

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

USPS184-660

## Church of God Servant



Volume 61, No. 1

61st Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

March, 1983

### *Christ Triumphant*

I sing the risen glory  
Of Christ, my Lord and King,  
Who reigns above, and reigns in love,  
And makes my heart to sing.

Once for our errors smitten,  
He bled upon the tree,  
And suffered there, our sins to bear  
And set our spirits free.

There in the grave they laid Him  
And wept with sorrow sore.  
Filled with dismay, they went their way  
In fear they shut their door.

But ere the sun's bright rising  
Came forth that Easter morn,  
Our Lord arose, Sweet Sharon's Rose,  
All mankind to adorn.

They found the tomb was empty,  
And Christ was seen once more  
In proofs divine, His life did shine,  
In joy they witness bore.

'Twas He their hands had handled,  
Restored to life again,  
To live anew, so great and true,  
The Saviour of lost men.

Upon the sacred mountain  
He gathered them around.  
"Go forth," said, He, "the message free  
To all the world resound."

Then rising, slowly rising,  
From earth did He ascend  
To heav'n above, a song of love  
Inspiring without end.

Unfold, unfold, ye portals,  
While we His praises sing.  
Triumphantly, eternally,  
Christ lives to be our King.

—Leslie Busbee

### *"Thy Will Be Done"*

"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."  
Luke 22:42.

Much has been said about this verse; many songs have been sung; and many tears have fallen. Yet I'm drawn more and more to the One who was so endued with grace and power to have the ability to say these words and to mean them from the depths of His heart.

Song No. 152 in the *Evening Light Songs*, "Thy Will Be Done" has always been so poignantly beautiful to me. I look at the words and sing them softly and feelingly; and hot, scalding tears come unbidden to my eyes. Within the very depths of my soul, there springs up an earnest desire and longing in my heart to serve Him with all my talents, time, and entire life. I feel an indescribable emotion: it is pain, joy, sadness and determination all mixed together, and still it is more than that. I know exactly what someone means when they say that something is so beautiful that it hurts. This scene of Christ in the garden is so beautiful and awe-inspiring that it brings a deep pain and longing.

Let us be silent awhile and contemplate what Jesus, the Son of God, did there in the Garden of Gethsemane.

It is night time and there is no light, save for the moon and the stars. In my imagination, there is a half moon shining which gives out just enough light for me to see vague forms and shadows.

Shhhh! There's Someone kneeling there; over *there*, in the garden. He's kneeling on the grass and I can see that His head is bowed low. I can see that the moonlight is bathing Him; but He notices nothing. I can tell, even from this distance, that this One is in deep anguish and agony of mind. Oh, see Him there as He struggles with some deep inner conflict.

I hear a groaning from where I stand. He is saying, "Oh, Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from me. Father, my flesh cringes at the thought of the pain I know I must suffer. I know that Thou

lovest me; if Thou be willing, remove this cup from me." But, in the same breath, "Yet, not my will but Thine, be done." I can see Him there in agony, wrestling with the flesh; and then His meek and humble disposition as He consents to His Father's will.

He gets up and walks slowly to a rock where now I perceive three figures in a heap. He looks sorrowfully at them for a moment and says, "Oh, why are you sleeping? Rise and pray, lest ye be tempted. Do you not understand what is to come?" He walks away and the disciples try to pray but sleep overcomes them again.

Jesus slowly and tiredly walks awhile, and then in desperation falls to His knees again. "Oh, God, help me, Father!" And then again, "Nevertheless not my will but thine, be done." He continues to pray; I see His lips moving, and, stepping closer, I see great drops of blood on His forehead.

Then a light, a soft, luminescent light, descends from above and I see the form of an angel come to Him and gently smooth the pallid brow. Jesus leans on the angel for a moment, and then He straightens up with a sigh and stands with bowed head and clasped hands before the heavenly Being. Neither of them say a word; they stand silently facing each other. Almost imperceptibly I see Jesus nod slowly with a deep sadness. The angel looks at Him with compassion for a moment longer and then gently, and slowly ascends to heaven.

I see Jesus looking up after this angel and then walk to where the disciples sleep yet again. Perhaps He's thinking that He is now ready; He can do what must be done. But he sees them sleeping and His shoulders sag a little. Again I see Him wake them up to pray as He goes back yet another time to converse with His heavenly Father.

After another agonizing prayer, He again rises and stands, His hands loosely by His side.

I hear in the distance the sounds of people shouting, and as the moments go by I hear them getting louder as the soldiers get closer. I realize with a sudden, awful certainty what is about to happen. I quickly look to Jesus to see Him for the last few moments.

He makes no movement. He merely stands there meekly, accepting the fact that the soldiers are coming NOW. Again I see His lips move: "Thy will be done."

—Grace Lassché

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Mercy, like all of the other Christian virtues, is replenished within our hearts in direct proportion to the amount we use. The more we use, the more we will be supplied, and the more we are supplied the more we have to use so that it increases within our hearts as we go along. We either increase or we fall back—one or the other. Heavenly mercy seeks for opportunity to manifest itself and rejoices with each application. As we have obtained mercy, so let us shew mercy abundantly.

—Clifford Wilson

## The Final Battle



I fear that we are living in the last day of time, and we, the saints of God, are in our final battle. So many Scriptures point to the end of time; and the trials, problems, and burdens that the saints are having make us to know that the enemy of our souls is surely against us.

"Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." Rev. 12:12. In this Scripture we are reminded of the devil coming down in great wrath because his time is short, and it says "woe unto the inhabitants of the earth." That makes us to know there are some problems, some things to behold, things to think about and consider, some great things to endure because he's come down in great wrath, for his time is short. He realizes he will be cast into the lake of fire with the false prophets. But now he's loose for a season and doing everything he can to try to win over and gain in this battle. But praise God, we have the greater within us!

We're told in 1 Peter 5:8, that "... your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." He certainly is fulfilling his purpose on the earth. He's trying any tactic he can to try to get us off beam or off course, or get us to doubt the Lord and to be fearful. But I'm glad the Scripture says "whom resist stedfast in the faith." So we have the greater to look to. It goes on to say, "knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." 1 Peter 5:9. The things we are facing are only a common thing among the saints of God today. But thank the Lord, He has grace sufficient for us all to be able to stand true to God.

In Matt. 24:12, Jesus says, "Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." How sad it is to see sin and iniquity increasing in different forms and ways; many are yielding to sins of various kinds of the flesh and lust, are being overcome and taken captive by the devil. Because iniquity abounds, the love of many is waxing cold. We see a coldness sweeping down among us and a fear of what might come on the earth. The Word goes on to say, "but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Mark 13:13. It's the end of this race that's really going to count.

We're told in Paul's writing to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. A good soldier will endure hardness for his country; in doing duty and service for his country, he passes through much hardness to discharge his duty. We are going to have to endure hardness in a spiritual way, too. We have the opposer, the devil, as a lion going about roaring and doing all he can to discourage, undermine, and try to find a place where he can drive a wedge between the brethren. He will bring any kind of an accusation upon us to try to overthrow and discour-

age us and get us to turn back. **But we must endure** hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. He that endures to the end shall be saved. It is so sad to see some who have endured for awhile, but when persecutions arise by and by, they are offended and lose their victory. **He that endures to the end—** this thing must be fought to the finish—finished out!

In 2 Tim. 4, the Apostle Paul warned Timothy to be faithful to preach the Word for the time would come when they would not endure sound doctrine. In verses 6, 7, Paul said, "the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, **I have kept the faith.**" Oh, it must have been a great consolation as he looked up to the realms beyond and thought, "I'll soon be leaving this old world; this old house or tabernacle will soon be dissolved." But oh! that building of God, eternal in the HEAVENS! Paul had a great consolation. He had fought a good fight and endured hardness as a good soldier. He had faced the enemy, had faced many trials and burdens along the way, had fought with beasts at Ephesus, and endured many things, but he fought a good fight. Praise the Lord! And he also said, "there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:8.

