

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

USPS184-660

## Church of God Servant



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### Christ Has Risen

With heavy hearts, and doubtful minds,  
 The disciples looked to see  
 The body of the Son of God  
 Taken from the cruel tree.  
 With blasted hopes, and saddened hearts  
 The disciples went away,  
 And certain women who were there,  
 To rest the sabbath day.  
 And when the sabbath day was gone,  
 Scarce had the shadows flown,  
 The women came with spices sweet,  
 But found the Lord had gone.  
 "He is not here," the angel said,  
 Turn, look, and see;  
 Go tell Peter and the rest  
 He has gone to Galilee.  
 Oh, how quickly they departed,  
 What great joy had filled their heart,  
 As they ran to the disciples,  
 To them the good news to impart.  
 He has risen! Christ has risen!  
 He hath conquered death, and hell;  
 And the angels bid us hasten  
 The good news to others tell.  
 But they scarcely did believe it,  
 Filled with doubt and joy combined  
 Until they ran into the garden,  
 And the empty tomb did find.  
 But their doubts were soon relinquished,  
 When they the Lord Himself did see,  
 At the place he had appointed  
 In the land of Galilee.  
 Oh, dear people, Christ has risen!  
 He has risen in my soul,  
 All my doubts and fears have vanished,  
 He hath blessed, and made me whole.  
 —Ulysses Phillips

### Caiaphas' Report to the Sanhedrin

(The following is a letter that the high priest Caiaphas wrote to the Sanhedrin concerning the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The letter was found at Constantinople in the Mosque of St. Sophia translated by Drs. McIntosh and Twyman and recorded in *The Archko Volume*.

"To You, Masters of Israel: As I have made a former defence to you, and you have approved the same, I feel in duty bound to communicate to you some facts that have come to my knowledge since that communication. A few days after the execution of Jesus of Nazareth the report of his resurrection from the dead became so common that I found it necessary to investigate it, because the excitement was more intense than before, and my own life as well as that of Pilate was in danger. I sent for Malkus, the captain of the royal city guard, who informed me he knew nothing personally, as he had placed Isham in command of the guard; but from what he could learn from the soldiers the scene was awe-inspiring, and the report was so generally believed that it was useless to deny it. He thought my only chance was to suppress it among the soldiers, and have John and Peter banished to Crete, or arrested and imprisoned, and if they would not be quiet, to treat them as I had treated Jesus. He said that all the soldiers he had conversed with were convinced that Jesus was resurrected by supernatural power and was still living, and that he was no human being, for the light and the angels and the dead that came out of their graves all went to prove that something had happened that never occurred on earth before. He said that John and Peter were spreading it all over the country, and that if Jesus would appear at the head of a host, and declare

for the king of the Jews, he believed all the Jews would fight for him. I sent for the lieutenant, who gave a lengthy account of the occurrence that morning, all of which I suppose you have learned, and will investigate. From this I am convinced that something transcending the laws of nature took place that morning, that cannot be accounted for upon natural laws, and I find it is useless to try to get any of the soldiers to deny it, for they are so excited that they

it might be that he was the seed of the woman, and we his people had executed him.

"I asked John and Peter if they could give me any further evidence in regard to this man; that I wished to be informed of his private history. Peter said that Jesus passed by where he was, and bade him follow him, and he felt attracted to him, but at first it was more through curiosity than anything in the man; that he soon became acquainted with Mary, who told

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*I regret that I had the soldiers placed at the tomb, for the very things that they were to prevent they have helped to establish.*

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cannot be reasoned with. I regret that I had the soldiers placed at the tomb, for the very things that they were to prevent they have helped to establish.

"After questioning the soldiers and officers to my satisfaction, my mind being so disturbed that I could neither eat nor sleep, I sent for John and Peter. They came and brought Mary and Joanna, who are the women that went to embalm Jesus' body the morning of the resurrection, as it is called. They were very interesting as they related the circumstances. Mary says that when they went day was just breaking. They met the soldiers returning from the sepulchre, and saw nothing strange until they came to the tomb, and found that it was empty. The stone that covered the sepulchre was rolled to one side, and two men dressed in flowing white were sitting, one at each end of the sepulchre. Mary asked them where was her Lord; they said, 'He is risen from the dead; did he not tell you he would rise the third day and show himself to the people, to prove that he was the Lord of life?' Go tell his disciples, said they. Joanna said she saw but one man; but this discrepancy must have been due to their excitement, because they say they were much alarmed. They both say that as they returned they met the Master, who told them that he was the resurrection and the life; all that will accept shall be resurrected from the second death. 'We fell at his feet, all bathed in tears, and when we rose up he was gone.' Both these women wept for joy while relating these circumstances, and John shouted aloud, which made me tremble in every limb, for I could not help thinking that something that was the exclusive work of God had occurred, but what it all meant was a great mystery to me. It might be, I said, that God had sent this message by the mouth of this stranger;

him that he was her son, and related to him the strange circumstances of his birth, and that she was convinced that he was to be the king of the Jews. She spoke of many strange things concerning his life, which made Peter feel more interested in him than he would have been otherwise. He said that Jesus was a man so pleasant in his character, and so like a child in innocence, that no one could help liking him after he got acquainted with him; that though he seemed to be stern and cold, he was not so in reality; that he was exceedingly kind, especially to the poor; that he would make any sacrifice for the sick and needy, and would spare no effort to impart knowledge to anyone that would call on him, and that his knowledge was so profound that he had seen him interrogated by the most learned doctors of the law, and he always gave the most perfect satisfaction, and that the *sopher* or scribes, and the Hillelites, and Shammaites were afraid to open their mouths in his presence. They had attacked him so often and been repelled that they shunned him as they would a wolf; but when he had repelled them he did not enjoy the triumph as they did over others of whom they had gotten the ascendancy. As to his private life, he seemed not to be a man of pleasure, nor of sorrow. He mingled with society to benefit it, and yet took no part at all in what was going on. 'I had heard many tell of what occurred when he was baptized, and from what his mother told me I was watching for a display of his divine power, if he had any, for I knew he could never be king of the Jews unless he did have help from on high. Once when we were attending a marriage-feast the wine gave out, and his mother told him of it, and he said to the men to fill up some waterpots that were sitting near, and they put in nothing but water, for I watched them, but

