts to the Lord. I was a catechist for 20 years, but thanks to the tract you left me, (Salvation, the Free Gift of God)....' and another, 'Thanks to all who are responsible for getting the tract to me in the hospital (Show me the shortest road to heaven), which touched my heart. Now I am saved and desire for you to come and baptize my wife and me. . . . I have 10 such letters in my possession and thanks for sending me the tracts to distribute. I desire you to send many more as our field of labor is increasing and we need tracts, New Testaments, Children's Bible material, cassette tapes of messages and hymns, etc. for 67 villages up to now. . . ."

This former is one such plea. As the Lord makes it possible, as many materials as can pass the lines between here and S. America (small packages are more sure to go through) will be sent. So far, the work has available, tracts, children's material, cassette tapes of messages (35) and hymns.

Pray for this work and for me. I desire to be faithful to all God has given me to do.

Yours for the souls of Spanish-speaking people, Sister Opal Kelly.

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Miss.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, and all Christians everywhere: May the love, peace, and joy of God and His blessed Son Jesus be yours.

I believe healing is for all (even though you and I are still in a season of terrible affliction), for He says, "Who healeth ALL our diseases." I'm still holding on to God, although my nervous affliction and head suffering are such that it seems I'm forsaken. My memory is so poor, and there is a terrible roaring in my ears and other complications. It seems I can't endure, but God says in His Word I can. . . .

Christian love,

—Ethel Lowery

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Calif.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and saints everywhere: I am thanking and praising the Lord this beautiful morning for His love to me and to all of His children everywhere.

It's so wonderful to have peace and contentment in our minds and hearts, and we know only God can give that true joy and peace.

Oh, how it blesses my soul to read the *Faith and Victory*! I enjoy the testimonies and answers to prayer of God's children.

Bro. Lawrence, I'm surely praying for you, that it will be the Lord's will to completely heal you. There isn't a doubt in my mind that your affliction is not too

great for the Lord to heal, but we know we have to pray for the Lord's will to be done. I'm praying for all the afflicted saints everywhere.

My heart's desire is to live closer to the Lord each day, and I'm surely asking Him to keep my mind and heart in such a way that there will be nothing in the way of my prayers being answered when I go to Him.

We do need to keep having faith to believe for the salvation of our unsaved loved ones. The Lord has answered prayer for me so many times, for so many different things. I just don't know how people get along that don't know how to go to Him.

Please pray for me and my unsaved family, as I pray for all of you.

Your saved Sister, —Hazel Savage

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Ala.—Dear ones: Greetings in Jesus' name! Once more I want to thank God for having mercy on me and saving my soul, although I resisted His love for so long.

I have numerous ailments in my body, but I am almost seventy-five years of age, and I am still able to do most of my household duties, so I do praise Him for being so good to me. I know that without His touch from time to time I could not make it.

Please pray that all my loved ones who are not living in God's will will make a complete surrender, and also pray for the salvation of all who haven't been born again.

Yours in Christ, —Leora Frink

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B.C., Canada—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the precious name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, who has called us all out of darkness into this marvelous light. We praise God for His love for us, that while we were yet sinners He died for us. It's so wonderful to serve a living God, one who hears and answers our prayers, and knows our every weakness. We want to live completely dependent upon God for all our needs whether small or great.

As we look back over the past year and a half, since we obeyed the call of God to come out of sectism, we have marveled at the Lord's doings (Psalm 118:23). Salvation is the only thing on earth that doesn't fade away, but grows brighter and more glorious each day. The devil has really tried to fight this work here in many ways, but as we go through these trials, "it's Jesus only" that we see. "For the battle is not yours, but God's." (2 Chron. 20:15)

We have been having street meetings, house meetings, and many Bible studies with those who are hungry for Truth here in Chilliwack.

We thank God for the good health he has given Bro. Curtis Williams, enabling him to have held some meetings up here. There were many souls under heavy conviction during those meetings, and we pray that they'll count up the cost and take their stand for the Truth. Since the time of those meetings, there have been four souls that have come out of "man-made churches" into the one true Church, which consists of everyone that has washed his robe, and

has been made white in the blood of the Lamb. For we know that Christ is coming back for "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:27.