I'm thinking of the song that says, "Heaven will surely be worth it all." All those things we've endured, all the things we've passed through, all the problems we've faced, all the afflictions we've borne—**heaven will surely be worth it all!** "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10. Here we're told to be faithful unto death and He would give us a crown of life, and for us not to fear those things that are coming to pass. We must be true until death when our last breath goes out of this body; then we can go Home to be with Jesus.

In Rev. 7:9, John the Revelator looked on the scene and beheld those in white robes. In verse 13 he asked, "What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?" And the elder answered in the 14th verse, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." This great multitude upon which John looked were dressed in robes of white, indicating that they were pure and faithful. We likewise must come out of great tribulation. There are many things facing the saints of God in this day and time—great tribulations of various kinds. There are problems, sicknesses, and things happening that we never thought would come our way in life, but they have. As we look at the situation, we must not have any thought of turning back but face the thing and look to God for help.

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of

nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:25-28. This Scripture says the sea and waves roaring and that perplexing things would happen. Surely we are in that time. People are upset and unsettled; there are signs in the moon, etc., and distress of nations. There are great problems on our hands, but the Word says we will see the Son of man coming with power and great glory, and when we see these things coming to pass to look up, for our redemption draweth nigh.

Dear saints of God, we need to look up! We must look beyond our trials, afflictions, problems, and the things we are faced with, and look to the author and finisher of our faith—the One who will take us through with victory. Some day we will see Jesus coming in the clouds and we'll be caught up to meet Him in the air, "and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thess. 4:17, 18. It is a great comfort to know the Lord is leading the way. He is encouraging our hearts to be faithful. We don't know what we will endure before we leave this world; but whatever we encounter or whatever comes our way in life, let us be faithful; let us be true and keep our eyes on Jesus.

It is so sad to see some failing and going to the beggarly elements of the world. But our home is over yonder beyond this vale of tears, beyond this troublesome time we're living in.

There was a rich man that fared sumptuously every day, and a beggar who was full of sores was brought and laid at the rich man's gate, desiring crumbs from the rich man's table. The dogs came and licked the beggar's sores. This would surely be a sad scene to look upon, but praise God, it didn't continue on that way. One day the angels came and carried Lazarus, who had died, away into Abraham's bosom. The rich man died, and in hell he lifted up his eyes being in torment (Luke 16:19-31). Praise the Lord, these light afflictions, which are but for a moment, "worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." 2 Cor. 4:17. One day all of these afflictions, sores, and weights will be gone and we will be carried away to the bosom of Abraham, that glorious paradise where there'll be no more sorrow, heartache, problems, or sickness.

As we're in this final battle, let us look beyond the battle and look to the great reward beyond this life. The song says, "My heavenly home is bright and fair, I feel like traveling on; no pain nor death shall enter there." It will be wonderful to be free from pain, trouble, sorrow and grief with nothing but joy, peace, and happiness. Let us lay aside every weight or anything that might hinder us, and run this race with patience. Amen.

—Murphy Allen

# 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 Randall D. Flynn, assisted by Wayne Murphey and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044 (USPS184-660)

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

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

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

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, one year .....	\$ .35
Single copy, three years.....	\$1.00
Roll of 4 papers to one address, one year.....	\$1.00
Write for prices on larger quantities.	

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

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the 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.

### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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

## EDITORIALS



With this March issue of the *Faith and Victory* paper, we begin the 61st year of publication. God has blessed the work in the past and we can truly say He is still blessing it. To each individual who has shared in the support of the printing work through the contribution of letters, articles, prayers, and financial gifts, we say sincerely, "Thank you." Your love for God and the willingness to be used of Him is appreciated and makes it possible for us to continue printing and mailing out gospel literature.

We are thankful for those who invest their time and talents in this publishing work. Those presently working here at the shop include Aunt Maybelle Pruitt, Sisters Grace Lassche', Linda and Bunnie Craddock, and Maude Hornbeck; Brothers Randall Flynn, Bob Sallee, George Hammond, and this writer. Sis. Sandra Whitson, who has returned to Alabama, continues to write for the *Beautiful Way* Sunday school paper for children, and Sis. Dorothy Wilkins, a member of the Guthrie congregation, assists with proofreading. Bro. Leslie Busbee writes material for the *Bible Lessons* quarterly.

It has been stated frequently in this paper that the *Faith and Victory* is not recognized as the official organ of the Church, yet in spirit and practice, it is the servant of the Church as the use of its columns and the subtitle indicate. This is still the position of the paper. In the editorials of March, 1923, my grandfather, Bro. Fred Pruitt, wrote, "... pray much for us that God keep us filled with the Holy Ghost, and that by the working power of His Spirit, *Faith and Victory* will be like unto a river of water, pure and clear, flowing down from the throne of God and out to the people in every land." This paper was begun with that desire, and the same desire fills its present workers.

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

In storage we have a large collection of old *Faith and Victory* and *Beautiful Way* papers, and also *Bible Lessons* booklets. We will be glad to mail these out to those who desire them, simply for the cost of the postage. Although outdated, they offer good reading material for distribution to others. Mail rates to various parts of the country differ on some of this material, so we have established the cost as follows: for 25 *Faith and Victory* papers, \$2.00; 12 *Bible Lessons*, 86¢; and 40 *Beautiful Way* papers for 95¢.

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

By the Lord's blessing, we have been able to put on order a Sulby single clamp perfect binding machine. This machine will be of great asset in putting together books of approximately 100 pages or more. In the past these books required three stitches in the side before gluing the covers on by hand. The binder will eliminate the need for stitching, and it will automatically put the cover on. This will speed up the operation and give a much nicer binding on the book. Tentative delivery of the machine has been set for the last of February.

—Wayne Murphey

As the Easter season draws near, our mind has many thoughts of the events that transpired in and near Jerusalem nearly two thousand years ago. It was at this time that Jesus Christ, the innocent Son of God, was crucified on the cross of Calvary, becoming an eternal sacrifice for the sins of the whole world; not just for one certain race of people or for those living during a certain period of time, but for all mankind in the entire universe. When the Jews crucified Jesus they thought they were getting Him out of their way, but little did they realize that they were, through the will of God, opening a fountain of cleansing that would never lose its power to redeem man from a degraded state of sin. No, they did not get rid of Him, for on the third day after His crucifixion He arose from the grave triumphant over sin, death, and the grave. Before His crucifixion Jesus told the Jews that He would rise on the third day, but they would not believe Him; still His Word was true. He had spoken it and that was the way it would be.

It is the same way today; the Word of God is sure, steadfast, and unmoveable. What He has promised, He will perform. God has promised to reward every man according to his works, whether they be good or whether they be evil. Some people do not believe this, but nevertheless the Word of God standeth sure. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

We are truly appreciative of the time and effort Bro. Ostis Wilson has put forth for the last few years in the writing and preparation of material for the "Question and Answer" column. Bro. Wilson informs us that in recent months he has not received any questions, so if you want to see the column continued, questions need to be sent in. You may send your questions directly to Bro. Ostis Wilson at 6505 N. E. Sunset Drive, Albany, Ore. 97321, or if you would prefer, you may submit your questions to this office and we will be glad to forward them on to Bro. Wilson.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Bro. Luther Reed of the Tulsa, Okla., congregation passed to his eternal home on Sat., Feb. 12, 1983, after a long illness. Bro. Reed was a member of the Church of God for many years, and many fond memories linger in the hearts of those who knew him. May the Lord comfort and sustain the family in this time of bereavement.

Also, word has just been received of the passing of Bro. Z. E. Francisco, longtime saint and minister of the Church of God from Bakersfield, Calif. To be in the service of God was his delight. We pray the Lord to supply the family with the comfort they need at this time.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Word has been received that construction of a new chapel for regular worship services and for camp meetings at the Oak Grove Church of God site near Loranger, La., is steadily progressing. The main frame construction has been completed and the roof

is on. We pray the Lord will bless this effort and give special strength to the brethren involved in the work.

