FAITHAND ICTORY Church of God Servant



Volume 64. No. 4

64th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$1.00 Per Year

June, 1986

Unnumbered Blessings

While sitting one day in the sunshine
That touched me with fingers of love,
I thought of the manifold blessings
God scatters on earth from above.

And seemed as I counted them over, Far more than we merit or need, And all that we lack are the angels To make earth like Eden indeed.

The winter brings long pleasant evenings, And spring brings a promise of flowers That summer breathes into fruition,

And autumn brings glad golden hours.

The woodlands re-echo with music,

The moonbeams ensilver the sea;
There's sunlight and beauty about us,

And the earth is as fair as can be.

More precious than all are the graces

Of Christ, our Redeemer of love: His peace that flows down like a river From all His great storehouse above.

Untold are the gems of salvation:

The treasures surrounding His grace,
The bounteous Kingdom of Heaven

Revealed in His loving embrace. But mortals so oft are complaining,

Each one deems his life incomplete By draining the cup that is bitter,

By draining the cup that is bitter, Forgetting the One that is sweet.

We mourn o'er the thorn in the flower, Forgetting its odor and bloom;

We pass by a garden of blossoms

To weep o'er the dust of the tomb.

There're blessings unnumbered about us,

Like the leaves of the forest they grow;
And the fault is our own, not the Giver's,

nd the fault is our own, not the Giver's, If we have not an Eden below.

we have not an Eden below.

-Author Unknown

The Last Night

"But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" Luke 12:20.

A fool does not necessarily mean a human being who has no sense. Some very wise men, from the standpoint of the world, have been notorious fools. The French Voltaire of the sixteenth century had one of the brightest minds of his day; he studied law and was educated to be a Roman Priest—a flaming wit of his time, but he was a fool.

David Hume of the seventeenth century, a Scottish philosopher and historian, educated at Edinburg University, was a fool.

Tom Paine, British author of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, under the influence of Benjamin Franklin came to America and settled in Philadelphia. He fought in the American Army, wrote books and pamphlets on common sense, and climaxed his literary work by writing "The Age of Reason." But Tom Paine was a fool.

Bob Ingersol of the eighteenth century, a great American politician and lecturer, son of a Congregational minister, studied law, was a colonel in the American Army, and a great orator. But Bob Ingersol was a fool.

These men, and hundreds of others, wise and clever, had everything that the world called great, but they were fools, downright fools, notorious fools, for they were all infidels, they did not believe in God. Of such the Bible says, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God."

The man of my text was clever. He had accumulated great wealth, he had far-flung fields, large barns, and an abundance of everything. This makes clear beyond all doubt that he had

plenty of worldly sense, business sense, financial sense. He knew well how to manage great farms, how to build large buildings, and how to lay up in store abundance of goods and he thought he knew just how to plan for years that lay ahead. "I will say to my soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry. But God said unto him. Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be?"

That was his last night. His sun went down that evening never to rise again. The moon that scattered her silver light across his spacious lawns and over his far-flung fields would never shine another beam before his death-closed eyes.

And the twinkling stars, that hung like glittering jewels above his gilded mansion, went into eclipse for him that night never to sparkle again. His well-filled barns passed into the hands of others, but for him their doors would never open.

His stocks and bonds and bank accounts might go into receivership, but over it all he would have no more control. His wife and family and friends might weep, and groan and beat their breasts in sorrow, but his lost soul had gone beyond the realm of earthly comfort. An elaborate funeral, with costly equipage, abundance of flowers, and a multitude of sorrowful friends—but all to no avail.

Next, I speak of the last night of worldly amusement, frivolity, revelry and pleasure—"that night Belshazzar the King of the Chaldeans was slain." Belshazzar was undoubtedly a wise man. He came to the throne of the greatest kingdom on earth when he was about nineteen years old. He was the lord and master of the greatest city on the face of the earth.

According to Heroditus, the father of all history, the walls of Babylon were 350 feet high, and broad enough on the top for six great battle-chariots to drive abreast. Twenty-five spacious avenues, 150 feet wide, running east and west, and the same number running north and south. The city was laid out with 676 squares, with gates of brass, that shone in the evening and morning sun like banners of flame, with towers and temples to heathen gods, worth more than 200 million in gold. Over all this Belshazzar the King had absolute control.

He was what the world terms a wise man, but he was a fool, and spent his last night in drunken debauchery and went to hell from the glitter and glory of his hall of ill-fame, and from the presence of his drunken lords and harlots.

One more last night—the last night of mercy. Saul, the first king of Israel, was wise in both the things of the world and the things of God.

But jealousy, pride, and passion conquered him, and part of his last night on earth was spent in a witch's cave seeking help and comfort from the devil.

That was his last night of mercy! The next day he died as a suicide, leaving behind the most doleful lamentation of all time. "I have played the fool, and erred exceedingly."

The last night of money-making, the last night of revelry and pleasure, the last night of mercy. Sinners, take warning. Your last night may soon be knocking at your door.

"But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented." Luke 16:25.

—Selected

End of Time Prophecies

Matthew 26:55 & 56 "... I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me. But all this was done that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. THEN ALL THE DISCIPLES FORSOOK HIM AND FLED."

It struck me how that when the Lord was fulfilling the Word spoken by the prophets the disciples fled. Right at the very time God was working out His purpose and plan of salvation they could not take the heat of the battle, so they forsook our Saviour and fled.

The Word is full of prophecies that must be fulfilled before Christ comes again; and many of them were spoken by our Lord, Jesus Christ, Himself. Let us look at some of them; starting in Matthew 24:4-10, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another."

Just listen to the radio for a little bit and you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; and more than likely at some point through the day there will come some false prophet on the air saying, "I have the way to heaven. Just send in your money and God will bless you." Through

these fulfillings we tend to notice them for what they are and stand fast, but look at verse 10, "And then shall many be offended and shall betray one another and shall hate one another." It sounds to me that those folks were at one time brothers and sisters in the Lord until they became offended, and now they have turned against the very ones they used to fellowship with. Brother, Sister, are you going to stand true now or will you turn and run? It is very hurtful when one of your own friends betrays you, but all of this is part of the prophecy to be fulfilled before the end of time. Are you going to forsake the Lord or let Him work out His plan? Matthew 10:17, 18, 21, 35-37 says: "But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Saints, let us stand firm on the Word of God even if it should come down to our own family opposing us, and through it all keep the love of God in our hearts for them.