when they poured it out it was wine, for it was tasted by all at the feast, and when the master found it out he called for Jesus to honor him, but he had disappeared. It seemed that he did not want to be popular, and this spirit displeased us, for we knew if he was to be king of the Jews he must become popular with the Jews. His behavior angered his mother, for she was doing all she could to bring him into notice, and to make him popular among the people, and the people could not help liking him when they saw him. Another peculiarity was that in his presence everyone felt safe. There seemed to be an almighty power pervading the air wherever he went so that everyone felt secure, and believed that no harm could befall them if Jesus were present. As we were in our fishing-boat I saw Jesus coming out toward us, walking on the water. I knew that if he could make the waves support him, he could me also. I asked him if I might come to him; he said to me to come, but when I saw the waves gathering around me I began to sink, and asked him to help me. He lifted me up, and told me to have faith in God. On another occasion we were sailing on the sea, and there was a great storm. It blew at a fearful rate, and all on board thought they would be lost; we awakened the master, and when he saw the raging of the storm he stretched out his hand and said, "Peace, be still!" and the wind ceased to blow, the thunder stopped, the lightnings withdrew, and the billowing sea seemed as quiet as a babe in its mother's arms—all done in one moment of time. This I saw with my own eyes, and from that time I was convinced that he was not a common man. Neither did he work by enchantment like the Egyptian thaumaturgists, for in all their tricks they never attack the laws of nature. In vain might they order the thunder to hush, or the winds to abate,

as the Egyptian necromancers. They use vessels, such as cups, bags, and jugs, and many other things to deceive. Jesus used nothing but his simple speech in such a way that all could understand him, and it seemed as if the laws of nature were his main instruments of action, and that nature was as obedient to him as a slave is to his master. I recall another occasion when a young man was dead, and Jesus loved his sisters. One of them went with Jesus to the tomb. He commanded it to be uncovered. The sister said, "Master, by this time he is offensive; he has been dead four days." Jesus said, "Only have faith," and he called the young man by name, and he came forth out of the tomb, and is living to-day,' and Peter proposed that I should see him for myself.

"Thus argue Peter and John. If Jesus had such power over nature and nature's laws, and power over death in others, he would have such power over death that he could lay down his life and take it up again, as he said he would do. As he proposes to bring hundreds of witnesses to prove all he says, and much more—witnesses whose veracity cannot be doubted—and as I had heard many of these things before from different men, both friends and foes (and although these things are related by his friends—that is, the friends of Jesus—yet these men talk like men of truth, and their testimony corroborates other evidence that I have from other sources, that convinces me that this is something that should not be rashly dealt with), and seeing the humble trust and confidence of these men and women, besides, as John says, thousands of others equally strong in their belief, it throws me into great agitation. I feel some dreadful foreboding—a weight upon my heart. I cannot feel as a criminal from the fact that I was acting according to my best judgment with the evidence before me. I

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*I feel that I was acting in defence of God  
and my country, . . . and if I was  
mistaken, I was honest in my mistake.*

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or the lightnings to cease their flashing. Again, I saw this man while we were passing from Jericho. There was a blind man, who cried out to him for mercy, and Jesus said to me, "Go, bring him near," and when I brought him near Jesus asked him what he wanted. He said he wanted to see him. Jesus said, "Receive thy sight," when he was not near enough for Jesus to lay his hands upon him or use any art. Thus were all his miracles performed. He did not act

feel that I was acting in defence of God and my country, which I love better than my life, and if I was mistaken, I was honest in my mistake. And as we teach that honesty of purpose gives character to the action, on this basis I shall try to clear myself of any charge, yet there is a conscious fear about my heart, so that I have no rest day or night. I feel sure that if I should meet Jesus I would fall dead at his feet; and it  
(Continued on page 14)

## 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).

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ—the same gospel 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.

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## EDITORIALS



Because of a risen Saviour we send greetings to each of our readers. A resurrected Christ is the inspiration and founder of the message of life that is sent out through these pages. Many great men and liberators have done honorable things in their lifetime, and today big edifices are erected and homage is paid to their graves. However, we do not pay homage to the grave of the One who liberated us from sin, but to the Redeemer Himself.

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We are so very thankful for those who responded to help with the expense of the shipment of paper that was ordered for the printing work. We want to express our gratitude for your interest in seeing the Lord's work continue. We depend upon Him continually to supply for the needs that arise.

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It has been suggested that it would be good for those who feel a burden of interest to send a card or letter of encouragement to Sis. Velda Fox. Sis. Fox is an isolated saint who is the wife of the late Bro. William Fox. Her address is: c/o Convalescence Center, Rt. 2, B-49, Marion, KY 42064.

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Congratulations to Bro. Ben and Sis. Sybil Goldsberry on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They will commemorate that day on April 18th. Those who would like to attend a gathering planned for that occasion, may call (318) 396 0439, from 6-10 p.m., for more information.

Their daughter, Coni Hollinsworth, is compiling a memory book of her parents. If you could contribute any memory to it, send them to Coni at: 4527 Whites Ferry Rd., West Monroe, LA 71291, before April 15.

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"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." Matt. 11:15. On several occasions Jesus spoke these words to the people. Such instruction is applicable today. It is important that our perception of spiritual things be keen. Being alert and listening enables us to escape many pitfalls, and also to help others around us.

In order to have ears to hear, we must have a desire to hear. This includes all that God has to say and not just a favorite set of doctrines. A spoiled child will hear only those things which he wants to hear. It is possible for grown people to be the same way when God speaks. The Psalmist David said, "Therefore I esteem all thy

precepts concerning all things to be right." Psalm 119:128.

There is another aspect to hearing. It is possible to fail in being a help to others because we do not hear and recognize their needs. The world is sending out a clear signal of the times that we are living in, yet there are Christians who are not recognizing it. One little boy was telling his father a story. The father said, "Slow down, you are talking too fast." "No," the son replied, "I'm not talking too fast, you are listening too slow." It is possible for us to listen too slow to the changes that are taking place in the world. We cannot afford, for our sake and others, to look at the world in the context of 40 years ago. Let me give an example. In 1940, school teachers were asked to describe the top seven disciplinary problems they faced in the schoolroom. The problems given were: talking, chewing gum, making noise, running in the halls, wearing improper clothing, and not putting waste paper in the waste paper basket. In the 1980's, educators were asked the same question by college researchers. Their answers were: rape, robbery, assault, burglary, arson, bombing and murder. There is a great difference in these answers. These problems may not have reached where you are living, but to be cognizant of the fact that they exist will perhaps in the near future be of great benefit.

Today's society offers not only the portrayal of nudity, but perverted exploits of every type imaginable by corrupt minds. Today's problems do not end with divorce and remarriage, but include the co-habitation of the same sex. The penalty of illicit affairs is not just a shame and reproach, which has to a great extent been removed, but the very real possibility of contracting a deadly disease. The neglect of children pales in the light of the abortions that are taking place. The mention of evolution is not the worst thing that parents should fear in sending their children to a public school, but rather finding that they are being taught "sexual responsibility" by being given free birth control devices by the school health clinics.

We need to have our ears open, an awareness of these things, which are taking place around us. If we have no knowledge of them, we will be helpless in protecting ourselves, our children and others against them.

In one place, Jesus said, "Let these sayings sink down into your ears." This means to give great consideration. I pray that God will give wisdom to know how to incorporate these facts into our everyday lives. —Wayne Murphey

To the Editor:

Can you imagine what would happen if one would walk up to a famous painter, in the middle of painting a masterpiece, grab the paint from him, and throw paint on the half-finished canvas?