We want to do what we can while Jesus tarries His coming, to proclaim the Bible truths throughout the country. We thank God for the Print Shop and for all the loyal gospel workers who toil every day so that these Truths may be spread far and wide. We remember you in our prayers, and pray that the Lord will touch you in this affliction, and continue to strengthen and bless you.

Please pray for us, as we endeavor with the power of the Holy Spirit, to convince the gainsayers and to help those that have been deceived by the doctrines of men. We need much wisdom in dealing with souls, for we want to be as "wise as serpents and as harmless as doves." This area up here is a ripe harvest field and we need many laborers, so we are trusting in God to anoint and bless in the Chilliwack campmeeting, and save many souls. We welcome anyone with a burden for souls to come and attend these meetings from June 21-27, 1982.

Your Brother in the Lord, —Ron Walter

Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Please discuss Eph. 4:26. Can saints be angry and be clear in it?

Answer: Eph. 4:26 says, "Be ye angry and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath."

The very wording of this text implies that anger is something not to be tampered with or to take lightly. It indicates that sin is at the door wherever anger is.

Weymouth's Translation says: "If angry, beware of sinning."

Williams' Translation says: "If you do get angry, you must stop sinning in your anger."

Knox's Translation says: "Do not let resentment lead you into sin."

Eph. 4:26b says, "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath."

Knox's Translation says: "The sunset must not find you still angry."

Phillip's Translation says: "Never go to bed angry."

The New English Bible says: "Do not let the sunset find you still nursing it."

This all sums up to the fact that it is very needful for saints to pray out from under their hurts, wounds, bruises, agitated feelings, "disgust," and all unholy and improper tendencies, dispositions, and attitudes, and to do it quickly. It is a certain fact that if we do not do this and allow those things to linger, they will produce roots of bitterness and result in sin in our hearts.

When discussing a word or given phrase or principle connected with a particular dominant word,

we must endeavor first to discover the varied meanings of that word.

Anger is defined in the World Book Dictionary of which Clarence L. Barnhart is Editor in Chief, as the feeling one has toward something or someone that hurts, opposes, offends, or annoys; strong displeasure. Another definition which is classified as obsolete is "grief, trouble."

Webster's Dictionary of Synonyms defines anger as denoting the emotional excitement induced by intense displeasure. It refers only to the emotional reaction; the word itself suggests no definite degree of intensity and carries no necessary implication of outward manifestation.

Ire is given as a synonym of anger. It suggests greater intensity than anger unqualified, and usually, but not necessarily, a display of that feeling in looks, acts, or words.

Rage is another synonym. It adds to anger the implications of lost self-control and of violent boiling over of feeling; it often connotes variously a sense of frustration, or temporary derangement of the mind, or determination to get revenge.

Fury is another synonym. It indicates overmastering destructive rage verging on madness.

Indignation is another synonym. It implies depth and intensity of anger, often righteous or generous anger, aroused by that which one considers mean, shameful, or otherwise unworthy of a man or men.

Wrath is another synonym. It may imply either rage or indignation as its emotional basis, but in addition to either of these, it also often implies a grievance and a desire or intent to avenge or punish, or to get revenge.

In Rom. 12:19-21, we read, "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." We see here that when one's anger runs into some of these unholy tendencies and reaches the point of frustration, vengeance or desire for revenge or to see one punished, it is already out of bounds for a Christian and running into sin. We are instructed here to just keep our hands off and let God have His way in the execution of vengeance upon evil doers. But as for us, we are to show kindness and do good unto our enemies and just let God decide who deserves vengeance and to what extent.

Phillip's Translation says: "Never take vengeance into your own hands, my dear friends."

Moffit's Translation says, "But let the wrath of God have its way."

Goodspeed's Translation says: "But leave room for God's anger."

Montgomery's Translation (The New Testament in Modern English) says: "But leave the field clear for God's wrath."

Knox's Translation says: "Allow retribution to run its course."

All of this makes it clear that there is a line beyond which Christian people must not go, and to go beyond that line is certainly sin. Also, we can stand in the way and hinder God in executing judgment on evil doers by taking things into our own hands and executing vengeance upon an individual in our own behalf. What we should do in such cases is follow the example of our Master and commit ourselves into the hands of Him who judgeth righteously—1 Pet. 2:23.

