

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

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A Letter To A Friend

Dear friend,
I know you're having trouble,
So I thought I'd write to you;
To lend some courage and support
And help to make it through.

Together we will conquer,
With my help you're sure to win;
Though things are getting dimmer
And they are closing in.

Don't look at what's around you,
The circumstance so tall;
For if you fix your eyes on
them,

You will surely fall.

I said I'd never leave you,
So keep your eyes on me;
For I'm right beside you,
Just trust me and believe!

Although your heart weighs
heavy,

From disappointments blow,
Loneliness, painfulness,
And dreams that didn't show;

You've said your hope is
waning

And you find it hard to pray,
My TRUE HOPE I will give you,
Fight on just one more day.

And when the time is right,
Your Deliverance will come;
Then you'll be a Brilliant light,
Much brighter than the Sun!

I love you.

Forever yours, —Jesus Christ

(Written by Neil Mickelson)



Do Not Despair

In the Christian life there are several avenues in which we can gain encouragement if we are willing to take these helpful ways when we feel discouraged. There are times when we are perplexed about problems, sickness, financial difficulties, etc., but we should always keep spiritually encouraged, never letting the enemy of our souls trap us spiritually and pull us down to despair. With faith and hope abiding in our hearts, we can always find a way to overcome discouragement—if we want to overcome.

As natural as it is for one to look into the mirror each morning, it should be that natural to look into the Word of God. Then we must not forget what we have read, but apply it to our daily life. "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was." James 1:22, 23. The first chapter of Psalms tells us a person is blessed or happy

when their delight is in the law of God and they meditate on it day and night. And so it is that when discouraging thoughts come, we should turn our minds back to whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just. . . pure. . . lovely and of a good report, (Phillipians 4:8), that we may get our minds out of the devil's snares and back into the Lord's sunlight. Prevailing problems may remain, but spiritually strengthened we can face the problems with victory in our souls. It is

important to hide the Word of God in our heart that we may not sin against God.

Also, it is wise to start the first of each day with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving. King David, a man after God's own heart knew of this secret. "Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation. Harken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray. My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up." Psalm 5:1-3. Jesus tells us to "...Enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matt. 6:6. We gain strength and help for the day when in the morning we find a quiet corner to share with the Lord.

In Matthew 6:9-13, we find the Lord's prayer that Jesus gave us to fashion our prayers accordingly. In this prayer we find no selfish wants, self-glory, or greedy gain. Jesus simply asks the Father to supply needs, to forgive as we forgive others and to help us against the enemy of men's souls. The first and last of the prayer is in praise and humble love for the Father. Prayers are directed to the Father, asked in Jesus' name, (John 16:23), and sent by the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:26, 27). It is important how we pray.

Again we read in Luke 18:1-8, a parable that Jesus gives "that men ought always to pray, and not to faint." The parable tells of an unjust judge who delivers a widow from her adversary because she cries day and night unto him. "And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him. . . I tell you that he will avenge them speedily." Then He exhorts us to have faith in God's timing and wisdom. Though we be often sorely oppressed with problems that need answers, we can quickly bring them to God and let the wings of faith take hold of our burdens to carry them away with our prayers. If we will do this, plus obey 1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing", then daily troubles and lifelong trials should not pull us under spiritually.

During a time when David was sorely oppressed by his enemies, he writes: "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him." Psalm 28:7. When David trusted in God, he said, "I am helped." Though his enemies were still nearby, his heart began to rejoice and he sang a song. What a wonderful way to intimidate the enemy!

It is good to learn the songs of Zion and sing them during the day. "Speaking to your-

selves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:19, 20. Good saintly singing or music can encourage the heart also. No one can be totally sad when singing a song. A ray of cheer warms the heart when it sings a song even amid the battle.

Yes, there is always help and an avenue out if we desire to take God's way. If we are determined to use and practice the Word of God, if we keep a humble prayer continually burning within our hearts, if we lift our heart and voice in songs of love to our Lord, then God will lighten the load and keep us in perfect peace.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

Return to the Old Ways

Jeremiah 6:16 reads, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."