The painter would jump up, in total shock and outrage, screaming, "It was a masterpiece!, and you ruined it!" "Oh, no!" the perpetrator would exclaim, "That was no masterpiece! Why anyone knows a masterpiece is a finished painting, not one partially painted!" The artist would cry, "You imbecile! Everything needed to complete this masterpiece is here! I had all the paint, the brush, the canvas, the talent! Everything to see this piece of art to its completion is here and available! Only time stood between this partially completed painting and its intended destiny, and purpose! You've destroyed my masterpiece, and the eventual joy of myself and the beholder!"

Everyone can see, that if one would ever have any respect for the finished masterpiece, one would have to show respect to the painter, his paints, his brush, and the canvas during the process of seeing this piece of art to its consummation. Disrespect for these intrinsic elements necessary to complete the final masterpiece, denotes total disrespect and lack of sensitivity towards the artist, the means to accomplish the work of art, as well as the final product, the completed masterpiece.

When one aborts a living fetus, a life equipped with everything necessary for the completion of the intended destiny and purposes of the highest form of creation on the face of the earth, what does this tell you of the real attitude and sensibility of this individual towards the Creator of this life, the means by which this life is formed, as well as the completed masterpiece, an interim abode for a living, eternal soul, to say nothing of the ramifications of its intended purposes and final destiny!

Think of it!

—Stephen Bacon  
Newalla, Okla.

## Ballad of the Unborn

My shining feet will never run  
On early morning lawn;  
My feet were crushed before they had  
A chance to greet the dawn.

My fingers now will never stretch  
To touch the winning tape;  
My race was done before I learned  
The smallest steps to take.

My growing height will never be  
Recorded on the wall;  
My growth was stopped when I was still,  
Unseen, and very small.

My lips and tongue will never taste  
The good fruits of the earth;  
For I myself was judged to be  
A fruit of little worth.

My eyes will never scan the sky  
For my high-flying kite;  
For when still blind, destroyed were they  
In the black womb of night.

I'll never stand upon a hill  
Spring's winds in my hair,  
Aborted winds of thought closed in  
On motherhood's despair.

I'll never walk the shores of life  
Or know the tides of time;  
For I was coming but unloved,  
And that my only crime.

Nameless am I, a grain of sand  
One of the countless dead,  
But the deed that made me ashen grey  
Floats on seas of red.

—Fay Clayton

*The Ballad of the Unborn* may be obtained in tract form from this office upon request. Quantities may be purchased for 70¢ per hundred.

### Prayer Requests

MI—"Please put me on your prayer list. I have a bad case of shingles on the right side of my face."

—Anna Fendrick

OK—"I have some unspoken requests, and I am going through some tests and trials."

—Juliette Lounds

CA—"Please remember my father, age 92 years young, Arthur Emery, Sr., who is unsaved."

—Sis. Eleanor Fingerle

IN—"Please remember my wife, Ruth. She is seriously ill and needs prayer."

—J. E. McCart

OH—"Sister Jessie Turner needs special prayer for healing so she can continue to care for Sis. Baker who is bedfast."

IN—"Please remember me in prayer, my eyes are bad."

—Olga Bokrandt

NC—"I would appreciate prayer. I have an ear problem, also high blood pressure."

—C. J. Baker, Sr.

WV—"I would like for you to pray for my physical healing."

—Bro. D. J. Keaton

FL—"Please pray for my healing. Also pray for my son, his nerves are bad. A granddaughter needs prayer."

—Flora Knight

OR—"Sis. Evelyn Wilson has a problem with high blood pressure, remember her in prayer."

OK—"Sis. Thelma Lea needs special prayer for healing."

OR—"Sis. Grace Jones needs prayer for healing, and has two unspoken requests."

MD—"Please pray for our family. We have many problems."

—Margaret Taylor

### HELP NEEDED

Sis. Goldie Knapp of Forest City, MO is interested in a good Christian woman to live with her on a farm. Sis. Knapp is able to be up and around but is in need of some help. For more details contact her at: (816) 442 3828 or (816) 232 8737.

### MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

#### Camp Meeting Dates for 1987

Goulds, FL — April 12-19

Tulsa, OK — June 7-14

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, OK —  
June 12-21

Green Bank, WV — June 12-21

Jefferson, OR — June 12-21

Oakland, CA — June 19-28

Chilliwack, B.C., Canada — June 22-28

General Southern at Loranger, LA —  
June 26-July 5

Fresno, CA — July 3-12

Akron, OH — July 3-12

National at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO  
July 17-26

Missouri State at Myrtle, MO —  
July 27-August 2

Bakersfield, CA — August 7-16

Duncannon, PA — August 9-16

Boley, OK — August 23-30

California State at Pacoima, CA —  
August 28-September 6

### CORRECTION

In the March *Faith and Victory*, the date for the Bakersfield, CA camp meeting was incorrect. The date for their camp meeting is August 7-16.

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### WICHITA, KS MEETING REPORT

The Wichita congregation is pleased to report a most successful and wonderful meeting. Sis. Beverly Reed was here for a six day meeting and the Lord blessed and sent forth the Word with great power and anointing. I believe we can safely say that every message had something needed by all of us. Truly the saints were revived, refreshed and called to go to higher ground. May we each attain to higher ground and deeper depths. We also rejoice and give thanks that some souls were saved. We thank God for His wonder working power.

—Shirley Knight

**FOUR CORNERS, OK REVIVAL**

Plans have been made to have a revival at the Church of God Chapel located in the community of Four Corners, OK. Lord willing, the meeting will begin on April 5th and continue through the 12th with Bro. Stanley Dickson of Jena, LA being the evangelist. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, contact the pastor, Bro. Clifford Wilson, (918) 256 6637, or Bro. and Sis. Albert Eck, (918) 784 2388.

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**NEOSHO, MO MEETING**

The saints at Neosho, MO have set the dates of April 12-19th in which to have a revival meeting. They are praying that the Lord will have His way in this meeting and burden the ones He would choose to use.

For more information, contact Bro. T. V. McMillian, Rt. 7, Box 330, Neosho, MO 64850. Phone. (417) 451 0278.

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**SAPULPA, OK REVIVAL**

Beginning on April 12, the Sapulpa Road Church of God is planning on having several nights of revival. Lord willing, Bro. Mart Samons will be the evangelist. The meeting will most likely not go the full week. There are plans to have a dinner at the chapel after the morning service on Easter Sunday, April 19.

For more information, contact the pastor, Bro. Richard Madden, (918) 446 8202.

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**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK SPRING MEETING**

It has been announced that, Lord willing, there will be a Spring Meeting held in the chapel located at 5900 N. E. 23rd St. in Oklahoma City, OK. It will begin on April 19 and run through the Sunday morning of April 26. On Sunday, April 19, there will be all-day meeting with dinner served at the chapel. Services will be each night at 7:30 with Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:45. It has been arranged for Bro. Mart Samons to be the evangelist. For more information, contact Bro. Archie Souder whose phone number is: (405) 427 9666. The chapel phone is: (405) 427 1223.