However, in all the varied degrees of anger and the different definitions of the word *anger*, there is a place for saints to exercise *anger* and where we would not be worth much to the cause of God and right without it. But we are admonished in the text to be careful in such cases not to go beyond that range of *anger* that is suitable for saints and give place to the devil and run into sin.

Again the World Book Dictionary draws a distinction in the use of the term *angry*. 1. When the angry feeling is stressed, and 2. when the directing of the anger upon a person is stressed. This is an important difference in this discussion.

One may feel highly displeased and deeply grieved and much troubled (*angry*) over some meanness, injustice, harshness, or cruelty in word or action by one person toward another and this would be justifiable and we should feel grieved, displeased (*angry*) at those things. One would not be worth much to God who would not be exercised in grief and displeasure by such things. But when one turns this same disposition toward the individual who did the wrong and to burn in their resentment and anger toward the person until wrath is kindled and we desire to see him punished or vengeance executed upon him; that is a destructive anger and we should rise up in opposition to it and cast it from us before it be our ruin.

In Prov. 24:17, 18, we read, "Rejoice not when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles or is overthrown; lest the Lord see it, and it be evil in His eyes and displease Him, and He turn away His wrath from him (to expend it upon you, the worse offender)—" Amplified Bible. Adam Clarke says this appears to be the sense of this text and also quotes another eminent authority, Cloverdale, as applying it the same way. So, it appears evident that we can hinder the execution of judgment and vengeance by God Himself and even bring judgment upon ourselves by holding a wrong attitude toward any person. An anger of this kind will breed malice and bitterness which all are strongly condemned by God's Word.

Some may say, "I have a righteous indignation against the principle of the thing but not toward any person. Well, good. That is right and justifiable. But let us apply a little test to that and see. If it is the principle of the thing you are offended at, you will feel just as grieved and hurt (*angry*) when you see some mean or unjust thing done to another person as if that thing were done to you. But if you can see someone do a mean or unjust thing to another person and just pass it off and say, "I am not going to

meddle with anything that does not concern me," then let someone do the same thing to you and get all agitated about it, upset, and your peace disturbed; that is just your feeling sorry for yourself. It is not the principle or thing at all, but this is ME and they just ought not to do ME this way.

In conclusion, let us summarize. It seems certain from the Scriptures that there is a certain kind of *anger* that is justifiable and we could not be true to right principles without being stirred at certain things in certain ways.

In Mark 3:5, we read of Jesus, "When He had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts—" Here Jesus had *anger*. But we could never imagine His having carnal resentment and behaving according to the way some humans do when they become angry. Just try to imagine His getting red in the face, shouting obscenities at the people, and throwing His hands around and threatening the people. We could not even imagine such a thing. His anger in this case consisted in His being grieved, or hurt, at their hardness of heart, obstinacy and unbelief. This should affect any of us in the same way.

In Col. 3:8, we are commanded to "put off anger, wrath, malice."

Eph. 4:31 says, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger—be put away from you."

In Eph. 4:27 is the finish or conclusion of verse 26. It says "Neither give place to the devil."

The 20th Century New Testament says, "And give no opportunity to the devil."

Goodspeed's Translation says, "You must not give the devil a chance."

Phillip's Translation says, "Don't give the devil that sort of foothold."

The New English Bible says, "Leave no loop-hole for the devil."

If we allow the sparks of displeasure, anger, and indignation to linger in our hearts and minds and smolder there until some circumstance or provocation fans them into a flame, we certainly are giving place to the devil and sin lieth at the door and will rise up and take us and cause us to act or speak in unkind, bitter and hurtful ways. The only safe way for us is to commit our way unto God and pray out from under our hurts, wounds, and offences quickly; cast out all anger and have victory over every unkind feeling and thought toward any person. Our attitude must be love toward all men—including our enemies. But at the same time we are to have and hold a resentment and anger toward the devil and all of his works.

THE GUARDIAN ANGEL

When you entered the Christian race God gave an angel to guard and guide you in the way. You need have no fear of this world. Live in God's service and do His will, and this guardian angel will keep you. "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them."