Maybe right now you are not going through hard persecutions as those mentioned above, and everything seems to be going your way. Beware! for that also was prophecied by our Lord. Matthew 24:36-39, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. 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." Ofttimes when this fulfillment comes upon us we allow ourselves to be rocked to sleep and gradually turn our back upon the pathway to heaven. "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:42, 44. "My sons be not now negligent: for the Lord hath CHOSEN YOU to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense." II Chronicles 29:11.

If we will go back to the 26th chapter of Matthew and the 2nd verse we will find that Christ plainly forewarned the disciples of what was to come to pass. "Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified." Just two days ahead of time and yet they forgot so soon. If only they had taken heed and prayed for grace they would not have failed in that hour. So it is with us today; Christ has given us definite waymarks pointing us to the end of time. If we will listen to them, accept them, even if it is hardship and trials, and pray for strength to overcome, we need not be taken by surprise when the Lord works out His purpose and fulfills His prophecies.

What was it Mordecai said unto Esther? "... and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" God has put us each one in our place for a special purpose. Let us each be faithful and not turn back during any phase of the working plan of God.

A sister in the Lord, —Anita Adams

TRUST IN GOD, AND DO THE RIGHT

Courage, brother, do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night;
There's a star to guide the humble;—
"Trust in God, and do the right."

Let the road be rough and dreary,
And its end far out of sight,
Foot it bravely! strong, or weary,
"Trust in God, and do the right."

Perish policy and cunning!
Perish all that fears the light!
Whether losing, whether winning,
"Trust in God, and do the right!"

Trust no party, sect, or faction;
Trust no leaders in the fight;
But in every word and action,
"Trust in God, and do the right."

Trust no lovely forms of passion:
Fiends may look like angels bright;
Trust no custom, school, or fashion,
"Trust in God, and do the right."

Simple rule, and safest guiding,
Inward peace, and inward might,
Star upon our path abiding,
"Trust in God, and do the right."

Some will hate thee, some will love thee, Some will flatter, some will slight: Cease from man, and look above thee, "Trust in God, and do the right."

-Norman M'Leod

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 camp meetings), by Maybelle Pruitt, 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 30¢ 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



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 that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for 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. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as 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: 405-282-2262.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to: Faith Publishing House, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044.

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PAPER-1 YEAR FOR \$1.00

EDITORIALS

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Ps. 119:105. How grateful we are to have the Word of God preserved and passed down to us. In a world of immorality and deception, we need something to enlighten our understanding of eternal values and give direction and purpose to life. John Dwight, a minister of the past century, once said, "The Bible is a window in this prison of hope, through which we look into eternity." What pleasure would we derive from this life if eternity was dark and uncharted?

How well I remember the night I was working in the attic of our house and the light I was depending on went out. How uncomfortable and miserable I felt as I groped my way carefully across the rafters, trying to avoid the catastrophe of falling through the ceiling. When I finally left the pitch-black darkness and stepped into the light, my spirits soared and my steps were confident. The result of going wrong in this life is much worse than falling through a ceiling; it is falling into an eternal hell.

From the Bible we receive direction and purpose for our lives. There are times in our own musings, and interaction with others that we receive guidance and inspiration, but we cannot let these minimize the importance of the Bible. We must be like the apostle Paul who was not depending on excellency of speech or his own wisdom, but he was determined to know Christ. When we depend on human thinking to chart our course in life we are as foolish as the sea captain who charted the course of his ship by the stars he had painted on the ceiling of his cabin.

"The Bible is the light of my understanding, the joy of my heart, the fullness of my hope, the clarifier of my affections, the mirror of my thoughts, the consoler of my sorrows, the guide of my soul through this gloomy labyrinth of time, the telescope sent from heaven to reveal to the eye of man the amazing glories of the far distant world." William Jones. If we will take the Bible for a guide, we may share these benefits also.

This June issue goes to press just prior to the Oklahoma State campmeeting which is held here in Guthrie. You are invited to come and worship with the saints in this meeting which is scheduled to begin May 30, and continue through June 8. There will be three services daily. Accommodations will be provided and meals will be served each day in the dining hall. Everyone is welcome! We have just printed a 12 page tract entitled, "I Now Am Set Free!" It was written by Bro. Sidney Souvey, Jr., who relates some of his experiences while in sin and of the change in his life since accepting salvation. To receive a free copy of this tract send us a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Quantities may be purchased at the rate of 15 for 95¢ or 100 for \$4.50.



Which is more valuable, an unborn eagle or an unborn child?

If you answered an unborn child, you are wrong; at least according to the United States law. The penalty for destroying an eagle's egg is a fine up to \$5,000 and a year in jail, while it is perfectly permissible to destroy an unborn child. In fact people are paid to murder unborn children. One of the most lucrative fields of the medical realm is the performing of abortions. It is a much debated issue as to whether our government should finance poor people to have this heinous crime against humanity committed. The mindset of the world is so twisted that the life of a fowl is favored over that of an infant. What a great perversion of judgment.

With these facts in mind we should stay open to the leadings of God as to what we can do to let righteousness be known. If we can speak a word or lend a hand to put God back into the moral fiber of our country, let us be anxious to do so.

—Wayne Murphey

One of the first manifestations of a new experience [of salvation] is a burning zeal and fervent desire to "do something" for the Lord and His cause.

—Clifford Wilson

Partial List of Items Available

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

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

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

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

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 512 pages in a cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of God. Price, \$6.00 each. A 10% discount is granted on orders of 12 copies or more placed at one time.

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

Egermeier's Favorite Bible Stories. Thirty favorite stories with pictures for small children. Cloth bound, 128 pages. Size: 6% x 9½. Price, \$7.95.

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

Holy Spirit Baptism and the Second Cleansing by R. R. Byrum. Consists of 108 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, 75Φ each, or 3 for \$2.00.

Personal Experiences of S. O. Susag was written by himself, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister in the Church of God. 192 pages are bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.75 each.

A Religious Controversy by C. E. Orr. An 80-page, paper bound book presenting truths in an interesting manner. Price, 75¢ each.

Guided by the Unseen Hand by Murphy Allen. An 84-page book bound in a heavy paper cover relating many experiences and inspiring answers to prayer centering around the 44 years of Bro. Allen's ministry. Price, 75¢ each.

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

Tim and His Lamp re-written by Fern Stubblefield. This excellent booklet of 52 pages for children and young people is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 40¢ each, or 3 copies for \$1.00.

Harry the Newsboy and Other Stories by Isabel Byrum. 32 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, 35¢ each, or 3 copies for \$1.00.