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**BOLEY, OK SPRING MEETING**

Lord willing, the Boley Spring Meeting of the Church of God will convene April 30 through May 3, 1987.

We extend a warm welcome to all nations—"Come now and let us reason together saith the

Lord." We are looking to the Lord to send ministers and workers of His own choice.

Come praying the Lord will give us a Holy Spirit filled meeting and that souls will be saved to the glory of God.

There will be services nightly, 7:30 p.m.; two services on Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

For further information, contact Sis. Anna Mae Thompson, Route 1, Box 71-A, Boley, Okla. 74829. Phone (918) 667 3648, or Sis. Katherine Williams, 905 N.E. 15th St., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73104. Phone (405) 235 2270.

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**GOSPEL SINGING AND ALL-DAY SERVICES****MYRTLE, MISSOURI**

Lord willing, there will be a gospel singing held at the Church of God Chapel, Myrtle, MO on Saturday night, May 2, 1987, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The purpose is that God be glorified through messages of truth contained in spiritual singing, both congregational and special. The singing will be followed by all-day services on Sunday, May 3rd. We extend a hearty invitation to all to come and worship the Lord with us on this special week-end. —Harlan Sorrell

**From the Mailbox . . .**

GA—Dear loved Ones at the Print Shop: It has been a long time since I have written to you, but I thank the Lord for His goodness to me. I am still holding on to the Lord, trusting Him for soul and body.

I suffered from a bad fall and was seriously injured, but the Lord touched my body and I am able to do some of my housework again. I thank the saints for their prayers. I called the Akron saints and others. My sister from Pennsylvania came to take care of me while I was disabled. I am very grateful to everyone. I love the Lord with all my heart and His people.

—Sister Mary Johnson

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CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Just a few lines to let you hear from us. We all are well. I hope you all are the same. We are yet saved, and encouraged to live for the Lord. Remember us in prayer. Give our love to the saints.

—Bro. and Sis. John Matthews

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' holy and precious name. I hope all is going well with you there in the work of the Lord. We appreciate all of you there and your labors of love.

I am encouraged in the Lord and appreciate His blessings to me, spiritually and in many other ways. I am still getting stronger in my body and am more able to work and lift, etc. I am indeed grateful for what God has done and is doing for me.

Spring is here again. Things are getting so pretty and green. I love the spring time . . .

Your brother in Christ,—T. V. McMillian

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AL—Dear Ones: Thank God for all the dear saints and for their prayers and testimonies! I am so sorry to hear of Sister Maybelle's sister's death as I know it brings sadness to all, but she is now rejoicing so there should be much comfort in that thought.

Please pray for my son to realize for sure whether or not he is truly born again, and if not that he will be saved. He is recuperating from an infection in his ankle and leg injured over a year ago.

Remember my lost loved ones.

Christian love, —Leora Frink

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WV—Dear Sister Maybelle and All: I trust this finds you well and happy in the Lord. He fills my cup running over. There is nothing like His love.

I haven't written for some time. I am 70 years old and I still have my mother who will be 92 in April. I thank God for the strength He gives me to care for her, and for the love He has given me in my heart. Pray for me and my family.

Sister Maybelle, I cannot put on paper what is in my heart, how much I love Jesus.

Love and prayers, —Gertrude Smith

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

TX—Dear Saints: Praise God for nearly seven years of victory! He is truly the same today. May He continue to bless and strengthen each one of you in your endeavor to publish the written word. We all have a job to be about for night cometh soon. Be of good courage!

In Christ, —Sis. Earlene House

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OK—Dear Sis. Maybelle and Bro. Wayne: We send greetings in our blessed Savior's sweet name. As the song says, "I know I love thee better, Lord, than any earthly joy: For thou hast given me the peace which nothing can destroy."

We see so much trouble, sorrow, sin, wickedness, deception, cults, wrong teachings in the name of Christianity and awful things being

taught in schools. Modesty and our moral standard has been made so low that anything is accepted. O Lord help us to cry aloud and spare not.

Humanism is a very deceptive teaching. Why did Jesus have to die? It is because man could not live a righteous life without the help of God. "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Gen. 6:5. So God destroyed man from off the earth, but He found a man that loved God more than his self. This man, Noah, obeyed God and God blessed him to build the ark and preserve life upon the earth.

We wonder how much longer God will have mercy on this wicked and adulterous generation. Thank God He still has a remnant that loves to serve Him, through the grace and help of our blessed Savior.

We cannot do it alone. Jesus came that He might redeem us from sin, sanctify and cleanse us, destroying the very root of evil and filling our hearts with the Holy Ghost. He will write His law within our hearts and cause us to walk in His way. How can we ever praise Him enough.

We enjoy the *Faith and Victory*. We look forward each month to receiving it, and if by mistake it is not sent our way, how we do miss it. We pray God to keep His hand on the publishing work. May God bless each one.

Christian love,—Bro. and Sis. Albert Eck

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey: I send greetings of Christian love to each one there in the Print Shop.

I trust all are well there and enjoying the rich blessings that salvation brings to all who will accept them. Sometimes there are hard trials which none of us enjoy when we are passing through them, but if we let them they will prove a blessing to us.

With love and prayers,

—Sis. Agnes Huskey

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

AR—Dear Ones: I've been reading the *Faith and Victory* paper. It is encouraging to read.

We still need your prayers. My husband is not doing very well. His mind is not very good. We desire your prayers.

God bless you all there, —Pearl Steele

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

WA—Remember us in your prayers. We are praying that you will keep up the work to the very End. The End is at the door.

Christian love, —Jim Wilson



MO—Dear Sister Maybelle and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Today finds me still trusting God for both soul and body. I thank Him for all His blessings and all He does for me. I have a desire to help someone who needs my help. I want to be a witness for God. He has been so good to me. I love Him and His Word is all true. We can depend on it, thank God.

Pray for me and my loved ones. May God bless each one at the Print Shop.

Your sister in Christ, —Eathel Hill

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OK—Sis. Maybelle, Bro. Wayne and Fellow Workers: Greetings in the name of Jesus our Savior and Lord of our life. May He bless each of you in your endeavors in spreading His Word near and far.

A recent ice and snow storm we had in the Shawnee area is recorded as one of the worst in many years. My wife, Ruth, and I live on an acreage northeast of Shawnee about twelve miles. Five miles of this is off a main highway, on a blacktop road, which is badly deteriorated. It is full of potholes, one-way bridges and generally in poor condition, as many of our county roads are today. There are no speed limit signs posted, as it is impossible to drive the state speed limit, because of conditions along the way.

Ruth and I both work, on opposite shifts. We travel this road once or twice a day, depending on our activities. This five-mile stretch of road we consider very treacherous. It is up and down hill, no shoulders to pull off on, deep ravines and water run off creeks at the bottom of every hill.