—C. E. Orr

Esteem Spiritual Needs First



Back in the days when Jesus was on earth, there was a multitude of people who followed Jesus out to a desert place to hear Him. When evening came, and it was supper time, the people had nothing to eat, so the disciples told Jesus to send them away to local towns where they could buy food and lodging. Then a little boy spoke to Andrew, and gave this disciple five barley loaves of bread and two small fishes, perhaps intending on giving them to Jesus to eat. However, Jesus' heart was filled with compassion for this multitude of people, so instructing the disciples to seat the people by fifties, Jesus offered thanks for the bread and fish and distributed it among His disciples. They, in turn, were bidden to go out among the people and give to them all they desired. After the 5,000 or so persons were finished eating, the disciples brought back to Jesus twelve baskets of leftovers. This was an unforgettable miracle that each of the four gospels has recorded. (Matt. 14:14; Mark 6:35; Luke 9:13; John 6:9).

One thing troubled Jesus concerning this miracle—did the people follow Him because He had freely filled their stomachs or because they loved Him and wanted to eat of the Bread of Life? In the latter part of John 6, Jesus discusses this very issue with the disciples and the Jews. It was hard for them to comprehend His words because they had never experienced the inward peace of Christ living in their hearts. Therefore, it is easy to see why they were so confused when Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." (John 6:48-51)

Over this discussion, many of the disciples left Jesus—why? Because of unbelief? Because of misunderstanding? They were not seeking after Christ with an open, pure heart. "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." Matt. 5:8.

In Matthew 16:13-20, Jesus asked His twelve disciples who the people thought He was. There was confusion and difference of opinions among the people, but Peter said: "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God. Jesus answered and said unto him: Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona, for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." Peter had a longing for spiritual food, and he had been filled. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled." (Matt. 5:6)

Jesus Christ wanted devoted followers who loved Him with a pure love. In the sermon on the Mount (from which two earlier Scriptures were taken) Jesus instructed them not to fret about earthly things as the "Father knoweth ye have need of all these things. But seek ye *first* the kingdom of God, and His righteous-

ness, and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33) What a secret to successful living! If our heart is really open and seeking spiritual things, then our natural needs will fall into better perspective. They won't even seem as important any way.

Today, as always, Jesus wants followers who love Him with a pure, divine love. He wants us to seek *first* the kingdom of God. Let us take a moment to examine our prayers. The substance of our prayers will often tell the desires of our hearts. We pray for physical needs, financial problems, illnesses, mental stress, and other physical obstacles in our lives. More important to us should be our spiritual needs.

How often do we ask the Lord for more wisdom? "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, . . . and it shall be given him." (James 1:5) We need to pray for more wisdom that is from above.

How often do we ask the Lord for our faith to be increased? This is vital to our spiritual welfare, because Heb. 11:6 tells us that "without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Let us diligently seek after more faith in God's ways, knowing His ways are best for us.

We need to pray for more love, because "now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity." (1 Cor. 13:13) Not one of us will ever obtain too much of God's pure love, but we can always ask for more of it when our hearts pray to God each day.

There is nothing equal to the spiritual richness of a closer walk with God, so why should we esteem earthly needs above spiritual ones in our prayers? Our "spiritual robes" are for eternity; our earthly ones are only for a season. Turning to Jesus' recorded words, we find the ancient "secret" of the steadfast people of the one true, living God. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment." (Matt. 22:37) If our heart, soul, and mind stay in unison seeking after the spiritual realm of God, naturally a closer walk with God will be our foremost request.

Earthly needs should come next. Also, when we continue praying and praying for earthly needs, and our desires are not soon granted—or never—let us not be discouraged and turn away as some of the disciples left Jesus. Let us say with Peter: "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." (John 6:68) If our foremost request is to walk closer to God, then we won't be so disturbed when the Lord takes time to answer our other requests. This behooves us to esteem our spiritual needs above our earthly ones. At the end, heaven will surely be worth it all. Amen.

—Connie Sorrell

"But without faith it is impossible to please him [God]; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6.

LOVE



Love is somewhat like the wind—you cannot see it, but you can feel it and see its effects. Oh, behold the wonderful love of God! God loved the world so much that He gave His only begotten Son to be crucified that the world might be saved and not perish. The Bible tells us, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself." Our love for God should be supreme, but the more we love Him, the greater capacity we have to love others.