Heart Talks by C. W. Naylor. Consists of 59 chapters with a different subject treated in each chapter. It contains 280 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.50 each.

St. Paul and His Gospel by G. P. Tasker who was an early-day minister and missionary of the Church of God

Reformation. This inspiring book contains 88 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each.

He Lifted Me Out by Danny Layne. Just recently made available, this book contains 24 pages, including some pictures. Price, 25¢ per copy.

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

The Battle of Armageddon by O. B. Wilson. A clear exposition of this much misunderstood subject in an enlarged 24-page booklet by the author. Price, 20¢ each, or 6 copies for \$1.00.

Divine Healing for Soul and Body by E. E. Byrum. Available ONLY in the German language, it contains 282 pages bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.50.

Bible Humility by J. W. Byers. An excellent treatise of this subject in 32 pages with a heavy paper cover. The price is 35¢ each, or 3 copies for \$1.00.

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

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

Must We Sin? by D. S. Warner. This 24-page booklet records the supposed conversation between Bro. Light and Bro. Foggy on the sin question. Price, 25¢ each, or 5 copies for \$1.00.

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

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

Bible Readings for Bible Students and for the Home and Fireside compiled by S. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle. Originally published in 1902, this excellent volume contains 432 pages of Scripture references and comments on many Bible subjects. Nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.50 each.

Remember Now Thy Creator. 16-page booklet of a sermon by Ostis B. Wilson, directed especially to young people. Price, 20¢ each, or 6 for \$1.00.

Memoirs of George E. Harmon, sponsored by Vera M. Forbes. This is a brief autobiography of our beloved Bro. George Harmon, a long-time minister in the Church of God, including the record of the memories of a few others who knew him. It will inspire your faith in God. Its 56 pages with four pictures are bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 60¢ each, or 2 copies for \$1.00.

A Saloonkeeper's Daughter Saved was written by Bertha Mackey. This 16-page pamphlet is an inspiring true story. Price, 15¢ each, or 7 copies for \$1.00.

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

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

Lest We Forget by Sister Margaret Eck. 72 pages of many encouraging experiences with the Lord bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 75¢ each, or 3 for \$2.00.

Winning A Crown by C. W. Naylor. This book tells how to accept the plan of salvation and then goes into detail on how to keep the victory in every-day Christian living. It contains 368 pages in an extra-heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.50 each.

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

For postage and handling, add 70¢ for the first dollar and 7¢ for each additional dollar of total order.

Mail Orders to-

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Camp Meeting Dates for 1986

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, OK -

May 30-June 8.

Green Bank, WV - June 13-22.

------0-

Jefferson, OR — June 13-22.

Tulsa, OK - June 13-22.

Oakland, CA - June 20-29.

Chilliwack, B.C., Canada - June 21-26.

General Southern at Loranger, LA -

June 27-July 6.

Fresno, CA — July 4-13.

Akron, OH - July 6-13.

National at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO July 18-27.

Missouri State at Myrtle, MO — July 28-Aug. 3.

Bakersfield, CA — Aug. 1-10.

Duncannon, PA — Aug. 10-17 or as the Lord leads.

Durham, NC - Aug. 10-17

Boley, OK — Aug. 17-24

California State at Pacoima, CA — Aug. 22-31

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

MINISTERS' MEETING REPORT

Following is a report of the Ministers' Meeting on April 25th - 27th on the beautiful campgrounds at Myrtle, MO. I mentioned that because the saints there worked so hard to have every thing so nice, clean and green. It seems the Lord

even prepared the weather. It had been cold but the whole three days were perfect weather.

Ministers from many parts of the country came by bus, plane and car. We were so thankful for those who came so far from Canada and California. There were around one hundred or so counting wives and husbands in attendance.

It was so wonderful how the Spirit of God came down in our midst. The singing was heavenly and we had some real good instructions. The fellowship was sweet.

Many expressed that we should have been having these kind of meetings long ago and hoped that we could have more of them. Many expressed that it was the best Ministers' Meeting they had ever been in. Emphasis was put on edification, enlightenment, instruction and humility. If any were there desiring any of these things it was there.

I was much impressed with our young and middle aged ministers; the desire they had to learn and the humility we saw in them. I can report to you that God still has a true ministry that is carrying on this same old truth we have always heard. The older ones can rest assured that God has and always will have a true ministry. I hope there can be another one next year. Pray for the ministry, —Bro. Mart Samons

GREEN PASTURES SPRING REVIVAL REPORT

The Lord blessed us with a rich soul-refreshing revival meeting. Bro. Keith Fuller, our Evangelist, was used mightily of the Lord. Surely the old gospel plow was at work and many are still talking of the rich blessings we received to our souls. We are thankful to all who attended the meeting, supporting us with their time, prayers and means. The attendance was very good as saints and friends came from far and near. Continue to pray for us in this area that we will grow and prosper in our souls. May God bless Bro. Fuller in all his efforts also.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

—Sis. Frances Chandler, Secretary and Bro. Charles Chandler, Pastor

GOULDS, FL CAMP MEETING REPORT

Dear Saints and Friends: We here in Goulds, Florida would like to report to you, not only that God answered many prayers, but also that He anointed the messages to the saving of many young people during our April Camp Meeting. We give praises to God for sending Holy Ghost filled ministers to preach the Word in its fullness. God was faithful to visit souls in our midst once again.

There were several baptized. The last Saturday night meeting was held on the streets. The gospel was preached, tracts were passed out and souls were witnessed to. Pray that God will bless the labors. —Sis. Geraldine McPhail

WICHITA, KS MEETING REPORT

The Lord was faithful as always to bless in our meeting and send what was needed in His Word. The saints were blessed, revived and encouraged. We were urged not to stay in the state of bruised reeds or smoking flax, but to let the Lord deliver us from those states or we will fall. We were exhorted to do good and love the Lord with all our hearts. It was made very emphatic that sin is a "reproach" to any people and that we must all flee from the wrath of God. We were exhorted to have faith, hope and charity—the abiding principles.

The Lord blessed and anointed our song services too and we do thank the Lord for the many blessings received. The saints desire to be faithful and true to God that we may all be ready to meet Him in the air when He comes back to receive His blameless and pure Church.

-Submitted by Shirley Knight

GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMP MEETING

AT LORANGER, LA.

You are invited to come. The meeting will begin, Lord willing, the evening of Friday, June 27, with services daily through Sunday, July 6, 1986.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brethren. Power and water hookups are provided for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings.

From Loranger, go two miles south and approximately three and one half miles east on La. Hwy. 40. The grounds are about ten miles east of I-55 from Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40).