—Randall Flynn

-----o-----

## Camp Meeting Dates for 1983

Following are the Church of God camp meeting dates for 1983, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:

**Ojos Negros, Baja, Cfa., Mexico**—March 27 to April 3.

**Oklahoma State Camp Meeting at Guthrie, Okla.**  
May 27 to June 5.

**Jefferson, Oregon**—June 10 to 19.

**Duncannon, Pa.**—June 24 to July 1.

**Greenbank, W. Va.**—July 1 to 10.

**Fresno, Calif.**—July 1 to 10.

**Akron, Ohio**—July 8 to 17.

**National Camp Meeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri**—July 22 to 31.

**Myrtle, Missouri**—August 1 to 7.

**Boley, Okla.**—August 19 to 28.

**Note:** This may not be a complete list of all the camp meetings. If your camp meeting date is not included in the above list, please send it in so we can publish it in the next issue.

## In Memorial

**Lenious Samuel Davis, Sr.** was born to Nelson and Susan Davis on May 26, 1895, in Columbus, Tex., and departed this life January 16, 1983, at the age of 87 years, 8 months, and 21 days.

Bro. Davis embraced the truth of the Church of God at Los Angeles, Calif., in 1951, and was faithful to the best of his knowledge unto the end. He was loved by many, and will be missed by all who knew him.

He leaves to mourn his passing his devoted wife Flora B. Davis of the home; three sons, and one daughter of a former marriage; one brother, L. H. Davis of Houston, Tex.; eight grandchildren, twenty-six great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Calvin Hobbs at the Chapel of Sacred Memories, Los Angeles, Calif., and burial was at the Lincoln Memorial Park, Compton, Calif.

### Note of Appreciation

We, the family of Bro. Davis, wish to thank each one who showed their love and kindness with cards, flowers, telegrams, offerings, and food at the time when it was most needed. May God grant His richest blessings on each of you.

Yours in Christian love, —Sis. Flora B. Davis

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

**Henry Clay Lounds**, the 2nd child of George and Gertrude Lounds, was born Nov. 9, 1908, in

Birmingham, Ala., and departed this life Feb. 16, 1983, in Boston, Mass. He was married to Rommie Lee Wilson, Oct. 29, 1938. He leaves many loved ones.

The service was held in the Rolfe Memorial Chapel, with Bro. Herman Kelley officiating. Interment was at the Trice Hill Cemetery.

## Prayer Requests

Fla.—Bro. C. E. Mitchell wants prayer for heart trouble, and also requested prayer for Joe Barnett of Oakridge, Tenn., who has had a heart attack.

Oh.—Bro. Chester Dunaway requests prayer for healing and for unsaved loved ones.

Mich.—Sis. Olive Getterson writes: "At this time we are going through a very hard battle with my dear mother's foot. It is in a bad condition, very red, a large ulcer on top of her right foot. . . . Quite swollen and so painful, and does not get much rest." Sis. Olive needs prayer, too.

Calif.—Sis. Charles Williams requests prayer for her husband who isn't too well.

Ore.—A number of requests from Oregon include Sisters Ruby Hutchinson, Berdie Kroker, Lorraine Luehring, and two nieces of Sis. Grace Jones. Some of these requests are for broken homes to be restored. Also Sis. Helen White can hardly see out of her right eye.

W. Va.—"Will you please put the Powell family on your special prayer list as I have so many lost loved ones, and I don't know if my husband is alive or dead." —Melba Powell

Calif.—Sis. Minnie Jones desires prayer for a special unspoken request.

La.—Bro. Bob Forbes has not been well of late; pray for his healing.

Philippines—Bro. Jose Bafmediano suffers from severe headaches and loses consciousness at times.

Miss.—Sis. Dorothy Bridges is much afflicted in body and desires the prayers of the saints; also her brother is not well. She writes: "God blesses us in many different ways, though, for which I thank God very much."

Illinois—Sis. Margaret Whitecotton requests the prayers of the saints in behalf of her son and her daughter.

Okla.—Sis. Aneita Corteway is still in the valley of affliction. She suffers much, but her trust is fully in God.

Calif.—Sis. Helen Carson requests prayer for loved ones who need help both soul and body.

Va.—Sis. Lillian Bohannon is in a serious condition with a main artery to her brain being blocked, and her brain cells are dying. Also Sis. Nannie Connell desires prayer for herself and her unsaved children.

I have been thinking of the many different needs for which prayer is requested. These requests are important; they touch areas in our lives that lie close to our heart and have a great effect on us. But I was also thinking of other things that concern each one of us, and those are things of spiritual nature. Our spiritual needs should be even more important to us than our temporal needs. In Matt. 6:25, Jesus asked the question, "Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" In Matt. 4:4, when Jesus was being tempted of the devil, "He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone,

## MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

### REPORT FROM PENNSYLVANIA

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we send a little report on the work here in Pennsylvania. The Lord has been so good to us and helped in so many ways in answer to prayer.

We needed a place where we could hold regular worship services, and the Lord made it possible for us to purchase a nice trailer. We needed a minister, and the Lord burdened Bro. Kenney Farris to come labor here. The Lord touched the heart of an unsaved companion to purchase for us the very chairs we needed for the chapel. Surely His mercies are new every morning. (Lam. 3:23)

We would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone to come visit any time. We have sleeping space available for several. We have regular services every Sunday morning and evening, and Wed. night. We are small in number, but serve a big God.

We covet the prayers of the saints everywhere that we be all that the Lord would have us to be, and that we be a shining light in this area.

For additional information you may phone Sis. Virginia Myers at area code (717)834-4595, or Sis. Barbara Campbell at area code (717)921-8244, or write to: Church of God, Rt. 2 Box 1033, Duncannon, Pa. 17020.

—Sis. Virginia Myers

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

### SPECIAL SERVICES AT ROLLA, MO.

Lord willing, there will be worship services held at the Kenneth Christiansen home at 712 Salem Ave., Rolla, Mo., on March 18-20, 1983, with services at 7:00 p. m., each night and all-day meeting on Sunday with services at 10:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m.

All the people in the Rolla area and elsewhere are invited to attend these services. We need all the saints' prayers and cooperation in these meetings.

For further information call or write Bro. Egbert Allen at Rt. 2, Norwood, Mo. 65717, phone area code (417)746-4250, or Bro. Kenneth Christiansen at 712 Salem Ave., Rolla, Mo. 65401, phone area code (314)364-6759.

—Bro. Egbert Allen

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

### TENT REVIVAL AT GOULDS, FLORIDA

A tent revival is planned for April 4-10, 1983, Lord willing. It is planned to have both day and night services. A hearty invitation is extended to all to attend; lodging will be provided for all who come.

For further information you may contact Bro. H. H. Hargrave at 22345 S. W. 117th Pl., Goulds, Fla. 33170, or phone area code (305)258-4102.

but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." We see from these Scriptures that there is something more important than our natural life and our temporal needs. When we come to God in prayer, the uppermost desire and prayer of our heart should be for the Lord to mold us into a vessel of honor, that we may be filled with His love and mercy, and that we may have grace to live faithfully for Him until this life is over. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33 —Randall Flynn

## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

### NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Nigeria, W. Africa (Jan. 24)—Dear Bro. Hammond and brethren of the holy family: Greetings in the conquering name of the Lord Jesus. In His name enemies are on the run as His power and authority are in full swing in His Church which are being exercised to His glory. It is to their doom to blackmail the Church of God. The Lord is here in Zion with a wall of fire round about her for protection and security. Let Satan and the satanic come and see!

Thank you for your letter of Jan. 4; thank you for writing. Our look is a cheerful one, being recipients of the most needed wealth or prosperity which is spiritual. We dismiss with a wave of the hand the boast of earthly wealth. We are shining and keeping sweet as the Lord is on our side.

During the Christmas period of Dec. 21-28, 1982, this writer and forty-four other brethren left Kwale in a chartered bus to Abakaliki in Anambra State for planting of the gospel seed. Abakaliki is a distance of 450 miles from Kwale. Evangelistic meetings were held publicly at Agubia, Umota-Umuaka, Oronga, and Ezeke/Amanguru respectively. How thrice blessed are these inhabitants who can now sing, "We were lost, but Jesus found us, found the sheep that went astray." Being clearly aware that decampment from sect-Babylon was a surety, Bro. Alphonsus Okwosha was left behind for a follow-up action of gathering and marching the converts to the Promised Land.