What were some of the old paths which they had left? They had lost their love for God's Word. Verse ten says, "Behold, their ear is uncircumcised [closed], and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the Lord is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it." How much delight do we find in the Word of God? Do we find reading His Word a little routine duty that we perform each day, or is it a special delight to pick up the Bible and read? The Bible should be so special and sacred to us that holding it should give some kind of sensation just like holding someone we love gives a lovely sensation. Of course it is only ink and paper. The material is not what gives the lovely feeling, it is the memory of the past experiences which warms the heart. I have noticed in many pictures of the olden day saints, their Bibles were held in their hand, sometimes over the heart. It appears that the Bible was very precious to them. How much delight do we find in displaying the Holy Bible? How do we feel about walking down the street carrying a Bible in our hand? Has "the word of the Lord" become a reproach? This was one of the ways they had left the "old paths". Their ears were also closed. Is it hard to hear what God has to say? Maybe the anointing of the Holy Spirit needs to open some ears.

Another path from which they had strayed was, "Thou shalt not covet." "For from the least unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness." Jeremiah 6:13. Covetousness is being eagerly desirous, especially of money. Covetousness has been a problem for man since the time of creation. Eve coveted the

forbidden fruit. Cain coveted the same approval of God which Abel had. All through the ages of time, men have coveted. However, the Apostle Paul's testimony from Philippians 4:11 was that he had learned to be content in whatever state he was in: hungry, or filled, sick or suffering, persecuted or accepted, honored or dishonored. He also instructed all Christians to "Be content with such things as ye have." Hebrews. 13:5. In Luke 3:14, we read that John the Baptist told the soldiers, "Be content with your wages." Being content with one's wages is almost a lost art, as is being content with what one has. There is such a covetous pressure in our society that a person who is content with what he has and not striving to obtain more is often considered to be lazy. It is sad for a Christian to have such an opinion of any of God's contented children. We know, however, that this pressure comes from within religious groups as well as the world. Jesus is calling for people of the Church to renounce covetousness from every area of our lives. Are we willing to "ask for the old paths, and walk therein" and find rest for our souls? Rest comes only to an uncovetous heart.

The third way from which the people of God were varying was, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." Truth told to slander, is dealing falsely. How often are we guilty of that? Backbiting is listed alongside "haters of God." It must be just about as evil in the sight of God. "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My BRETHREN, these things ought not so to be. . . But the wisdom which is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." (James 3). By what do our neighbors remember us? Is it because of the mercy and love we have shown to them, or is it because of times when they felt we had taken advantage of, or dealt falsely with them. It is better to lose material gain rather than to offend. If an author was writing a book about the Church today, would he have reason to say, "every one dealt falsely"?

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me. . . for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God," was another of the "old laws" these people had left, and they were not ashamed of it either. Instead of feeling convicted of their erroneous actions and repenting, they tried healing the hurt by saying, "Peace, peace; when there was no peace." People all across our country are trying many methods to heal the hurt that is within their breast. Doctors, psychologists, counselor ministers, teachers, parents and friends are working to heal those hurting by teaching them peaceful ways of thinking and living. "But there is no

peace," without turning to God and accepting responsibilities of obeying His laws and loving and worshipping Him more than any other thing. Are we guilty of worshipping other things? Perhaps we are too educated to worship idols made of wood and stone, but how about some other things, like ourselves, or pleasures?

Not long ago my husband, daughter and I attended a viewing of "The Winnable War." It revealed to those of us in the audience the terrible moral abyss into which our nation has fallen, and gave some pointers of what can be done to bring the nation out of this condition. I was stirred to the innermost fiber of my being. After the presentation, Mr. Hopper, the spokesman, gave a very short talk and suggested that those present organize prayer groups and other activities to fight pornography in the community! There was no response from the audience, nor the leader. Instead, the leader gave Mr. Hopper a quick thank you and dismissed him. Then he began a social activity. From that moment the atmosphere changed from one of seriousness to one of frivolity.

My heart ached and my head pounded with the thought, "How can so many people not hear the message presented? How can they not see the danger ahead? Will they not be concerned until a tragedy strikes home?" "For men shall be lovers of their own selves. . . lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." (2 Timothy 3:2-5). Later as I was thinking about this, some thoughts of campmeeting came to my mind. The time is 12:30 p.m. Conviction is heavy on the congregation, it has just been challenged to awake from the abyss of lethargy into which it is fallen. The dinner bell rings. The atmosphere changes. Strange the conditions so strikingly similar! Lovers of self and pleasure more than lovers of God.

Let us return to the old paths, which is the GOOD WAY, and let the Holy Spirit and the Word of God resume its rightful place in our lives and in our worship service. Let us resolve to have more love for God and His Word, to be contented with our living and always deal truthfully with our words and deeds.