For more information, you may call Sis. LaVern Manuel (504) 878-6176 or Bro. Bob Forbes (504) 748-4957. The chapel phone is: (504) 878-2788.

Come praying. —Nelson Doolittle

GREEN BANK, WV CAMP MEETING

The meeting here at Green Bank, W.V. will begin on June 13th and continue through the 22nd. The first service will be Friday night at 7:30. There will be two services daily, 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Meals will be served on the grounds.

Places will be provided for all who come. We would appreciate it if those who can would bring their own bedding.

Green Bank is located on Route 92, 57 miles north of White Sulphur Springs, W.V. and 50 miles south of Elkins, W.V. The chapel and tabernacle is located right by the highway. You will need to bring a coat as the nights are cool.

The Lord has blessed us here in the past with wonderful camp meetings. We are looking forward to another one this year. Come praying. We are always thankful when the dear saints of God start coming in, but our main burden here is to reach out to those who live around here.

Everyone is welcome. We will be looking for you.

For more information, contact: Bro. and Sis. M. Samons, P.O. Box 127, Green Bank, W.V. 24944, phone (304) 456-4469 or Bro. and Sis. Mancil Doolittle, P.O. Box 4, Green Bank, W.V. 24944, phone (304) 456-4884.

CERRVILLE, OH OUTREACH

A gospel tent meeting will convene on July 6 thru the 13th near Cerrville, Ohio. The meeting site is situated on the grounds of Johnnys' Nimrod Trailer Sales & Service. It is located eight miles east of Wooster on LL. S. 30. The address is 10593 Old Lincoln Way, Cerrville, Ohio 44667. For those coming from the Columbus, Ohio area and south on Interstate 71, remain on 71 until you come to the Route 30 exit. Take Route 30 east through Wooster, Ohio. For those coming up Interstate 77, Route 30 intersects Route 77 in the Canton area. You would take 30 west.

For those coming, accommodations, lodging and meals will be provided. This meeting is a special outreach in an Amish-Mennonite area. All are welcome to attend. If you are unable to attend, we would appreciate your prayers for this gospel endeavor. For further information, contact Waymon Parmer (216) 836-1907 or Keith Fuller, 244 Storer Ave., Akron, Ohio 44302, (216) 864-1128.

Thank you,—Church of God, Akron, Ohio

FORTY-EIGHTH NATIONAL CAMP MEETING

The National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri July 18-27, 1986. In these perilous times it is important that we make good use of the time God gives us. He ordained that we assemble ourselves together. The National Camp Meeting has been a time of

assembly for saints from many states, Canada, Mexico and other foreign countries for the past forty-seven years. Please come this year with a burden for souls and praying fervently that God will again bless us with His presence and favor.

The Monark Springs Campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, Missouri. It is one mile east and 3/4 mile south of the intersection of highway 86 and highway 71 Alternate.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may take a taxi to the campground or telephone 472-6427 (Granby, MO) for free transportation.

All expenses of the meeting are met by freewill offerings. No one should stay away because of lack of finances. God will supply as needs 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.

Sister Deloris Bradley is responsible for tent orders and dormitory space. Requests for accommodations should be addressed to her, Rt. 1, Box 28, Bartlett, KS 67332. Phone (316) 226-3390.

There is a lot of work to do to prepare the campground for the meeting. This is done by volunteer workers. This year we are scheduling three work days, July 4, 5 and 12. Normally we work the three Saturdays before the meeting. This year we have scheduled only two weekends because of the three-day weekend beginning July 4.

I want to notify you of new rules for the trailer park. The trustees agreed to these new rules during the last camp meeting. The purpose of the rules is to simplify maintenance of the park and more fairly utilize the space. The rules are:

- 1. Trailers shall not be parked in the trailer park before you actually come to attend the meeting. The park will, however, be open for use by workers coming for the scheduled work days before the meeting.
- 2. Trailer spots in the public use area will not be reserved in advance. They are available only on a first-come-first-served basis.
- 3. Trailers shall be moved out of the park no later than the Sunday following the fall work day each year.
- 4. There are four privately leased spaces in the existing trailer park. We are asking each of these lease holders to notify me or Bro. Norman Allen at least one week before the meeting if they plan to use their trailer space. This will help avoid confusion in making assignments.

Your cooperation in observing these rules will make our job easier.

We welcome you to another camp meeting at Monark Springs.

Bro. Jim Wall (Business Manager),5817 East 64th Street, Tulsa, OK 74136.Phone (918) 494-9564.

DURHAM, NC CAMP MEETING

The Durham, N.C. Camp Meeting of the Church of God, Evening Light, will be held, Lord willing, August 10-17, 1986. Services will be daily at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Come praying that the Lord will bless in the services and that He will send Holy Ghost filled ministers and workers of His choosing.

Directions to the chapel: take Guess Road exit off I-85, go north on Guess Rd. approximately 4 miles. Turn left on Umstead Rd., then take the first right (Bivins Rd.). At the stop sign turn right on Russell Rd., then left on Kelvin Drive. The chapel will be on the right.

For further information, contact Bro. and Sis. Melvin Lennon, 3203 Apex Hwy, Durham, N.C. 27713. Phone (919) 544-2891, chapel phone is 471-3624.

NOTICE OF CUTOFF DATE

There is a cutoff date of December 15, 1986, for receiving information concerning the book on Sam and Hettie Barton's life. All information, i.e. pictures, testimonies, written or on tape, sermons, etc., should be mailed to Vesta-Nadine Robertson, 109 West Larry Road, Shawnee, OK 74801.

In Memorial

Linda Lottahall was born December 6, 1956. She departed this life on April 17, 1986. She was the daughter of William David and Genevieve Wilson Lottahall. In addition to being survived by her parents, she leaves to mourn her departure one son, Bradley Lottahall; three sisters, Tammy and Lenoir Lottahall of Burnsville, Phyllis Lottahall Watkins of Ashville; two brothers, William David Lottahall, Jr. of Virginia and Dean Lottahall of Burnsville; two maternal grandmothers, Mamie Wilson of Burnsville and Mamie Jones of New York; several nephews and a host of relatives and friends.

Linda was living in California at the time

of her passing. She was staying with the saints at Pacoima and working in the Sunset Guest Home. The report was that she had gotten wonderfully saved just a week or so before her passing. What a merciful God we serve. Funeral services were conducted in Burnsville, NC.

Remember Bro. & Sis. Lottahall. We have known them for over twenty years and they are precious saints.