Yours devotedly, —Titus U. E. Enu

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

### MISSION REPORT FROM PHILIPPINES

Philippines (Jan. 25)—Dear Brother Hammond: Greetings of love, peace, and hope in the grace of Jesus Christ our very loving Savior, the most precious jewel of Heaven, who came down on earth and died for our sake.

Our hearts were leaping of joy to receive your very kind letter with enclosed contents. . . . I cannot give a good report yet regarding a lot to be purchased because the amount on hand is so small. All lots for sale are on a cash basis except in the bank and in subdivisions. . . . I know you have made much sacrifice already for me, more than a real father to his son. . . . Wife is still working hard in the market to add to the

kind help you were sending us, because of the high buying prices of everything. We are more than grateful for all your love, vision, and interest for the mission work in the Philippines. I remember how the apostle Paul felt toward Timothy. It is the Godly love that he expressed in 1 Cor. 13.

. . . People can deceive men but not God, and surely they will reap what they are sowing. I'm concerned for the good saints in the U. S. A. who are so liberal in supporting the cause of Christ that they might not be deceived to support the viles of Satan. I highly appreciate the wonderful sacrifices of the saints in the U. S., and for their loving concern for souls' salvation in the world, but I urge them to be careful.

Please pray for us and the gospel work in the Philippines. It is very sad to say that all the people here have religion, but they are not saved. They do not know the truth. We cannot have a clear conscience unless we have done our best to tell them the truth.

We are always praying for you and all the dear saints around the world. Love to all the consecrated workers at the Print Shop.

Yours in His service, —M. S. Tangunan & family

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

### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Jan. 25)—Our dearly beloved saints in the Print Shop, the Church of God at Guthrie, and saints scattered abroad: Greetings to you all again in this new year in the powerful name of Jesus Christ, the Alpha and Omega.

Thank you very much for the kind letter . . . which reached here safely though a little late. The enclosures were noted with much appreciation as sweet savor. Sorry to note the present financial depression and unemployment in America. The whole world is in a critical condition now, and the time has come for the young and old to look to the Lord and cry for help. May God send a revival to the new generation everywhere.

Our 17th general convention at Karikkom came to an end with many blessings to souls. Several got saved, baptized, sanctified, and healed; the Church as a whole was edified. The one thing lacking was the presence of a missionary from America. Our heavenly Father was faithful to supply the temporal needs of the meetings, also. . . .

The Church in India is moving on to victory, getting strength from God. We have many trials and temptations, but the grace of God is sufficient to get victory over them. We still pray for the finishing of the chapel buildings at Chalakudy and Athani. God helped us in the past year to publish the monthly paper *Evening Light*. . . . Please continue to pray for this valuable work.

May God bless the trip of Sis. Dorothy Keiser to Ghana. May God keep, guide, and bless her efforts there to see a good result.



Let us see each other through the eyes of prayer every day.

Yours, the servant of the Lord, —John Varghese

[Bro. Varghese writes that the remaining balance due on the van recently purchased is \$984.28. We are thankful to see this debt being diminished and trust that it will soon be cleared. May God richly reward all who have contributed to this need. —Editor]

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

#### REPORT OF SIS. KEISER'S MISSIONARY TRIP TO GHANA, W. AFRICA

Dear Bro. Flynn, co-workers, and all saints scattered abroad: Greetings of Christian love to all of you in the precious name of Jesus.

"He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen." Psal. 111:6.

I arrived home on Jan. 25, 1983, from a very successful visit on the mission field in Akumadan-Ashanti, Ghana, W. Africa. Jim Akwasi's uncle, John Duku Agyemang, a military man, met me and quickly whisked me through customs. Soon I found myself face to face with the young man to whom I had been writing concerning the true Church of God. His younger brother Kofi Beriman and a young sister, Glenna, were also there to meet me. After a short ride we were all bedded down in the uncle's home. It took the better part of the next two days to travel the 190 miles from Accra where the airport is, to Akumadan-Ashanti, the village where I was to spend a very busy week. After very long waits, we traveled by two different buses, packed like "sardines in a can," over very rough roads. We were stopped several times by the police for inspections. Every place we stopped we were met by women carrying on their heads things to sell, and with babies wrapped on their backs. Oranges were a very popular item.

Upon arrival at our destination, I was given a room in an experimental agriculture division where Anane Cromwell, the overseer, and his wife lived. There was no running water or electricity in the building. Jim Akwasi and his brother Kofi Beriman cooked for me on a single-burner kerosene stove. Food was scarce and very high priced. Such commodities as bread, sugar, and milk were almost impossible to buy. No kind of butter was available.

Jim took me to the offices of several of the denominational preachers in the village. I talked the true Church of God to them; about being born into her, and Holy Spirit leadership. They each one agreed I was saying it right. Then they came collectively to talk and ask questions. I could only see union and not unity, unless they would come out of their false doctrines. When I told them the ministry in the Church of God didn't receive salaries but rather looked to God for their living, it was too much for them to take. After four or five visits they all left, went back to their little flocks, and never returned. I was thankful to God for taking care of this situation. I knew God wanted to plant a true Church of God in

Ghana, and all of this other would have meant division and confusion.

On the morning of the only Sunday I was there, we had a service on the veranda of the place where I was staying. A good many came from the village, and after preaching the plan of salvation from the heart chart, a good number were saved including Jim Akwasi's mother Elizabeth Baah, who came out of the Catholic church; his brother Kofi Beriman, and Anane Cromwell. A young man, Kofi Appiah, interpreted for me. He is in another church and is very unhappy with conditions there. I talked to him at length about the Church of God, the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and he was very pleased. I am trusting he will "come out of her" and receive the truth.

Sunday night we had a street meeting with loud speakers. The lighting was so poor we did not try to read from the Bible, but brought a simple gospel message from the heart, anointed by the Holy Spirit. An altar call was given and fifty pressed their way forward from out of the crowd to be saved from their sins.

The last night we were there over 150 people came out to a service on the veranda. They filled the veranda, the steps, and the yard. We talked about the Church of God; went over the qualifications for pastors, deacons, and various duties concerning husbands and wives in the Church, and duties of the congregation. Bro. Jim Akwasi was appointed overseer of the congregation. He was the one who carried the burden to have the Church of God planted there.

I am very thankful for the leadership of the Holy Spirit in this mission to Ghana. It was He who led Bro. Jim to write to me, and put a desire in his heart to have a Church of God planted there; it was He who prompted me to respond to the letters sent across the miles with letters about the true Church of God; and it was He who kindled a fire in my breast to respond to the need there. It was the Holy Spirit who put down and out the elements of division which tried to creep in; and it was He who led people to repentance and to a born-again experience which made them members of the true Church of God. We ascribe all praise, honor, and glory to God for all He has done on behalf of this mission.

This victory presents some very present needs. The Church there is asking for a missionary to come and spend some time with them. So this request has burdened me to ask God for someone who will consecrate their life to go and stay with them for as long as they are needed. I am praying and seeking to obtain a prolonged visa for at least one year, either for some brother of God's choosing who will feel the burden and answer the call, or even for myself to go back on the field if it is the will of God for me to do so. Lasting good cannot be accomplished over night. God has begun a work there and He wants to finish it with the help of His people. The work is so new it shouldn't be left alone too long without some experienced worker to help them become established in the truth.



Bro. Jim's mother has donated two acres of land on which to build a chapel and mission house. They are looking to the Church of God in America to help them. The mission house should be built first so that whoever will give themselves to this work will have a clean place to stay.

Dear saints, will you pray with me concerning these needs? And then go a little farther and sacrifice that this new work will be established? The end of time is upon us. May we, as the people of God with the truth, be stirred as never before to take this gospel to the ends of the earth. We owe this to a lost world.

Offerings for the work in Ghana may be sent to Faith Publishing House, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, Ok. 73044, or to me. Specify what the offering is for.

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, letters of encouragement, and offerings which helped make this trip possible. Pray for me always.