The surrounding countryside is beautiful, whether it be the greenery of spring and summer or the snows of winter. There have been lives lost on this road each year, by not staying on the road, including close kin of ours. Many cars slip off into ditches as the road turns to snow and ice, or by driving too fast.

Coming from work during the ice storm, I was reminded this road is like the Highway of Life, with hills to climb and valleys to go through, with disaster every mile of the way, if we get off the road. This particular night coming from work, I was very tired because of extended hours and I was dreading the slick road home. I was thanking the Lord for being able to perform my duties at work, and thinking of the time when we will be called Home. I received such a blessing! I can't express the peace I felt and my eyes filled with tears of such joy! I had a praise service right there! This road we travel does

give us time for meditation and talking to our Lord.

We have an up-hill driveway from the road, up to our house. As we turn into our drive, we look upward and can see the lights of home, but still have a hill to climb. If the road is slick, we have a problem with this last hill and need momentum to get up it. When the weather is good we just go right on up with no problems.

In looking about me, of late, I see some of the dear older saints that are facing that last hill and still have it to climb. The thought came to me, if we make faith, hope and promise our momentum, it will help us over the next hill or the last hill.

I have heard two or three messages lately and all the themes seemed to be—Don't Give Up, Stay True, Keep Your Eyes On Jesus, No Matter What It Takes, Just Don't Give Up.

Pray for us that we will stay true and ever keep that hope in our hearts.

In Christian love, —Bill McMakin

—————o—————

### Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

IA—Dear Brothers and Sisters: Greetings in Christ's dear name. He has healed me from my breathing problem which was heavy on my lungs. I am thankful for the love and mercy He has had on me in times past.

My wife has the same thing. She needs prayer. Please put the request before the Church to pray for her. She is needing prayer.

Christian love,

—Bro. Charles and Sis. Dorothy Mason

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

TX—Greetings of holy love in the precious name of Jesus Christ our Lord: Yes, the Lord has been so good to us. I have been sick about two weeks now. I believe I had bronchial pneumonia, but thank God, He is still hearing and answering prayer . . .

I need your prayers. My voice isn't cleared up good and I am very weak.

Christian love and prayers,—Nellie Lovell

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OH—Dear Saints: We want to testify of God's goodness unto us. We appreciate His precious dealings with us. As the song says, "God leads His dear children along." We always want to be at the place where we can hear His voice, and then obey.

On Friday, Jan. 16, 1987, I was doing my household duties and errands when I was brought down physically. Our God knows all about it, but we only know that from all the indications

and all symptoms that it was apparently a heart attack. I didn't know if I would be here long. My husband and family, who were witnessing this, gathered around me and prayer was offered to God. My husband called my brother, Paul Brown, for prayer, and in turn others found out about our need. There were saints praying in different localities and states. God touched in such a way that I felt the crushing in my chest lifting just as a phone call from some of the saints was made to our home. He is just the same today. "Yes, He healed in Galilee, set the suffering captives free, and He's just the same today." We praise His name!

We thank the saints for their prayers in behalf of my body, and I always desire prayer for my soul that I will be faithful to God.

—Rita Vulgamore

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ghana, W. Africa—Dear Brother Murphey and the Co-Workers in the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. I am a member of the Church of God Evening Light, Wenchi Branch.

I would like to send my testimony in. I want to testify how Almighty God healed me. About two weeks ago, (Jan. 8) I was seriously attacked by fever and other symptoms. I prayed to the Lord God Almighty first, but the sickness didn't minimize a bit.

Two days after that day was Sunday. It was worshipping day, so I went to worship God. After that I put it before the elders of the church and we all prayed together for my recovery. While we were praying I felt the sickness being uprooted by the Mighty and Divine Healer. We read James chapter 5, verses 13 to 15 with the prayers. Two days after, I was completely healed.

Your brother in Christ,

—Kwame Boateng Settr

—————o—————

## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From India . . .

Mar. 10—Our dearly beloved elder sister Maybelle Pruitt, Bro. Wayne Murphey and other dear Ones at Guthrie: Greetings to you all again in the sweetest name of Jesus. By the grace of God we are all going on fine. We have had no rain for a long time, and hence we fear we might have another drought this year like the one we had three years back.

The convention in Andhra State was a real blessed one. I could not go over there as I was sick during those days, but a few brothers from my place went over there to attend the meetings.

Several got saved, sanctified and baptized. So God has opened a field for us in Andhra State also.

Please continue to pray for the many needs of the Church in India.

Yours in Him,

—John Varghese

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

From the Philippines . . .

Feb. 23—Dearest Brother Hammond: Greeting you good day in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I cannot express enough in words the feeling of gratitude in my heart to receive your very kind and encouraging letter. Thank you so much again, dear brother, for your un-ending concern for us.

We are busy conducting evangelistic services in the barrios. The other night we held an evangelistic meeting in barrio Nanlagarian. This place is very close to our land in Lomboy Bufid. This is the place of Brother Alberto Abalos. We have regular worship services there every Sunday. Several souls have been saved and added to the Church. My wife is staying in the field so she can help them in their regular services.

The church building in Puncan is not yet finished but they plan to continue to work on Thursday. We need more cement and hollow blocks, and also the roof. I hope it will be finished before the rainy season comes.

Last night we had a gospel meeting in Caridad because the barrio people requested us to hold a gospel meeting and an open forum. The people became very interested about the Church of God. We had a big group in front of our small church building there. The people were all satisfied by the answers from the Bible. During the invitation song many came forward with tears from their eyes asking God to forgive them. We ended the meeting at about midnight.

Bro. Ricardo, the elder in Caridad, told me a story of a miracle. He said that on Sunday night a man from their barrio awakened him asking him for help. That was about 10:00 p.m. The man said his son, who is 10 years old, was very sick. It seemed he was dying. He requested Brother Ricardo to go to pray for his son. The man said his son got sick in the early morning. They asked a quack doctor (a friend of evil spirits) to cure the boy. The quack doctor said the boy was harmed by evil spirits. The quack doctor told them to prepare a roasted chicken and a cake which he offered to the evil spirits. The boy got better, but about 9:00 p.m. the boy got worse, catching up his breath and dying. Brother Ricardo went to awaken our brothers and sisters, and they went to prayer for the boy. After the prayer the boy was sleeping peacefully.

When he went home, Brother Ricardo continued praying privately for the boy. In the morning the boy was well and healthy. He went to the field to work with his father. Praise God, He still does miracles today for His children! For almost every occasion the people are requesting the elders of the Church of God to pray for them. If they build a new house, they ask the saints there to pray for the new house. If they harvested a good harvest they asked the saints to conduct a thanksgiving service for them. They believe that God is truly with the Church of God people.

Tonight we are going to San Juan to hold a gospel meeting there. I must close, but I will write you again soon.

Your brother in the gospel field,  
—Matias S. Tangunan

## *In Memorial*

Archibald W. Sherman, the third oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse James Sherman, was born July 29, 1907, in Sherman, Texas, and departed this life to meet the Lord on Tuesday morning, February 10, 1987, at his home, at the age of 79 years, 5 months, and 14 days.