-Submitted by Bro. & Sis. Samons

Prayer Requests

----0----

CA—Bro. H. P. Huskey needs healing. At times he suffers a lot.

IN—"I fell on the concrete porch, hurt my foot and knee real bad. My back must have been strained also as it is hurting. My son, Jimmy, is better but still needs prayer. Remember my unsaved family."

—Dessie Wilson

TX—"Please remember me in prayer. My left eye is bothering me and the sciatic rheumatism in my right leg. My children and grand-children also need prayer for soul and body."

-Nellie Lovell

IN—"Please pray for me, my son and family."—Edna Hammond

Bro. Mart Samons has a special request. OK—Pray for Sis. Dornhofer who needs a healing touch from God.

CA-Remember Bro. Danny Layne in his work for the Lord in Germany July 6-17.

Please pray for a man who seems to be possessed and has a drinking problem.

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From Ghana . . .

Dear Bro. Murphey: May our dear Lord Jesus Christ bless you and all the saints everywhere. The future of the Church is bright and the Lord is blessing the work in Akumadan. Most of the members who backslid have come back to the church and regularly attend church services. The Wenchi work is also going on alright.

We always remember all of you in our daily prayers that the Lord will strengthen you both in body and spirit . . . When I observe myself and see the great change that has come into me since the Lord saved me, I have a deep feeling that I should spend the rest of my life in the house of the Lord as Samuel did. Since I got saved, and became a member of God's Church, peace has followed me up to date . . .

I end here with verse 6 of Psalms 23. Amen. Yours in Jesus, —Kofi Marfo From the Philippines . . .

Apr. 28—My dear Bro. George Hammond, Bro. Wayne Murphey, Sister Maybelle Pruitt, the brethren workers in the Print Shop and to all Saints in every place:

Greetings with love to every one in the name of our Master and Lord Jesus. We are always thankful to the Lord for His blessings and guidance.

A few days ago I and a friend went to a barrio Mapua, 7 kilometers from Talisayan town proper. This barrio is the boundary of Talisayan and another town Balingoan, by the mountain side. On the day that we visited them the people were celebrating their barrio fiesta. I had a chance to meet people on the mountain side that gathered in barrio Mapua. I entered the house in the barrio where people gathered together. I greeted them with a friendly smile and mingled in the group. Without losing time, I first began to ask them what patron their fiesta was for. One answered, "St. Vicent Ferrer." I said, "It's good that people love the saints or followers of Jesus Christ." I further told them that saints become holy because of the love of Jesus and followed the commandments to love one another. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16. As I perceived that they were interested to listen to the message, I continued to preach to them that God our Father in heaven gave to us His son Jesus to establish a Church, the Church of God, for there's no other name under heaven given that we might be saved. I talked to them about one hour. Some folks asked questions and I answered every one according to the Scripture.

We left the barrio Mapua and went back down to Talisayan. It was about twilight when I reached home. My wife met me and told me of our granddaughter. She was brought to the hospital for severe cough and high fever. Without losing time I accompanied my wife to the hospital and found out that our granddaughter was in a serious condition. I went back home and prayed to the Lord to bless the child under His care. As I write this letter, our granddaughter is still at the hospital. I completely surrender to the Lord Jesus that He might do something to help the child. Dear Saints, please pray also for the child, our granddaughter.

Yours in Christ, -Leonardo Salvana

Our beloved Bro. Hammond, Sis. Maybelle, Bro. Wayne Murphey and all dear saints in the Print Shop: Greetings to you always in Jesus' precious name whom we trust and serve forever.

I've been in Cagayan the last few weeks visiting brothers and sisters of our young people in barrio Balolang. I am just hiking to reach their place. They were very interested and happy to obey the Word of God. They requested me to visit them even twice a month. So dear Saints, please help me pray for more strength, knowledge, and finances in going back and forth to Cagayan, Maramog and Mahinog. There are many hungry souls who need help. We shall not waste our time but teach and spread the precious truth.

I am very much thankful to God for His presence and helping me to do His work. I know God loves me because when I arrived home I saw a brown envelope in my cabinet from my kind Sister Maybelle, one Faith and Victory paper and then one roll of Faith and Victory papers and your kind letter. I praise Him for ever and ever. Amen.

Much love in Christ,

-Sis. Victoria B. Sahilan

From Bendel State, Nigeria . . .

May 6—Dear Sis. Pruitt: Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus . . .

The physical life or living is bad with us. Starvation is reigning in our midst. The cause was due to destruction of the entire crops planted in our farms of 1985 by flood waters. The position now in Nigeria is "no farming, no feeding" with the common man. The country is economically ruined. A nation wonderfully blessed of the Lord to flow with milk and honey is now owing over twenty-two billion in foreign exchange, or debt, due to mismanagement of the nation's economy by greedy politicians. The position is so bad that unless the Lord intervenes we may have some of the worst hit saints to pass away through starving. Pray with us for the Lord's control of the situation.

Yours in Him, —Titus U. E. Enu

From Rivers State, Nigeria . . .

May 6—Dear Bro. Murphey: I salute you and all in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by whose shed blood we have been numbered among the partakers of the eternal glory of God our Father. May glory and honour be ascribed to His holy name, for He only is God and "there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Indeed, we should express our joy and thankfulness to God for so directing us into His household where nothing but the truth is taught. The truth that has freed us from sin and death. The joy in our hearts do tell us each day that we did nothing to merit this grace from the Lord, by which grace also we have been called to serve the Lord in humility. Undoubtedly, there is no better way to show our joy and love for His cause than to comply with the Word of God as recorded in Romans 12:1-2.

All is well with us both at Tombia and Port Harcourt. God willing we shall hold a Ministers' Meeting towards the end of this month at Tombia. All the congregations of the Church of God in Nigeria are expected to be present at the meeting. Pray for us for the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit throughout the meeting.

Greetings to your family and the Saints in the United States of America.

Yours in His name, -Winston E. Dagogo

From Mexico . . .

Apr. 21—Dear Sis. Maybelle and Saints: I write you with the same love as always, desiring that all are well in health, and with much encouragement in the work of God which ministry God has given us. (I Tim. 4:8-14)

Esteemed saints, those who work in the ministry, in the Print Shop, and those who are set apart for the growing of the work of God in unity, firm and solid, the unity that Christ gives to those who love Him, we ought to have the same feelings because we all have the mind of Christ. This is clear to those who are saved. I have a burden for this and am praying much for all the saints of God that they might stay firm in the things of God and if it be the will of God this year, I am thinking of going to visit you folks there. I desire to know my brethren in person, but I always pray that God will lead me. I desire to serve Him being a blessing in all.