Yours for souls all over the world,

—Sis. Dorothy Keiser

Rt. 6 Box 8 B, Shawnee, Ok. 74801

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

#### LETTER FROM NEW MISSION IN GHANA

Ghana (Jan. 23)—Dear Bro. Flynn: Greetings in the most blessed name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I've been writing to Sis. Dorothy Keiser for about two years. I wrote of spiritual things and she, most of the time, answered questions and preached about the true Church of God. I was encouraged by her letters to have a Church of God established here in Akumadan-Ashanti, Ghana. I wrote to her three or four months ago and she felt inspired by the Holy Spirit to make a trip here. By God's grace she arrived in Ghana safely as scheduled, and she was welcomed to our soil with much joy.

A day after we arrived home, we held a veranda meeting at the home of an agriculturist. About 50 people were attracted that morning, and I was glad that almost all got saved.

There was a street meeting the following two days and to the glory of God hundreds of people were there to listen to the good news which was delivered by Sis. Keiser. About 80 people out of the lot gave their lives to Jesus. We visited the secondary school in the town and the headmaster and members of the staff welcomed us to the school to meet and preach the good news to the students. Five students gave their lost souls to Jesus. The headmaster was highly impressed by Sis. Keiser's preaching and invited her to the school the following day. Seven more students were won to the glory of God. There was a farewell meeting on Tues. night (Jan. 18) at the veranda of the agriculturist who was also converted, with over 150 persons present including adults and children.

I feel real burdened for my people, but I am young in the work, being only about 25 years of age. I believe God would have me to be their leader. I desire your prayers that God would help in this capacity. Pray also that I will grow in wisdom and knowledge and the stature of the Lord Jesus Christ

and be faithful to my calling. Several young brothers in the congregation will be helping me and holding my hands up before the Lord. . . .

My mother gave two acres of land for a church building. . . . We would like a resident missionary to come; we will do whatever we can to get a visa from the government.

Yours in His service,

—Bro. Jim Akwasi

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

#### SPANISH LITERATURE REPORT

Dear ones: Greetings in Jesus' sweet and precious name!

I just have to share something with the saints. I was greatly touched yesterday by an offering sent to the Spanish printing work by a Sunday School class of eleven to thirteen year-old children. I know this was a great sacrifice on their part, and that the Lord will surely bless them.

This was used to send several 2-pound packages of tracts to several places in Mexico, Central, and South America. May the Lord bless you, children. The Scripture says, "I will not forget your labor of love." I believe this includes the act of these children as they did it unto the Lord.

Please refer to last month's issue of the *Faith and Victory* paper for directions and dates of the Mexico camp meeting in Ojos Negros in March. We hope you can go. Thank you!

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

—————o—————

#### From the Mailbox . . .

W. Va.—Dear fellow laborers: We send greetings in the all-wise and wonderful name of Jesus. We trust all the workers there are keeping encouraged in the work the Master has given you to do. We stand a lot on the Scripture where He said He wouldn't forget our labors of love. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." Heb. 6:10. We must labor because we love Him; also, it must be in His name.

We are thankful for His love to us. The Lord has saved some here that we have been burdened for, and is also healing our sick ones. Surely we have much to be thankful for. . . .

We're praying much for you dear ones there.

Christian love, —Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Kans.—Dear Saints: As we start into the second month of the new year I am happy to report that "I feel like traveling on." Salvation has not lost its beauty or glitter, but is still brilliant to have and to behold. I am thankful that God loved even me, and that His Son paid the price to purchase such a glorious salvation for me. I appreciate Jesus' sacrifice so very much, and I am striving to be sure that He did

not die in vain in my case. . . . I love the truth and this narrow way, and I love being a child of God. . . .

I give praise to God that Jesus has prepared a place for us to dwell forever after this life is over. Here on earth we can have joy, peace, love, and true happiness when we are saved and living for God, but we still have troubles, trials, sorrows, pain, suffering, etc. We have to strive diligently to get to Heaven, the place where all of those things will not be. Everything will be wonderful. Praise God forevermore! I plan to go right on until the crown is won.

Enclosed is my offering to be used where needed. May the Lord continue to bless all the dedicated ones who are working to keep the publishing work moving on to the glory of God. We want to encourage you each one, for God will reward you for your labors as I am sure He is doing continually.

Yours in Christ, —Shirley Knight

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

Kans.—Dear ones at the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings in the love of Jesus, our King of kings, and Lord of lords. We have a heart full of thanksgiving for His mercy to us. Surely He has proven to be a present help in every time of need. We don't ever want to forget the benefits we have in serving and trusting Him.

The saints at Coffeyville want to announce a meeting to begin on May 13, and continue through May 22. We desire to have a tent meeting, Lord willing. We looked at last year's meeting dates and saw that this date did not conflict with any other meetings. We are praying the Lord to burden laborers to help us, and to cause hearts to be receptive to the truth of God's Word. . . .

We appreciate the *Faith and Victory* paper, and are thankful for those who labor to keep it going forth. May the Lord bless each of you to hold to the pure gospel of truth by precept and example.

Yours for the truth, —Bro. and Sis. Ralph Beisly  
[A more detailed announcement of the revival at Coffeyville will be published in a later issue.]

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

Tenn.—Dear Brethren: Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. We feel the need to reach others as quickly as possible as time is surely fleeting by. I feel the end is near and time is so short. We must, as never before, reach out to the lost.

I work in a public school and see the evil upon our young people of today. Rock music, dope, drugs, and TV are evils that are ruining the very life of America. God help us to speak up. The world today is ruled by Satan; God is used only as a byword. Saints of God, the youth of today need us to speak out as God gives us opportunity to witness. May God bless His Word going out to the world. We appreciate the *Faith and Victory* paper.

—Barbara Yarber

-----o-----

The trouble is not that you do not know what is right; the trouble is that you do not lay hold upon God to help you to live like you know you should.

—C. E. Orr

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



Calif.—Dear saints scattered abroad: I have been impressed for some time to give a testimony of a great miracle that the dear Lord worked in our behalf. Bless His name!

My husband and I were married during World War II in 1943. After he came back, our first son was born mentally retarded. He was precious. I brought him up to mind and have manners, and taught him about Jesus. He was quick to learn, but he was handicapped and could not talk very well; however, we enjoyed him and loved him very much. As the years went by and he grew older, we had to place him in a State Hospital. My heart was so saddened I almost lost my mind. We had a daughter and another son born later; both were normal children for which we thank our dear Lord.

Dennis was placed in several different homes. In some of these homes he was badly abused. Though I wasn't saved at the time, I kept praying. While he was in one hospital, things grew worse. One day we went to visit him and he was shaking all over, and his little feet just shuffled as he walked. I asked the nurse what was wrong. She said not to expect too much for Dennis' recovery. He went back in his room to lie down. Somehow I grasped faith; I knelt by his bed and prayed while crying and left. The next week-end we went back to visit him. I asked the nurse to bring him out as we wanted to take him for a ride. Praise the Lord, he walked through the hall to meet us and had very light shaking, and continued to improve from then on. Sis. Marie Miles kept me encouraged with her sweet spiritual letters coming quite often. . . .

After two years in Eureka, they didn't want Dennis any more and were planning to send him to a very bad place with criminals and other poor handicapped people. I called Sis. Sheri Rich and she called other saints for prayer. Bro. Tom Melot was there at the time, and he came to our house and prayed for us and our son. . . . Our son was not sent to Napa as planned, but was placed in a very nice place near Clear Hope, Calif., which has a wonderful staff that has much compassion on the afflicted. He has gained weight, is going to classes and is learning how to do different things, and looks healthy. Most of his medication has been taken away.

I want to give all praise to our dear precious Savior, our only hope. I want to do His will and work for Him and not do things contrary to His will. He is my best friend; how I dearly love Him. . . .

With all our love, —Bro. and Sis. Bob Underwood

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

Mo.—Dear Saints: Praise the Lord for all the wonders He performs. I am so thankful to Him for lifting me out of the pig pen I was in for so many years.

The Lord is my helper. I had smoked for 40 years and tried many times on my own to quit, but with no success. When I got saved, He lifted the habit as if I had never had it. Praise His name! I have no desire

for anything that would hurt my Lord; I owe it all to Him.