In December, 1933, Bro. Sherman, Sr., was united in marriage to Annie Lee Wilcox, who preceded him in death. During the years eleven children became a part of this blessed union.

In 1934, Bro. Sherman heard the teaching of the Church of God, Evening Light Saints, taught by the pioneer ministers. He readily accepted the doctrine of the Church of God and was saved. He lived a Christian life, serving the Lord and the church for over 50 years.

In 1960, Bro. Sherman, Sr. was united in marriage to Edith Johnson and the family grew to 17 children. For 26 years they shared a deep abiding love and blessed relationship, built on their love for God's Word.

He leaves to mourn his passing: His devoted wife, eleven sons, six daughters, a special great-granddaughter, 53 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, two sisters, and many other relatives, saints and friends.

Funeral service was held Saturday, February 14, 1987 at 9:00 a.m. in the Church of God Chapel, Bakersfield, CA, with Brother Robert C. Mays and Brother Woodrow Warren officiating. Interment followed at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Our greatest appreciation goes to the saints and friends for their prayers, love and care

extended to our family during the brief illness and passing of Brother Archibald W. Sherman, Sr. The grace of God and the prayers of the saints sustained us during the time of our sorest need. Brother Sherman, Sr. believed and practices divine healing and he was divinely healed many times. He believed in the power of prayer and during his affliction his faith waivered not, for his request was, "Don't pray for my healing. I am tired and I am ready to go home." He left us with these words: "Don't cry, meet me. Preach the Word at any cost!" Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was faithful to us all and met our every need. We are left with pleasant memories and a challenge to meet him on the other shore.

—The Family

## Question and Answer Column

by  
Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** Will you please discuss and explain the doctrine of Justification?

**Answer:** Justification is defined in the dictionary as (1) the act of justifying; and (2) The condition or fact of being justified. Justifier is defined as "One who justifies." Justify is theologically defined in the dictionary as "To free man of the guilt and penalty attached to grievous sin."

Justification is the legal aspect of our salvation; the absolving from guilt by the forgiveness of all of our sins. Psalms 103:3 says of the Lord God "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities." As the dictionary defines "Justifier" as "One who justifies" so the Scripture says in Romans 8:33, that it is God that justifieth. Hence; God is the justifier Who justifies sinful men on certain grounds and conditions and for specific reasons. Psalms 103:10-12 says, "He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." The reason and grounds for God not dealing with us after our sins nor rewarding us according to our iniquities will be seen as we proceed. Another Scripture confirming God as the justifier is Isa. 43:25. "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins." Again in Heb. 8:12, speaking of His new covenant, He would make with the people, God said, "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and

their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established (Matt. 18:16; John 8:17) so these texts are sufficient to establish God as the Justifier and He is the only Justifier. If we obtain justification for our sins at all, we must receive it directly from Him. So now we will move on to discuss the grounds on which He can righteously justify us; blot out all our transgressions and remember our sins no more.

Since all human kind was blighted by sin as a result of the disobedience of our foreparents (Adam and Eve) in the Garden of Eden and their sinful state separated all of them from God (Isa. 59:1-2) there existed no point of contact between God and man and no means of approach to Him; consequently no remedy for the doleful condition. But God was not satisfied with that condition because He loved mankind and wanted fellowship with him so He set about to devise a means of reconciliation. In Isaiah 59:16, we read this, "And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him." God must bring this about in a way to protect His own character and sustain His own righteousness, holiness and justice. God Himself had decreed a penalty of death for sin (Gen. 2:17; Ezek. 18:4; Rom. 5:12 and 6:23). Therefore the acceptable sacrifice for sin must be one subject to death and the shedding of blood—"Without shedding of blood there is no remission" Heb. 9:22. But man could not accomplish this for himself because the sin sacrifice must be perfect without spot or blemish (Lev. 22:19-20) and no man could qualify here because "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" Rom. 3:23 and 5:12.

So when God looked over the entire human race and saw no man who was eligible to make an atonement for the sins of the race and qualified to stand in the breach between God and man and act as a mediator, go-between, intercessor between them, He never abandoned the project and gave it up as a bad job. He made Him a man (Jesus) Who accomplished the redemption of the human race (Isa. 59:16 and Rev. 5:1-10). "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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." Ah! folks, here is our redemption and salvation and our ONLY redemption and salvation because Jesus, the Son of God, offered Himself to God a sacri-

fice for our sins "as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" I Peter 1:19 and Heb. 9:14.

Romans 3:24-26 says "Being JUSTIFIED freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness, that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." There could be no compromise here if God were to maintain his own character of holiness, righteousness and justice. The full penalty for sin (death) must be paid and it must be paid by one Who was eligible and qualified to pay it; having no stain of sin upon him and no spot of his character if God could be justified in forgiving sin and justifying sinful men. This was the great problem of redemption but Jesus solved it and bridged the gap by offering a total and acceptable sacrifice for sin and dying in our stead and His shed blood was a sufficient redemption for sin. Now, under this arrangement, God can still be God as holy, righteous, and just as He was before and still justify sinful men who will humble their hearts, confess, forsake and repent of their sins, believe in Jesus Christ as God's Son and their Saviour and put their faith in the merits of the all-atoning blood of Jesus Christ and that ONLY for the forgiveness of their sins. Jesus bore our sins in His own body on the tree (I Peter 2:24), He tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9), and God placed on Him the iniquity of us all (Isa. 53:6). Therefore God can have mercy on them who are out of the way and freely forgive their sins and blot out all their transgressions and remember them no more when they come unto Him by Jesus Christ. This is total and complete justification by God for Jesus' sake.

Romans 5:1 says, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Peace with God is the result of justification. It is sin that breeds the quarrel between man and God and separates us from Him (Isa. 59:1-2). When sins are forgiven and blotted out, the cause of the enmity is removed and peace is restored. This peace is through Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant. Jesus has qualified as the one and only mediator between God and man and to be our intercessor at the throne of grace. We can come unto God through Him in His name and in no other way. Read the following Scriptures: John 14:6; Rom. 8:34; I Tim. 2:5; Heb. 9:15; Heb. 8:6; Heb. 12:24; and Heb. 7:25. Jesus is right now appearing in the presence of God for us mediating and mak-

ing intercession for all who will come unto God by Him.

But there is one more thing I must add before I close this little article. Let us not settle too cheap on this matter of New Testament justification. We have dealt much on the thought of God forgiving all of our sins, blotting out all our transgressions, cancelling out all of our past life and justifying us and declaring us righteous on the basis of Christ's righteousness and our faith in Him. Wonderful!! But this is only one part of God's process of justification. When He has done this, He then imparts to the justified person a power and grace to have victory over sin and to live a life free from sin. In Acts 13:39, we read, "And by him all that believe are justified FROM all things, FROM which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." The key word in this text is the word "FROM". God forgave sins under the law of Moses when the required sacrifice was offered. Man was forgiven but that was all. He received no power to enable him to live without sinning so he had to bring his sacrifice again and again. But in justification under grace he is justified FROM those sins when they are forgiven and receives power and grace to live victoriously over sin.