If we love others as ourself, we will want no harm to come to them, but only good. We will treat them the way we want them to treat us. 1 John 4:18-20, says, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

When a couple love each other you can see that love in their eyes when they are together. When they are apart they long to be near each other. They desire the very best for each other. They enjoy talking to each other and sharing their inmost thoughts and feelings.

If we love God, we will want to feel His presence and tell Him our inmost thoughts. God desires communion with us.

Jesus wanted Peter to tell Him he loved Him. John 21:15-17, "So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon son of Jonas, lovest thou me?" The Lord knew Peter loved Him before He asked him the first time, but He wanted to hear Peter say so. God wants us to tell Him we love Him.

People yearn to hear the words, "I love you," from those they hold dear. A man often tells his wife he loves her, even though she already knows it by his actions of providing her a good living and by his affections toward her. A loving wife will tell her husband she loves him, although she is already a good, true wife to him. Children know their parents love them by their providing and caring for them and teaching them to fear the Lord, but they still love to hear the words spoken, "I love you." Also, parents know their children love them because they obey and take correction from them without talking back, but they also love to hear the words spoken, "I love you, Father, or Mother."

Love delights more in giving than in receiving. "Charity [which is love] suffereth long, and is kind;

charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. . . . And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity." (1 Cor. 13:4-8, 13)

Here is a Scripture taken from a story in the Bible showing true love. (Ruth 1:16, 17) "And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me." Ruth had such great love for her mother-in-law that she gave up her own people and land to be with her.

I think of another great love story in the Bible. Two women each had babies. One of the babies died in the night, so each woman claimed the living baby as her own. (1 Kings 3:23-27) "Then said the king, The one saith, this is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead: and the other saith, Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living. And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king. And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other. Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it. Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof."

When put to the test, true love shows its color. It loves to share and give instead of just receiving. One of the fruits of the spirit is love. When we love God and live for Him, love toward others is a natural fruit. Prov. 10:12, says, "Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins." When we come to Christ, His great love covers all those terrible sins we have committed. God keeps giving His love to us over and over every day. Love thrives on giving and giving and giving again. God is love. —Pearlene Whitson

Saying and Doing

Pilate said of Jesus, "I find no fault in Him." That was his conception of Christ. He saw before him a faultless Christ. Then he added, "Take Him and crucify Him." These two expressions stand directly one against the other. He spoke correctly about Christ, but he acted wrongly. Many are thinking and talking rightly enough about Jesus, but they do not act rightly. —C. E. Orr

A Peculiar People

God's people have always been a peculiar people, and always will be. God required His people to measure up to a certain standard under the law, and He requires them to live in accordance with the New Testament standard today. Enoch was different from the rest of the people because he walked with God. He did what God told him to do. Noah, I have no doubt, was very peculiar in the sight of the worldly minded people and was scoffed at and ridiculed when he began to build a huge ark on dry land and to warn the people to get ready for a great deluge of water. Daniel and the three Hebrew children were so peculiar that they would not bow down and worship the false gods set up by man. I imagine the people thought them fools and fanatics for holding to such a queer faith of worshiping an unknown and unseen God. Just so today, God's true people are thought to be very foolish, queer, and fanatical, because they are taking the plain Bible way, and obeying God instead of the traditions and doctrines of men. But we, like the holy men of old, can well afford to bear the persecutions and scoffs of the world when we consider what Jesus himself, the Son of God, suffered for our salvation. "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness, into his marvelous light." 1 Pet. 2:9.

God's people are for the purpose to show forth the praises of the Lord—they are the light of the world and are commanded to let their light shine. What a glorious transformation!—from total darkness (sin) into perfect light (righteousness). Separated from all the sinful elements of this old degenerated world, Christ was in the world and the world knew Him not. (John 1:10). He came to His own (the Jews), and they would not receive Him. But there were a few that did receive Him, and were willing to take this peculiar way of Christ; and suffer even as He suffered. True Christians would rather "suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." They esteem the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt (sin), for they have respect unto the recompense of the reward. (Heb. 11:25, 26). The world walks by sight, but the children of God walk by faith; what a contrast!