I also have been on disability because of arthritis the last few years. When I got saved I quit taking the medicine. Now, six months later, I feel like I am just about cured from it. The doctor said there is no cure; he surely doesn't know about the Lord. I must say the devil has tried with such strong chains to hold me, but praise God, He stepped in and broke them all; now I see the enemy on the run.

I want to thank each one of the saints for their prayers and concern for me. Praise the Lord, I have victory! I have so many habits and things in my life to overcome, I want God to keep on working with me until He can see His image in me. Pray for me that I'll stay true regardless of the cost.

Your sister in Christ, —Violet (Vi) Gibson  
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Dear Sis. Maybelle and saints everywhere: Greetings of love to all in Jesus' dear name. I'm thankful for the blessings the dear Lord gives me each day.

A year ago this month I was in Oklahoma with my daughter Viola. I was very sick and near death, but the dear Lord answered prayer and healed me. I was able to come back to Mo. in March. I just thank the dear Lord over and over, and I thank the dear saints that held me up in prayer. What a mighty God we serve! I pray the dear Lord is blessing every one and is supplying every need.

I am so thankful how the dear Lord undertook for my dear brother, Leonard Marler, and that he and his wife are living for God. We are so thankful and happy to have them added to our little congregation here. They are so happy. We must keep praying for all the saints' loved ones and children that are not saved. Time is fast running out. Oh, what awfully dangerous times we are living in.

Pray for me that I will be a blessing to others as they have been to me. I have some unspoken requests for which I would appreciate the saints' prayers.

—Sis. Cassie Wilson

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

Ore.—Dear ones at the Print Shop: We greet all of you today in holy love in the Name of the only begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ—the King of kings and Lord of lords; the one Who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. Hope all is going well there in your work for Him, with each of you individually, and that He is guiding you in all your choices and decisions in life and in your work.

I am doing quite well now for which I thank the Lord, and thank all the saints who prayed for me and for their prayers in my behalf. I can stay in bed all night now and sleep well. There were 2 ½ weeks that I never stayed in bed all night any night, and quite a few of those nights never went to bed at all. But God has graciously answered the prayers of the saints in my behalf and has changed all of that; I now rest and sleep well all night and have no pain in that leg. It is still weak and undependable, and I watch it re-

ligiously when I am out walking around. I can't handle it too well, but am expecting it to be strong, and that I can walk as before, by the grace of God.

... I will close now with Christian love and prayers. Let us continue to pray for one another.

—Ostis B. and Evelyn R. Wilson

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

Tex.—Dear Saints: Greetings once again in the name of our blessed Lord. After much prayer and with an earnest desire to do the Lord's will, I felt inspired of the Lord to submit my testimony. How I do appreciate salvation more each day, and thank God that He is still in the healing business.

For a number of years I had been sorely afflicted in body, and as a result of this condition, I found it difficult at times to even motivate. I do thank the Lord for every definite touch each time prayer was offered. This condition continued to linger, but the Lord was always at our beckoning call to give the needed relief for the hour. However, the suffering and weakness, along with other complications, became greater as time passed. Often I would experience numbness on the left side, irregular heart beats, be completely exhausted, and spend many sleepless nights which would make it difficult the next day to care for the needs of the family. I do appreciate the Lord's help in so many ways, and also how the saints supported us during this trial of affliction. The Lord helped us to know that I had heart trouble and high blood pressure, which was something I had always feared and dreaded. But thanks be to God who always gives us the victory and turns what seems to harm us into everlasting joy!

In Oct. 1982, Sis. Katherine Williams and Sis. Mary Harris came to Dallas for the weekend. I received inspiration at that time that the Lord was going to heal my body. Later I learned that the saints had a burden to fast and pray every third Wednesday for the sick among us. At the first Wednesday night prayer service, I felt led of the Lord to be anointed and prayed for. The Lord assured my heart that the work was done. However, the symptoms were still present, but each time I would claim my healing, the Lord would bless in a mighty way. After battling the devil for several months, I am happy to report complete healing, and all the symptoms have been rebuked! Praise God! There is still a Healer in Zion.

Your fellow servant in the Lord,

—Sis. Judy Antle

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

Okla.—Dear Saints: It is in the lovely name of Jesus, from whom all rich blessings flow, we greet you. We are so thankful to be numbered with the blood-washed ones, redeemed from all sin, and encouraged to press the battle on. There is no reason for looking back; Egypt has nothing to offer but confusion and the lack of spiritual food. Looking forward to our heavenly home, there is a bright road ahead with our great Captain in the lead—the One who won victory over sin, death, and the grave. All of Satan's powers are crushed beyond recognition by

Christ's triumphant victory. May the Lord help us to be faithful and raise our banners of faith against every foe. God is our Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Keeper. A song writer once said, "As I travel on my way, to that land more fair than day, There are beauties all along the road to see, Heavens rays are shining bright, I've no need for worldly light, for I know my Savior's hand is guiding me!" The Lord does let us see many beautiful things as we travel on for Him. Thank the Lord!

We want to testify how God healed Delbert's bleeding tongue, and brought him from what seemed to be the "jaws of death." He bit his tongue while eating his lunch at work. Thinking the bleeding would stop any moment, we left for La. when he got off work at 2:30 p.m., as we had planned. We were driving all night, Mike and Kay Stover being with us. Delbert's tongue continued to bleed, or we might say it was hemorrhaging. Oh, how we prayed and looked earnestly to the Lord for the bleeding to stop, also that the tongue would be healed. We realized it was making him weak, and he wasn't able to take any nourishment. We kept ice on it much of the time, pleading for the Lord's mercy and help. We asked the Lord that if Delbert had bitten an artery or blood vessel, to please heal or mend it for him. We knew He could, and took a firm stand against the bleeding. After ten hours of constant bleeding, the Lord stopped it instantly. It didn't just taper off, but when it stopped, it really stopped! There was no more; not a sign of blood. Oh, how we did thank the Lord for coming to our rescue! Our God is able, praise His great name!

Little did we know that we would be introduced to another trial before reaching Loranger. Delbert, being weak and tired, laid down in the back seat for a nap, and after waking from a second nap he said, "I'm sick; I feel like I'm going to vomit; I can't see!" and his head dropped on my shoulder. I told Mike to stop the car and open the door for air. As I looked upon my dear companion, his eyes appeared to be set, he was cold, clammy, and had broken out into a heavy sweat; neither could I find a pulse. We prayed for mercy and help. He came to and spoke a few words and then fainted away again. We prayed, rebuked death, weakness, and asked God to come on the scene, pleading for God to heal him. Thank the Lord, in just a few moments he raised his head and said with a good strong voice, "Oh, I feel better; let me out to get some air!" So at about 3:30 in the morning we were out on I-20 near Vicksburg, Miss., thanking the Lord for what He had done. Delbert walked around a little and said, "Oh, I feel so good; I surely do feel better; thank the Lord, I feel good!" We felt he needed some nourishment, so we stopped at the next town. He ate an egg, two slices of bacon and toast, hashbrowns, and drank a large glass of milk. What a mighty God we serve!

I thought of Jacob when he was left alone and wrestled with the angel until the "breaking of day." Jacob said, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless

me." We were so dependent on God in those early hours of the morning, and how we did hold on to Him! There was no telephone, no way to get in touch with any of the other saints for prayer—just us that were in the car. We were so thankful to have Mike and Kay Stover with us. This has drawn us closer to the Lord. Delbert often says since that experience, "We need to be ready at all times, for at a moment like that if we're not ready, there is no time." He testifies that was a real miracle of divine healing, and we are still rejoicing for what the Lord has done for us.

When Delbert was 14 years old, he fell from a tree and was unconscious, but in answer to prayer, the Lord healed him.

The Lord surely has been good to us; we are enjoying His rich blessings each day, our lives are in His hands, and we desire to be faithful to the end. We covet your prayers that we will be found conquering soldiers in each battle.

—Delbert and Malinda Flynn  
o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Illinois—Dear friends: Greetings in the precious name of the Lord. I hope that each one is in good health. Everyone here is doing quite well and keeping encouraged.