Brethren, we had a beautiful revival during the week before Easter. We had visitors from the States, Bros. Montgomery, Sherman, and Kutra, also the Huskey and Lara family. We all were very happy in the things of God. We felt the blessings of God in all, Hallelujah! We give glory to God because we can feel this in our hearts. I desire that you pray much for all the congregations in Mexico and especially for Sis. Esther. She suffers much from some kind of attacks and they are very poor and also suffer in this. I desire that you especially remember her and all the work here in Chapultepec, for the camp meeting we will have from the 23rd to

the 29th of June. All are welcome to come for at that time the climate is nice here.

I desire that you pray much for me and my family that we go forward in the things of God, also for the building that we are building in which to congregate. We cannot all get in here, at times. We only lack the roof and the windows.

May we continue going forward, fighting with the shield of faith and the sword of sanctification and the love which covers all things in the way of the Lord.

We love you all very much and please pray for us.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0

Yours with much love in the Lord,
—Mayarino Escobar and family

From India . . .

Apr. 20—Our dearly beloved elder sister Maybelle Pruitt, Bro. Wayne Murphey and the dear ones in the Print Shop and the dear Saints scattered abroad: Greetings to you all again in the precious name of Jesus Christ. "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." Ps. 127:1.

By the grace of God, the church in India is moving on with much progress. Our northern region convention at Chalakudy was a blessed one. April and May are the vacation time for the schools here and so we plan to conduct a Vacation Bible School for boys and girls for two weeks in May. We expect many blessings and good results out of these classes. We expect the salvation of many boys and girls.

We pray for the needs there as you pray for the needs here. "God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you." I Samuel 12:23. Prayer has divided seas, rolled up flowing rivers, made flinty rocks rush into fountains, quenched flames of fire, muzzled lions, disarmed vipers, repelled frauds, burst open iron gates, captured the strongest devils and commanded legions of angels down from heaven. Prayer has brought one man from the bottom of the sea, and carried another in a chariot of fire to heaven.

Our needs are many. There are several problems to be solved. Your prayers and support are real strength for us. This is the evening period. The night comes soon when no one can work, so work and act while it is day.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

The tone of our voice, the look of our eye, the line of our conduct are leaving their stamps on the world.

—C. E. Orr

From the Mailbox . . .

CA—Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ: It is so wonderful to hear of the good work you are doing for God. We love you and want to do what we can to help. We are elderly people and desire your prayers. Ruth is 91 and not able to do much. Please pray for her arthritis. Also pray for my hearing and eyes. I am 88 years old.

May God bless and keep you is our prayer. With all our love, —Ed and Ruth Upton

OK—Dear Sis. Maybelle and all the saints at the Print Shop: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. The morning is dark and cloudy out but there is sunshine in my soul. I do praise and thank God this A.M. for salvation. He is our Rock that we can stand on in the storms of life. I love the Lord and desire to do His will in all things.

He has been such a comfort to me since the loss of my dear companion. The saints have been so dear to me. I'm so thankful to be in the family of God.

Remember me and my family in prayer. God bless you all, —Sister Sylvia Abbott

OH—Dear Faith and Victory: Greetings. I have been a reader of your paper since the 20's, and would like to share it with some of my loved ones.

Please pray for my hearing to be better.

Thank God and bless all of the saints who read your paper.

—Mrs. Flora H. Jacobs

OK—Dear Saints: Greetings in Jesus' name! We are grateful for God's many blessings, and especially thank the Lord for the car that He has provided for us to use in His service. We also want to thank the ones that donated to this part of the gospel work. May God bless and reward you.

Christian love,

River State, Nigeria—Greetings in Jesus' name: I am very sorry I couldn't write in appreciation of the parcel you sent to me a long time ago. Among the books is "Bible Lessons" Vol. 10, No. 3, July, Aug., Sept., 1978. This Bible Lessons is an interesting one. It has helped me spiritually, and for this I will like to have more of them.

Brethren, if there are other books which will help me grow as a Christian and to stand until the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, please don't withhold such a book from me. It is true I don't even have the widow's mite to contribute for the progress of God's work, but I think if because of my ending my race at Jesus' feet you are contributing, you will have your crowns with many, many stars.

If there are tracts please send them along with whatever you have for me.

Brethren, I hope to meet you all at Jesus' feet when the trumpet will sound.

Comfort those who are in the same tribulation with me.

God bless you! —Charity M. Chinwo

MI—Dear Brothers and Sisters at the Faith and Victory Print Shop: We send greetings to you all in the love of Jesus. Our prayer ascends for you daily that the truth would go forth and many souls turn their lives over to God.

It has been some time since we have written to you to let you know we are receiving the Faith and Victory paper in good shape and still enjoy reading it.

We want to let you know our prayers and support are with you yet.

We have much to thank the Lord for as he has led and kept us through some trying times.

All of us that follow Christ have His neverfailing promises and this is a very great comfort. He has been to us all that He promised in His Word He would be.

We look forward to that day when our faith shall be lost in sight.

There is so much confusion in the world today, but we are sure He can lead us through it safely.

Pray for us that we stand true to our Lord Christ.

May God richly bless you all for your sacrifice of love,—Bro. & Sister Milford Parsons

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

-0----

IN—Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus: I was born and raised in a Roman Catholic home. I was educated in a Catholic grade school and served on the altar as a altar boy. They taught me that I should never read the Bible. The nuns in catechism class told us that if we had any questions about religion that we should ask the Catholic priest and he would explain anything to us. They also taught us that we should never pray to Jesus. They said that He was too busy to hear us, that we should pray to a dead saint; either Peter, Joseph, the virgin Mary, or some other dead saint. They taught us

that the dead saint would intercede for us with Jesus. I Timothy 2:5 says, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" against this Word of God they taught us to confess our sins to the priest and that he would forgive them.

They also taught us that we could live a life of sin, then have a second chance for heaven in a place called Purgatory. They said that a soul is burned with purifying fire, tormented in the flames until they were good enough to be promoted to heaven. They also told us that if you paid the priest money that this could get a soul moved up to heaven a lot faster.

Having all of their lies taught to me I went into deep sin, but when I was 28 years old the Lord Jesus saved my soul. He saved me into the living Church of God in October, 1969. I love Him supremely.

Sincerely, —Louis M. Bender

Canada—Dear Saints: Praise God, I can say with confidence that it is true, He is just the same today and He is able to deliver. Oh, bless His name, Saints. By His power and by His grace, we are going through! By the grace of God, I have listened to the enemy for the last time saying; "You can't do it" or "that problem is too big", because with my God nothing is impossible. Oh, dear Saints, we have no business at all listening to the enemy.