## HOME LIFE



### Be Wise

Jesus said, "Be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Matthew 10:16. Being wise as a serpent is being aware of the surrounding dangers. True, there are many physical dangers on every side of which each must protect himself and his family, but the most serious dangers are elements that threaten the decay of

immortal souls. Satan is shooting evil darts at every Christian, aiming to fatally damage the soul.

One agent the devil is using very effectively to damage souls is the broadcasting media. By the newspapers, magazines, radio, and TV reporting a constant stream of crime of all sorts; pornography, rapes, drugs, alcoholism and uncontrolled passions of all kinds, one could believe there are no common, hard-working, good moral people left in America. A special target is the break-down of Christian morals and the family unit.

We often hear or read, "according to a survey," or "results from this investigation," or "statistics show." Writers and speakers are using results from all sorts of investigations to communicate certain desired thoughts. One good example of this is a recent headline which read, "Kids of Working Mothers Do Better in School." This headline and the related article, could make a depressed, a financially stressed, or a tired-of-staying-at-home mother, feel that staying at home just isn't worth the sacrifice she has been making to obey what she believes to be God's plan for her. Especially could this happen when the report comes from a team of psychologists representing two major universities and five years of inquiry. Each of us must be "wise as serpents" and understand that many such reports are seriously flawed. This one was based on an investigation of 573 children from 38 states in the first, third and fifth grades. The children were divided into two categories; those whose mothers stayed at home and those whose mothers were employed. The children of the working mothers seemed to cope better than their peers and showed higher scores. It was not very surprising though, when the non-working mother category consisted of mothers who did not speak English which would make it almost impossible to help their children with school homework. This category also included mothers who were emotionally unstable, alcoholics, drug abusers, those with low intelligence, those who were too ill to work, ones who had no employable skills, some who had children out of wedlock and mothers who were raising several children supported by welfare. The non-working category did not consist only of mothers who chose to stay at home with their children for spiritual and personal reasons.

Reports from such slanted investigations are distrusted in academic circles. Information from such investigations can be used to prove an untruth. For example, did you know that children of larger stature also score higher on standardized tests than those with smaller stat-

ures? You ask, could this really be true? Yes, it is true! Obviously, sixth graders score higher on academic tests than third graders and they are larger in stature. In this instance and in countless others, the investigation tells us nothing about cause and effect. The results from the investigation done on children from working and non-working mothers does not prove the element that the working mother will benefit her child. There were many other influences that were also present to effect the academic scores of the children investigated.

The devil would like for every homemaker to believe that her job is unimportant, and that she is wasting her time. There could never be a **bigger lie**. The future of every small child is affected greatly by whoever controls his or her early environment. There is simply no substitute of a Christian mother's time and involvement when her children are small. Pre-school, nursery school, nor the best experienced baby sitter can compete with the benefits of a full-time sincere mother. Dr. Burton White, director of a 10-year Harvard University Pre-school Project, says, "Young children of mothers working full time are at a significant disadvantage emotionally and intellectually when compared to those whose mothers remain at home to care for their children. This is not said to place guilt on mothers who have to work. It is only a statement of pure truth."

Every mother must decide from which her child will benefit most; supplying a higher living standard, better clothing, etc., or training in proper values, decision making and coping abilities. Common sense will tell us that children cannot be properly trained when a mother works 40-50 hours a week outside the home, then comes home tired and has to cook, launder clothing, bathe small children, help with school homework and fill the emotional and spiritual needs of her family.

Parents, be "wise as serpents" and do not let headlines such as the following affect your values: "Working Moms' Kids are Healthy, New Study Says," "Kid's Reading Scores High If Mom Works," "Kids Approve of Dual-Career Householder," and "Career Moms Don't Hurt Kid's Chances."

Through many such articles and the news media, the devil is trying to discourage women who are obeying God's commandments to be "keepers at home." He would like to convince us that every mother ought to leave her duties at home and be employed for financial gain. The teenage alcoholism, drug abuse, abortions and unwed teenage mothers and fathers, should prove to any intelligent mother that the best

thing she could be doing is instilling values in her children through her daily care for them until they have made their choice of companions and married, or for some other reason have chosen to leave the home.

—Charlotte Huskey

## Caiaphas' Report to the Sanhedrin

(Continued from page 3)

seemed to me if I went out I should be sure to meet him.

"In this state of conscious dread I remained investigating the Scriptures to know more about the prophecies concerning this man, but found nothing to satisfy my mind. I locked my door and gave the guards orders to let no one in without first giving me notice. While thus engaged, with no one in the room but my wife and Annas, her father, when I lifted up my eyes, behold Jesus of Nazareth stood before me. My breath stopped, my blood ran cold, and I was in the act of falling, when he spoke and said, 'Be not afraid, it is I. You condemned me that you might go free. This is the work of my Father. Your only wrong is, you have a wicked heart; this you must repent of. This last lamb you have slain is the one that was appointed before the foundation; this sacrifice is made for all men. Your other lambs were for those who offered them; this is for all, this is the last; it is for you if you will accept it. I died that you and all mankind might be saved.' At this he looked at me with such melting tenderness that it seemed to me I was nothing but tears, and my strength was all gone. I fell on my face at his feet as one that was dead. When Annas lifted me up Jesus was gone, and the door still locked. No one could tell when or where he went.

"So noble Masters, I do not feel that I can officiate as priest any more. If this strange personage is from God, and should prove to be the Saviour we have looked for so long, and I have been the means of crucifying him, I have no further offerings to make for sin; but I will wait and see how these things will develop. And if he proves to be the ruler that we are looking for, they will soon develop into something more grand in the future. His glory will increase; his influence will spread wider and wider, until the whole earth shall be full of his glory, and all the kingdoms of the world shall be his dominion. Such are the teachings of the prophets on this subject. Therefore you will appoint Jonathan, or some one, to fill the holy place."

[We found that, soon after, Jonathan became high priest, though history teaches us differently. —Mahan.]

## God Is Calling You!

*Twenty years ago, Nov. 1966, God brought this short message to me at about 2:30 a.m. I got up and wrote as the Spirit directed me. The same urgent call goes out today, 20 years later. If you need help, don't trifle with time. God loves us and our time is running out, oh, so fast!*

—Sis. Lou Bray

Dear Ones in the wilderness: This short message of love is to let you know that God is calling you back into His fold. You have wandered long enough, you who sat and listened to the Truth preached, enjoyed it, and even accepted it to some extent. You love the saints, see their godly lives, their good deeds, but some representatives of sin have caused you to fail God, your precious loved ones, your community, and God's children. God needs your life. He is calling you to come back into His fold again. The saints accept all whom God accepts. No one knows better than you do what you ought to do. Pause—be honest! You do know right now what you should do and what God wants you to do.