I found great need to write and tell you the wondrous news of what happened at service today. After the congregation sang the last hymn, Sis. Louise Matlock wanted to be anointed and prayed for. She was having great pain around her heart and chest. Bro. John Matlock anointed her in the name of Jesus. Sis. Marie Snell led in prayer while we were all in agreement. When prayer was done, the pain seemed to get greater; Bro. John then led in prayer. After his prayer, the pain was so great that Sis. Louise began to cry, and asked that prayer be offered again. We all got on our knees and laid hands on her. We agreed in prayer, and before we got through, she began to praise the Lord that the pain had ceased. We all praised the Lord with our voices. Praise the Lord! We know God is still on the throne! God's Word says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16. All of the saints were in unison of prayer; we felt God's gracious presence that hour.

I was privileged to hear Sis. Hargrave's testimony. It makes a person see the mighty power of the Lord! We have to stand firm in these modern days. It takes more prayer than ever. We sang "Be Strong and True" today, and that is what we have to do. . . .

In Christ, —Scott Tucker

The more there is to be done for God the more need there is of true Bible humility. We are all seeking to be more useful in the hands of God, and oftentimes we fail to find this place, because it is down so low in the path of humility that to take such a path seems to lead us into complete uselessness, and the qualifications we have sought seem to prove to us to be disqualifications. Now we must learn to become disqualified. This is what God wants to teach us. He can only work perfectly in us when we are wholly abandoned to Him.

—J. W. Byers

## HOME LIFE



## Christian Instruction in Home Life

By George Hammond

We are concerned about the destruction of home life everywhere. Satan attacks the home life because he knows it is the foundation of our society. But God has provided a way to escape this "roaring lion of destruction" and bring peace, love, and tranquility to every home. If every family would obey the admonitions of God, they would find this condition brought about in their own homes, and would have a life pleasing to themselves and to God. Jesus said in Luke 6:46, "Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not the things I say?"

Paul said in Phil. 1:27, "Only let your conversation [conduct] be as it becometh the gospel of Christ." In 2 Tim. 3:16, 17, he said, "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 [fully equipped] unto all good works." Nowhere does Christianity shine forth more beautifully and meaningfully than in the home life. The home is like a haven of rest and a refuge from the outside pressures of life for each member. It changes the home of strife and tensions into a peaceful habitation and the poorest home into a palace. It brings peace where there was tension and strife; and love where there has been malice. It fortifies each member to go out and not only resist Satan, but be a productive member of society and a zealous witness for the Lord. The Bible gives full instruction for each member of the home.

## The Home Instituted by God

The home is an institution planned and perfected by God to fulfill His plan for mankind to be perfected in His image. It is to be headed by a husband with the cooperation and assistance of a wife to rear children in the nurture and admonition of God. (Eph. 6:4). Jesus said, "For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain [two] shall be one flesh; Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matt. 19:5, 6. Marriage is more than just a civil contract; it is a vow made to God to "love, honor, and protect, until death do you part." It can never be pleasing to God to break this vow in any way and weaken or destroy His plans.

One of the greatest weaknesses in the family today is a lack of communication among the mem-

bers of a family. We have all the instruction necessary for our guidance in God's Word. If we understand and practice the real meaning of God's love as Paul describes it in 1 Cor. 13, it will assist us greatly in accomplishing a happy home life. Paul says here that, "charity suffereth long and is kind." The love of God gives us patience through trials and suffers all the weakness, ignorance, errors, or mistakes of the other members; not merely for a time, but as long as necessary. "Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times, but, Until seventy times seven." Matt. 18:21, 22. Could there be any more important place to practise this guidance than in the home? We need to commit every circumstance unto God and give Him a chance to work each problem out. If we are thoughtful and considerate and share our plans and desires in kindness with each other, we can build up confidence in each other and our communications will not break down. "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." Eph. 5:21.

Compassion and tenderness is a part of kindness shown in the family. What a beautiful thing it is to see a closely knit family loving each other in the fear of God! It will certainly be greatly rewarded in heaven. "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. . . I will walk within my house with a perfect heart." It is necessary for the cooperation of each member to achieve this goal because one bad spirit will affect and obstruct all.

"Charity envieth not . . . vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave unseemly, seeketh not her own." These all have to do with pride and jealousy among the members of a family. This may sound foolish to some, but sometimes a husband may be jealous of the abilities or attention his wife has, or the wife may be jealous of the time or attention a husband gives to his work. Possibly he has a desire to help others who need it, and is thought to be neglecting the home. This is why it is necessary that each share their burdens and desires with the other. The home is our first responsibility in our duties to God, but there are also additional labors He may want us to carry on. Charity does not vaunt or set itself forward, or desire to be noticed or applauded or inflated with its own sense of importance; but looks on the welfare of each member of the family. ". . . is not easily provoked. . . ." The word "easily" is a word that has been added here and is improper to use. Charity is not provoked to anger or irritated or sour or bitter by another's actions.

". . . thinketh no evil. . . ." What may seem bad may not be at all where the full explanation is found. However things may look, wait for the full truth. ". . . whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, . . . think on these things." Phil 4:8.

(To Be Continued)

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?" Matt. 7:3, 4.

**Answer:** The question of this article is one Jesus Himself asked. Jesus asked a number of very pertinent and thought-provoking questions to which He did not directly give the answers. This is one of them. He put forth this very straightforward question to faultfinding, nitpicking, judging, criticizing people and did not give an answer to it. But there are some answers to it and Jesus left us to find them. Surely every earnest, honest, sincere person who is endeavoring to serve and honor Christ will search out the answers and seek to avoid the causes they discover.

The very setting of this text and the principal objects in the text will be sufficient to convince any of us that Jesus was not commending this kind of behavior, but rather condemning it and warning us against it. One object in the text is a man with a **mote** in his eye; the other object is a man with a **beam** in his eye. Now, to be fair we will have to acknowledge that there is an extraneous, foreign substance in the eyes of both men; something in their lives that needs to be corrected. But a man with a beam in his eye (a log or big timber; a glaring fault) is not the man to try to extract the mote out of his brother's eye.

If this little story were reversed, it would make better sense; if the man with the mote in his eye were trying to help the brother get the beam out of his eye, he could probably see sufficiently well to get hold of the beam and extract it. But Jesus did not set it up that way; He did not intend to. In setting it up this way, He was trying to make faultfinding, motehunting, nitpicking, and criticizing appear just as ridiculous as possible and something to be laughed out of court at the very outset. In verse 5, He declared the man with the beam a hypocrite. He instructed him to get the beam out of his own eye (straighten out his own life) before going after the man with the mote. Note: Jesus nowhere intimated that the man with the mote did not need to get rid of his mote but indicated that he might need some help to do it. But He did make it unmistakably clear that the man with the beam was not qualified to do it as long as he had his beam. However, verse 5 does indicate that this very same man with the beam could turn out to be the man who could help the man with the mote if he got rid of his beam and got his life straightened out. It is remarkable to note how effectively God can use a person in helping others who have been way out and far off course, if he will just see his need, confess it, humble his heart, repent, straighten out his life, and just come clear and clean with God.

In verse 6, Jesus speaks about not giving the holy things to dogs nor casting pearls before swine. So it is evident that in these verses He is not forbidding us to properly evaluate the worth of other people. How could we avoid giving holy things to dogs and casting pearls before swine if we had no God-given ability to discern who was swinish or doggish? But what is actually involved here is a rebuke of an attitude on anyone's part to look for the worst instead of the best. Blindness to his own faults has overtaken the man who is looking for specks. My father used to say that motehunters got their hunting licenses from the devil. A person would not likely see a mere speck unless he was actually looking for it. The person who is a perpetual faultfinder and chronic critic is usually anxious to find something wrong because the attitude of his heart renders him unwilling to give a clear bill of health to the one criticized. Herein is one of the answers to the question in the text: the person's attitude and motives are not right and cause him to do this.