I was taking a class here, (not anymore) called Humanities Curriculum Core. One of the introductory remarks stated: "Each answer to a question is an argument about human experience or human nature. The diversity of the answers, furthermore, demonstrates that there is no single, correct answer. Nor could there be because the questions themselves are intended to open up rational and imaginative inquiry." Dear Saints, there is a real "Devil", and his purpose in this time world is to prevent as many as possible from entering into God's heaven. In the quotation above is one of the biggest lies ever conceived by the devil: "There is no single, correct answer." Oh, Saints, look around, can you see the multitudes following after that belief? Did Jesus say "I am 'a' way, 'a' truth and 'a' life"? NO! He said: "I am THE way, THE truth, and THE life: NO MAN cometh unto the Father but by me." (capitals mine) John 14:6. There is no room for debate. "For even hereunto were ve called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, (i.e. copy for imitation—"Strongs"), that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth." I Peter 2:22. Jesus is our example, we

are to walk even as He walked, and He has given us power to do it. Praise God!

My testimony is not one that I am proud of. In the last eleven years, since I met Jesus, my life was like that of the Israelites when Elijah said to them; "How long halt ye between two opinions?" I Kings 18:21. The two opinions in my life were the LORD and SELF. "If the Lord be God, follow him." There is no question in my mind; the Lord is God! I have served "self" at the cost of everything I ever counted dear to me, including my wife, my children, my home and all my possessions. If the Lord had permitted it the devil would have taken my very life.

I have found that desert place that Paul experienced, where he learned Jesus. I have never experienced Jesus like this before. When I decided to commit my all to Him at last, I decided never to play games with God again. As I began to walk with Him, I began to experience life as it should be. Peace and joy are mine. A love for my fellow man as I'd never experienced before. I found that if I walked in the light that He gave me, my life was calm, but if I neglected to walk as He would have me to walk, my life would be in turmoil until I put myself back in His care. I know that I can't depend on feelings, "For the just shall live by faith", and the enemy would rush in and try to disrupt my feelings.

Now I know what it means to walk with God and to talk with God and to pray without ceasing. I also now understand that Scripture which says: "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." I John 3:9.

Dear Saints, I don't claim to have attained, or as Paul said; "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:12-14.

I am presently in prison serving six years for crimes I committed while serving self. I have set my face toward my goal and would like to help as many here as possible to find Jesus. As the Lord leads, would you please send literature that I can share with other inmates here? I personally would like a subscription to the Faith and Victory. I will send money when I can. Please pray for us, there is much darkness here. Thank you.

Your brother in Jesus, -George Seymour

Question and Answer Column by Ostis B. Wilson

(Continued from last month.)

In the fourth chapter of Zechariah he had a vision the principal objects of which were a candlestick and two olive trees, one on either side. To determine the identity of this candlestick let us look at a vision John the Revelator had in the 1st chapter of Revelation verses 12-20. In verse 12 he saw 7 golden candlesticks. In verse 20 he was told that the 7 candlesticks were the 7 churches. The book of Revelation was addressed directly to the 7 churches in Asia. There was one candlestick for each church. In Zechariah's vision there was only one candlestick which would represent the entire universal Church and not just a single congregation.

The candlestick, then, was the Church. But what of the two olive trees? They are of prime importance here because it was from them that the oil was supplied to light the candlestick and without them the candlestick would have just stood there dark; giving no light. Zechariah asked the angel to explain what these two olive trees represented. Rev. 11:3-4 throws some light on this matter. Verse 3 speaks of God's two witnesses in the earth and verse 4 identifies these two witnesses as the two olive trees. In John 5:39 Jesus said that the Scriptures testified of Him. In John 1:45 Phillip declared to Nathanael that they had found Him of whom Moses in the law and the prophets did write. Luke 24:27 says, "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Then it is evident that God's WORD is one of the two witnesses.

Then Romans 8:16 says "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit . . . " Again in the last part of 1 John 5:6 we read "And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth." Then going on through verses 7 and 8 we read "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one." Here is definite, conclusive proof of the Spirit being a witness of the Son of God and of salvation in the earth. But let it be noted that both the Spirit and the Word (the term "water" in verse 8 is symbolic of the Word) —these two bore witness both in heaven which would make it sure and undisputable that the witness of

both the Spirit and the Word could be of heavenly and eternal things here in the earth. This is further confirmed by what Jesus said in Matt. 18:18-20 concerning the exercise of discipline and executing of judgement in the Church. He said "Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth, shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Read on through verse 19 and then verse 20 says "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Here we see the divine government in the Church being executed through the agency of Holy Spirit filled men and God can accept it in heaven because the same agents (Word and Spirit) which are in heaven and bearing record there are also in the earth and bearing witness here and exercising preeminent leadership in the government of the Church and directing all of its activities.

Therefore it is established that the two witnesses of Rev. 11:3-4, and the two olive trees which Zechariah saw standing one on either side of the candlestick (Zech. 4:3), are the Word and Spirit of God. This is confirmed by what the angel said to Zechariah in explaining the vision to him in Zech. 4:6 "This is the word of the Lord . . . by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Thus it is evident that the Word and Spirit of God are the two representatives (vicars) of God in the Church and that the Church of God is a called out body of people in the earth in which these two agents are preeminent in the oversight and operation of all its activities. This is what makes it the Church of God. Take these away or relegate them to an inferior position and it is not the Church of God any more.

It is very beautiful and interesting to watch the Holy Spirit operating and working and directing all the affairs of the Church in that early Church which had just come fresh from the hand of God and was just exactly like He wanted it. It was His new creation and was very good.

One requirement of all who held prominent places and exercised leadership in the Church must be persons filled with the Holy Ghost (Acts 6:3). And by this means quietness, peace and harmony were maintained in this fledgling Church which was being threatened with schism by murmurings of discrimination by some of its members. These seven Spirit filled men who were chosen by the church and ordained for this service (deacons) by the apostles, took charge of this situation and were enabled by the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit to steer things in the right course.

(To be continued next month.)

Reflections

Ps. 91:1 "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High."

Oh, my Lord, a secret is something known only to a select few and not open to general information. I know that you have secluded us. your people, from the world and its influence but even in this select group I am amazed to find a secret place that only you and I may know. Only you can know every thought that goes through my mind. Only you can know every attitude that I harbour, and only you can know every idea that I entertain and reflect upon. You alone know the puzzles life presents to me and when and where and how they can and should be solved. You alone know how many have been solved and how many yet remain to be solved. You alone know when I have done my absolute very best to achieve their solution. Kind Father, when I have done my best and still do not prevail, be Thou the portion that I need and set me straight again!