The worldly people love the things of this world; God's people love the things of the heavenly world—righteousness, joy, and peace. There are many professed Christians, however, who would rather go to a place of amusement or merry-making than to a place of worship. God is sifting out these worldlings in these last days, and His people are separating themselves from all sinful elements, and from spiritual wickedness in high places. All the traditions of men, whereby God's people were captivated during the dark and cloudy days are being exposed. There is only one true foundation—Christ and the apostles; there is no other. Sinners and sinful professors are left out; only the holy will see God. (Heb. 12:14). God's

people are separated from sinners. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness, and what communion hath light with darkness." 2 Cor. 6:14. Also, in 2 Tim. 3:1-5, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure, more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness [such as church membership], but denying the power thereof [the power to save and keep from sin]: from such turn away." "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." 2 Cor. 6:17.

Dear reader, where are you? Can you say, "Amen" to God's Word? Are you separated from the world in heart and in deed? If you are not, and have thought that you could not obtain such an experience in this life, take courage now, and seek the Lord with your whole heart. He will have only such as have been kept from the world; such as have been born from above and baptized with the Holy Ghost.

—C. S. Wyatt

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Bearing Another's Burdens

As we make the journey of life there are burdens to be borne. You have yours and I have mine. Sometimes these burdens are very heavy. They seem to be about all we can bear. We as Christians are to help one another in bearing burdens. You may have a very great burden this month and I have none particularly. Then when I have none, I should help you. Later I may have a burden and you have none, then you can help me and thus we go on helping one another. Then again you may have all the burden you can bear and I have all the burden I can bear, but we can join and you help me and I help you and our burdens will be lighter for two are more, far more, than twice as strong as one.

To make the Christian path brighter, to help some one love Jesus a little better, is the noblest work man can do. I count no gift so great, no blessing so precious, as that which helps me to be more like God. To help another to be more noble, pure, and unselfish is the greatest help we can give. When some one is being tried to the very end of their patience and we can then help them by a word to be more enduring, we may have rendered them the greatest service. To relieve some one of a burden may not be as great a blessing as a word of cheer that will help them bear it longer.

We should seek to bear the burdens of others rather than to have our burdens borne. Let us be brave in life and bear our own burdens and then help others all we can. Beautiful service is that of

bearing the burdens of another. It is fulfilling the law of Christ. In all the realm of holy living there is nothing more beautiful, more noble, or more pleasing to God than bearing the burden of another. Be careful not to be a burden but a burden-bearer.

—C. E. Orr

Sinful Neglect of the Dying

A missionary some years ago, while traveling in China with a native helper on a passenger boat, was one day startled by a splash and a cry from without. He sprang on deck and saw at a glance that his helper had fallen overboard and sunk. He at once lowered the sail of the boat and leaped overboard in the hope of finding the unfortunate man. Unsuccessful, he looked around in agonizing suspense. Seeing close to him a fishing boat with a peculiar drag-net furnished with hooks, he called out, "Come and drag over this spot; a man is drowning just here."

"It is not convenient," was the unfeeling answer.

"Don't talk of convenience," he replied, "a man is drowning I tell you."

"We are busy fishing," they responded, "and can not come."

"Never mind your fishing," he said, "I will give you more money than many a day's fishing will bring, only come at once."

"How much money will you give us?"

"We cannot stay to discuss that now, come or it will be too late. I will give you five dollars."

"We will not do it for that," replied the men, "Give us twenty dollars and we will drag."

"I do not possess so much. Do come quickly, and I will give you all I have."

"How much may that be?"

"I don't know exactly, about fourteen dollars."

Then slowly the boat was paddled over, the net let down, and immediately the body of the missing man brought up, but it was too late, life was extinct.

Pause, dear brother and sister, before you pronounce judgment against these ignorant fishermen. Is it so wicked a thing to neglect the saving of the body? Surely it is, but oh, how infinitely more wicked to neglect the saving of the soul! Millions of souls today are drowning in the deep waters of sin. Jesus gives the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." The cry comes ringing from many places, "Come and let down your nets here, for many are drowning!" Some are answering, "It is not convenient," others, "We are busy fishing at home and cannot go." Many excuses are offered, but brethren, let me sound this alarm in every congregation of the saints. Millions are being swept into eternity unprepared, many of whom could be rescued. As one who hears the splash and cry of souls drowning around me, let me urge once more, Come over and let down the net, and come before it is too late.

—William Hunnex