Do you not realize that a day is coming—it may be sooner than you think—when you will need the prayers of the saints? Do you not realize that they are always ready and willing to help anyone at any time? There is a little world around you in which God would love to have your light shine. He loves your soul and desires to put in you what it takes to give you a life of peace and joy, something which you have never experienced before.

Think on these thoughts, and don't forget all the truth in sermons you've listened to, the truth in song you've heard and helped sing, these which you have refused to measure up to. You are going to meet this at the Judgment. God and the saints love your soul.

What kind of seed are you now sowing? There is coming a reaping day. As you sow, so shall you also reap.

Consent now to come home and let's be laborers together and win precious loved ones to the Lord. Now! "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35.

God needs dedicated lives to work for Him. Are you willing? What does Jesus want to do with your life? Only you can fill that place!

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Salvation is greater riches than all the gold, silver and valuable treasures of this earth summed up together. A treasure that never faileth; a wealth so great that to the happy possessor everything of earth is, in comparison, reduced to dust and dirt.

—Selected

## "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another"

There is much speculation among men as to the character and nature of God. Some look upon Him as a mighty overlord, sternly directing man. Others look upon Him as a loving Father who guides and helps. I would like to share some thoughts and Scriptures about God, His relationship with us and us with Him, and also our relationship one with another.

To begin to comprehend God and His dealings with man today, we must look back and consider His most prominent act towards us; the birth of Jesus. This event was heralded in by a great heavenly host praising God and saying, "peace on earth, good will towards men." This was a direct message from God. He reached out His hand across eternity, down to fallen, hopeless man, and said, good will and peace. God wanted to make peace with man. He in fact turned the other cheek. God's love was not dependent upon how good or holy man was. He loved the most wretched man, without any kind of holding back.

Can we get a clear vision of this love? Think of it as like the sun on a clear, warm day. Its rays fall upon the earth, warming it and causing things to grow. It has a constant output. It does not judge whether or not something is worthy of its life-giving rays. It falls upon all. So it is with God's love. There is no judgment in His love. It is for all men, whosoever will receive it.

Jesus was love personified. (Personify: to represent an abstract idea in the form of a person.) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son . . ." John 3:16. He gave His only Son to invite man to return to the initial fellowship and communion that God had desired when He created man. God wanted man to be His friend, to share with Him, to talk with Him. He gave all that he could in earnest appeal. Consecration is calling us to return the friendship offered by giving all in return. God consecrated, or dedicated Himself to us and we must return that commitment. It is only then that we are able to enter in to what is called the Land of Beulah and the Holy Spirit is able to enter into us, restoring us to our rightful place in the order of God's plan. God didn't have to do this. "Behold, what love, yes love divine the Father showed to thee, in that He gave His only son, thy soul from sin to free . . ."

At this point, I would like to define some words. In the King James Version, the words love (John 3:16) and charity (I Cor. 13:1) are directly translated from the Greek words agapo:



to love in a social or moral sense; and agape: affection or benevolence, with both having the added inference, beyond measure. Charity means the performance of benevolent actions with no expectation of reward; a benevolent feeling towards those in need. Benevolence means a desire to do good unto others, an act of kindness, goodwill, kindhearted, generous.

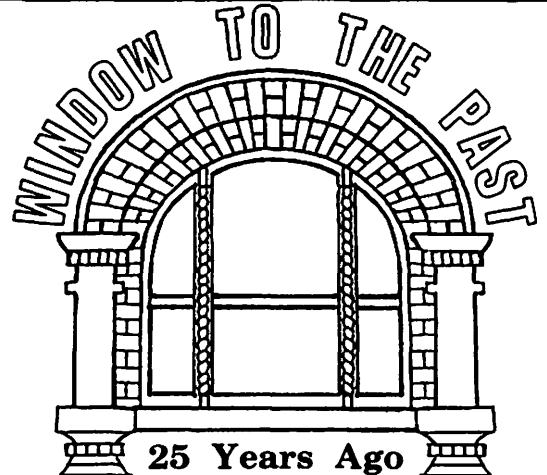
This is the type of love God offered to man; a giving love, a sharing love. It is the kind of love that God wants us, in turn, to have toward not only the family of God, but toward all men; unselfishly, without partiality and without restraint. Jesus gave us two great commands. The essence of them are that we are to love God with this perfect love and that we are to love our brother likewise. Brother in this context means fellow man, having one common ancestor (Adam).

God desires that His children have this love, charity and benevolence working continually between ourselves and between us and Himself. The golden bars that held the children of Israel's tabernacle together were types or shadows of this love. It is the bond that holds the Church (meaning all saved people) together in unity, both with itself and with God. It is when this pure love breaks down and people regress into self-love that divisions appear and problems come up. Perfect love is necessary for the Church to continue as a body. Perfect love is not a worldly love, or a sensual love, but the pure love that radiates from God and is an expression of His own being. (I John 4:16).

My last thought is about losing our first love, which is what happened to the church in Ephesus (Rev. 2:4). I respect and appreciate what has been taught on this, but I would like to look at this verse in a little different perspective. When we are first saved we love everyone. We pray for people to experience the same thing that we have. We go to church meetings and we just love everybody. We are so filled with the love of God that we don't think evil of anyone. But so often it happens that Satan begins trying to work strife between brothers and sisters. Slowly the love of God is replaced by ideas, thoughts and things we have heard about each other. What happened to our first love? Where is it? Where did it go? Dear Ones, we need to make sure that we are continually filled with the love of God and not give place to any other spirit. For if our love for one another would fail, where would we stand before God? Therefore beloved, "be ye doers of the word and not hearers only." James 1:22.

—Elizabeth Redington

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"I am satisfied that earth knows no greater joy than the joy that one receives when he or she is made to know by the witness of the Spirit that their sins are gone and they have been made the recipients of God's salvation, and their hearts have been filled with divine love."

—Ulysses Phillips

"One day a gentleman visiting a certain school, gave out that he would give a prize to the pupil whose desk he found in the best order when he returned. 'But when will you return?' some of them asked.

" 'That I cannot tell,' was the answer. A little girl who had been noted for her disorderly habits, announced that she meant to win the prize.

" 'You!' her schoolmates jeered. 'Why, your desk is always untidy.'

" 'Oh, but I mean to clean it the first day of every week.' 'But suppose he should come at the end of the week?' somebody asked. 'But he may come at the end of the day.' For a moment the little girl was silent. 'I know what I'll do,' she said decidedly; 'I'll just keep it clean.'

"Yes, that's it, we must just be ready every day and watch for the Lord Jesus to come back."

—E. G. Clarke

"As we think of our blessed Saviour and the power of His resurrection it brings joy to our hearts. The grave could not hold Him. The governor's seal could not stop the power of God. The soldiers' might did not keep Jesus in the grave. When God speaks, man has to stand back. The stone rolled away and Jesus arose, triumphant from the grave.

—Lawrence Pruitt