A Present Help

The world is wide and swiftly runs its flow, Its way is broad and millions down it go. It offers no respite from toil and care,

And travelers on its way are lonely there.

But, lo, along its way a beacon stands,

And bids each weary traveler better lands. The gate is strait, and narrow is the way,

But those who choose its path have perfect day.

For every one who enters there's a guide,

A friend who walketh closely by the side. He shares each sorrow, burden, grief and woe, And from His heart of love there's constant flow.

He knows and understands one thru and thru, And to each secret trust He's always true. His promise is to fill each traveler's need,

And in His sweet, green pastures all may feed.

How glad are those who choose this narrow path;
And happy are these souls when at the last
They gather at the Master's great right hand,
And hear Him say, "Receive your promised
land!"

-C. W. Wilson

Stop to Consider

Jesus said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow" Yes, let us consider the lilies. First there is a seed, then a green shoot, a stem with leaves, a small bud, a big bloom and finally a lovely white lily. Graceful curves of clear whiteness shape the outer lily petals into a perfect bell form. The lily is known and loved for this simple beauty. And what is the anxiety

of the lily? ". . . they toil not, neither do they spin." Matt. 6:28. There is no rush, hurry, hurry, to the growth of a lily. It has been growing and blooming at the same speed for hundreds of years.

Consider all of the earth and the fullness thereof. It is the Lord's. The Lord God spoke it into existence several thousand years ago, and today the trees and plants, animals and fish and all nature continue year after year just as God told them to do in the beginning. The seasons have forever followed each other just as they should. After winter, there is always spring, hot summer, then cooler autumn and cold winter again. God has never become impatient or tired of this plan but He has left it the same way. Psalm 19:1 & 2 says: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge." The seasons and days patiently follow each other. There is no impatience, nothing done out of turn.

The birds do not get over-anxious and begin to nest in the cold winter. They wait until the trees bud and there is warmth in the air. The bees make honey in the summer while the flowers are sweet. Then in autumn the bees, like the bears, prepare to hibernate for the winter. Never have the bees and bears hibernated in the summer and hunted in the winter. Other animals follow the seasons and live every day just as God planned them to do. Nature has a pattern or system. If left undisturbed by man, nature will balance and attend to itself.

Consider the ways of nature and learn of our Creator. He is a steady, faithful, unchanging God. (Isaiah 25:1) He is a patient, merciful God. (Psalm 136) God sent His Son to earth to teach us His way. (John 14:4-6)

Jesus, the Son of God, did not rush or hurry in life. Sometimes we find where Jesus even tarried. Once it was when Lazarus was sick and Jesus waited until after Lazarus had died. Then He raised up Lazarus from the dead. (John 11) Jesus had no permanent dwelling or any earthly possessions yet He was confronted with paying taxes. He sent Peter to fish and take the money from the first fish's mouth. (Matt. 17:22-27) Jesus told the people to give to Caesar that which was Caesar's and unto God that which is God's (Luke 20:20-26). He told Martha not to be troubled about so many things "But one thing is needful and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Mary was learning from Jesus about heavenly treasures. (Luke 10:38-42) Jesus taught that treasures in heaven were better than earthly treasures. (Matt. 6:19) Then Jesus quietly fulfilled His mission on earth. His garments were parted and gambled for (Mark 15:24), and there was no material inheritance left behind.

Today Jesus Christ is sitting on the right hand of God bidding us to come, learn of Him for His yoke is easy and His burden is light. There is patience and simplicity in the yoke of Christ. "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience, But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:3, 4. The cares of life are too cheap and shoddy to become impatient with and lose our soul's eternal gain. We need to learn the patience, the lightness and easiness of the yoke of Jesus Christ.

When the rush of society floods you with impatient worries, consider the lilies. Consider God's creation and the patient pattern that it follows. Impatience is mankind's imperfection. Jesus showed us a patient, better way, "for your heavenly Father knoweth that you have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. Put trust in the Lord and consider His patient ways.

-Sis. Connie Sorrell

What Some Men Have Said About Rhetoric

"Rhetoric without logic, is like a tree with leaves and blossoms, but no root; yet more are taken with rhetoric than logic, because they are caught with fine expressions when they understand not reason."

—John Seldon

"Rhetoric is nothing but reason well dressed, and argument put in order." —Jeremy Collier

"The best rules of rhetoric are, to speak intelligently; speak from the heart; have something to say; say it; and stop when you've done."

-Tyron Edwards

"There is truth and beauty in rhetoric; but it oftener serves ill turns than good ones."

-William Penn

"Mere rhetoric, in serious discourses, is like flowers in corn, pleasing to those who look only for amusement, but prejudical to him who would reap profit from it."

—Jonathan Swift

"The florid, elevated, and figurative way is for the passions; for love and hatred, fear and anger, are begotten in the soul by showing their objects out of their true proportion, either greater than the life, or less; but instruction is to be given by showing them what they naturally are. A man is to be cheated into passion, but reasoned into truth."

—John Dryden



Excerpts Taken From

June, 1961 Faith and Victory

"Today we have the victory through Christ. We do not have to defeat the enemy with our own powers. No, praises be to His matchless name, we do not have to conquer Satan. Christ Jesus paid the price and won the victory for us on Mount Calvary and His resurrection more than 1900 years ago. Dear ones, the victory is yours. Accept it and keep your eyes on Jesus."

-H. P. Huskey

"I am still rejoicing over the missionary call the Lord gave me and the two words, 'Learn Spanish'. I am now working as a home missionary until the Lord leads into a different field. We have services in the old people's home where they are very hungry for the truth. I am also caring for my invalid mother who has found the Lord in her old age. Praise the Lord forever! We pray together night and morning and God has graciously helped my mother in soul and body."

—Carrie Lee Sheppard

"Our nation needs prayer. America is the last stronghold of liberty. When she forfeits her freedom through liberal minded politicians the Iron Curtain is sure to drop on us. International problems, cold and hot wars have piled up problems too great for present day diplomats.

"Our youth need prayer. Teen-agers today live in almost an entirely different world than did their fathers and mothers when they were the same age. This age is Pagan in its standards and rotten in its morals. Our only hope for our sons and daughters is a personal knowledge of the saving grace of Jesus Christ!" —Selected