In some cases this thing is done with an objective of salving one's own conscience. If we have glaring faults in our lives, somehow it seems to help us feel a little better if we can make someone else look bad along with us. We somehow get a false and mistaken idea that we won't look quite so bad if someone by the side of us can be made to look bad, too. But let us take no comfort in this. If you were dying with some malady, what comfort would it be to you for someone to come visit you and say, "Oh, brother, be of good courage and don't worry about a thing; hundreds of people out there are dying with the same thing you have." What comfort could it possibly be to you just to know that many others were being destroyed right along with you?

Another answer is that some people seek to build up themselves by tearing down others. They reason thus: God is blessing and using this person in an unusual way, and he is having strong influence among the people. If I can point up enough faults about him, criticize his methods, point out something that has not been accomplished, and downgrade him in the eyes of the people, then I can stand forth as a paragon of perfection in their eyes by just comparing myself in his trimmed down size.

Another answer is *envy*. Envy is the most malignant of all vices; a child of hate with a long, ugly, criminal record—Cain, Saul, the Prodigal's elder brother, the Jews against Jesus, the 70 princes of Babylon against Daniel, and on and on. Cain envied Abel because God respected Abel and accepted his sacrifice and did not respect Cain and accept his sacrifice. Cain never bothered to check into the cause of this, but just saw that it was that way and flew into his brother in a rage of envy and slew him. Saul became envious of David because the people ascribed to David ten thousands and to Saul only thousands, and from that time on eyed him and sought opportunity to destroy him. The Prodigal Son's elder brother became envious of his younger brother because of the

graciousness of his father to his brother when he returned from his wanderings. The prodigal's brother found fault with his father for receiving him back and refused to go in and share in the bounties of the banquet and the rejoicing of the occasion. He wound up on the short end and in worse shape than his prodigal brother, and deprived himself of many bountiful benefits that he could have had and enjoyed. We always do when we give place to envy in our hearts toward another person. Pilate discerned that the Jews delivered Jesus to him to be crucified because of envy. We sometimes inflict the pangs of crucifixion upon our fellows with our tongues of envy; and, oh, the terrible loss we suffer on account of it. The 70 princes of Babylon were moved with envy against Daniel because they saw him being favored by the king and promoted above them and concocted a scheme to destroy him. But God preserved Daniel in the lion's den and was glorified in him. And so He does all those who humbly submit themselves and trust Him in those times. He says in Psalms 31:20, "Thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues."

### The Way It Really Was

One day on a colt He came, triumphant so they say,  
With shouts of "Praise Jehovah," and palm leaves in  
the way.

With men on either side who followed lovingly,  
The one they called Messiah for all the world to see.

But let us look beyond the scene, at the heart of He  
who came;

For all was not quite as it seemed, for deep inside  
great pain.

Pain for the multiplied millions who did not under-  
stand,

Why the Savior came with tear stained eyes, in an  
unbelieving land.

They did not know Him then, and many did not dare;  
The world has changed in many ways, but still we  
fail to care.

So the pain remains, the hurt the same, for Jesus  
suffers on;

He came to meet the need of men, but time is almost  
gone.

Destruction is at hand dear friend, for those who fail  
today,

For Jesus speaks His message clear, and shows to us  
the way.

The way is now as it was then, to follow him above,  
So let us dry His tears today by giving Him our love.

—A. H. Smith

"Nothing lies outside the reach of prayer,  
But that which lies outside the will of God."

—Sel. by Effie Miller

### The Coming of the Lord Draweth Nigh

"Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door." James 5:7-9. Oh, how important for us to live with an awareness of the fleetingness of time and the approaching of eternity. "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:24, 25. Truly with the many signs of His coming unfolding around us, we are persuaded that that great day of the Lord is approaching.

"But of that day knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is." Mark 13:32, 33. Though the day and the hour are unknown to us, there are signs that point to the nearness of His coming. "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matt. 24:37-39. "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." Luke 17:28-30. Surely eating and drinking, marriage, working, buying, and selling are not sinful things. But the disastrous thing was that they "knew not until the flood came, and took them all away." They were indifferent and unaware of the impending doom that hung over them. They thought all was well. But the clouds of destruction hung right over their path, and they "knew not."

"But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." 1 Thess. 5:1-3. The full fledged pursuit for peace and safety in carnal security in our society today is a very sure indication of the nearness of the coming of the Lord. The general run of our generation today is not geared to thoughts about the nearness of Christ's appearing. Like those in Noah's and Lot's times, men are buried in a world of selfish and fleshly endeavor. Eternity has very little place in



their thoughts. The kingdom of God and His righteousness are set aside for the meager commodities of this present life.

We are warned over and over in the Bible not to be caught in this trap. Let us consider the words of Jesus as recorded in Luke 21:34-36. "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." The day of the Lord is approaching and we need to keep our hearts and minds stirred up about it. Eternity is looming in sight. We can hear the breakers of the great ocean of eternity dashing upon the shores of time. Oh, how foolish to bury our talents in the frivolous things of earth when eternity is just ahead!

In the 25th chapter of Matthew we have set forth by the Lord Jesus three aspects of His coming. The first is about the ten virgins; five of whom were wise and five were foolish. Then He presented the thought of the nobleman who distributed his goods to his ten servants while he went away to receive for himself a kingdom. Each one of these has to do with the reckoning that we will have to meet with Christ when He comes. Then the final scene is that of the coming of the Lord in power and glory when all nations will be gathered before Him, being separated as sheep are divided from goats. To the sheep on His right hand (the pure and undefiled who have served Him faithfully) He will give a hearty welcome into His heavenly kingdom. But the ones on His left (those who have refused to accommodate Him and His saints) will hear the woeful sentence: "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt. 25:41. And Jesus concluded His discourse with these weighty words: "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." Matt. 25:46.

Ponder these words: "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." Eternity draws near. We are choosing today what will be our eternal abode. Eternity is unending. Everything in time has an end, but nothing in eternity will have any ending. If it is life, it will be life forever and ever. If it is damnation, it will be torment forever and ever. Disregarding what false prophets are telling the masses today, the holy Word of God teaches everlasting life and everlasting punishment. Oh, let us turn from the paths of pleasure, and closer to Jesus press. Let us walk with our dear Redeemer in His perfect holiness! Let us lay up treasures in heaven and pray always that we will be accounted worthy to stand in His holy presence in that last great day.

—Leslie Busbee

## A Message to Saint Women

"And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem." Luke 2:36-38.

Anna was a prophetess. I am thinking what a struggle it must have been for her to endeavor to do God's bidding, and to care for her home and husband; to keep things balanced and be what she needed to be in the home and still bear the burden of the work of God. Perhaps there were times when the load was heavy, but she remained faithful.

Later her husband died, leaving her alone. Notice what happened. She didn't start grieving and pitying herself, thinking only of herself and being so lonesome that she couldn't bear it, but notice that she gave herself to serving in the temple, fasting and praying night and day. I am confident that she was happy when she knew she was wholly given to God and was able to work for Him even though she was old.

This is a real example for our saint women today. When you are left a widow, instead of getting in your mind that you can't stand to be alone that you must have another husband and go out seeking for one, why not try working for God? Being free from so many home responsibilities and caring for a husband, give yourself to the work of the Lord.

One sister gives out tracts and papers; another goes to the nursing home and reads and prays with the patients. Another makes quilts, sells them, and gives the money for the work of the Lord. I remember an aged sister who made baby booties, sold them, and gave the money to the gospel work. One used the telephone helping people with business and personal problems. Some are prayer warriors. One aged sister died suddenly after having been busy doing missionary work and visiting the sick. In her purse she had only one penny, but had tracts and papers.

I heard of an elderly brother minister who, when too disabled to go, would pray earnestly for some young minister just starting out. When he could see that one becoming established, then he would start interceding for another one.

I am not forbidding to marry when death has separated you from your companion, but there are not enough men for every woman to have one. Some have almost lost their souls because of being too anxious to marry again. I've had to try to mother sisters older than I when they were in so much trouble from making such a mistake in marrying again.

Remember one: Anna in the Bible.

—Sis. Ruth Murphey

Man should not take the praise and honor that belongs to God, our Maker. —Sis. Marie Miles

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