—Charlotte Huskey

To the man who is sowing seed in the field there is a vital relation between his present work and that of the future harvest which he expects to reap. So in everything we do in life there should be a vital relation between the present doing and the eternal reaping of our doings.

—Selected

FAITH AND VICTORY

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



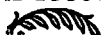
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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice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

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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.

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EDITORIALS

"Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely." Psalm 147:1. Praise makes everything go better. It strengthens our relationship with God and it makes us much more agreeable to those with whom we share our home, our work and our community. Relationships need to be nurtured and praise is an oil that will keep down friction.

One English poet concluded, "When I find a great deal of gratitude in a poor man, I take it for granted there would be as much generosity if he were rich." Most people can find a great deal to be thankful for in life, but if the things of this world fail us we can still praise God for the plan of salvation which is offered to all men.

When the ministry of Robert Walpole fell and a hostile vote was being taken in the House of Commons, Walpole, watching those who were voting against him as prime minister, said to one who sat near him: "Young man, I will tell you the history of these men. That fellow I saved from the gallows, and that one from starvation. The other one's son I promoted." The ingratitude of those whom he helped pales in the light of a soul who spurns the Christ who died for him. The very fact that a person is saved reveals that there is gratitude and praise within his heart.

One woman expressed herself thus, "I don't mind sacrificing myself for my family, what aggravates me is having them act like it is just my duty and nothing to take any special note of." It is surprising how much a person will do for others if they feel appreciated. Many times praise will carry a person beyond the call of duty. If problems should arise that put a strain on the marriage relationship, find something to sincerely praise your companion for. In many cases it will restore a pleasant attitude. It is also good to praise your children for qualities they may have which are commendable. It will encourage them in further development of good character traits and acceptable manners.

The Psalmist David seemed to understand the value of praise, for we find it frequently throughout his writings. We too should cultivate and perfect the spirit of praise that we may reap the benefits of its positive effect in our lives.

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Many of our readers desire to know the dates of the Church of God campmeetings scheduled for 1988. In the past we have printed as complete a list as possible in the March issue. To make that issue this year, we kindly request that your information be in this office by February 17.

In the January *Faith and Victory* we printed the testimony of Bro. Stan Lingar, whose execution was set for January 15. Shortly before that he was given a 30 day reprieve. I spoke recently with Bro. Harlan Sorrell, who maintains contact with Bro. Stan, and found as of January 24 that there has been no other official execution date set.

If anyone would like to correspond with Bro. Stan, his address is: Stan Lingar—CP45, Box 900, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

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If anyone has used King James Bibles (both Old and New Testament) you do not use, and would like to donate them for the work in Nigeria, we would be glad to receive them. We will pay the postage to send them overseas. The Bibles would be greatly welcomed by many in that land.

—Wayne Murphey

Partial List of Items Available

Adventures in the Land of Canaan by R. L. Berry. An instructive allegory of true-to-life experiences in the grace of sanctification. 128 pages in paper cover. Price, \$1.50 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, \$5.00 each.

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, \$5.00 each.

The Christian Church: Its Rise and Progress by H. M. Riggle. Bound in a cloth cover, 488 pages. Price, \$6.00.

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 536 pages in a cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of God. Price, \$6.50 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, \$6.00 each.

Egermeier's Favorite Bible Stories. Thirty favorite stories with pictures for small children. Cloth bound, 128 pages. Size: 6¾ 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, \$6.00 each.

Holy Spirit Baptism and the Second Cleansing by R. R. Byrum. Consists of 108 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each.

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, \$2.50 each.

A Religious Controversy by C. E. Orr. An 80 page, paper bound book presenting truths in an interesting manner. Price, \$1.00 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, \$1.00.

Food for Lambs by C. E. Orr. The English version contains 168 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.00. Also available in the German language and contains 127 pages. Price, \$2.00.

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, 75¢.

Harry the Newsboy and Other Stories by Isabel Byrum. 32 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, 50¢.

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, \$3.00.

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, \$1.50 each.

The Double Cure, or Redemption Twofold by D.O. Teasley. This book should enlighten the reader on the two works of grace, and correct the thinking of those who deny the cleansing element in sanctification. 160 pages of large print in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.00.

The Battle of Armageddon by O. B. Wilson. A clear exposition of this much misunderstood subject. Price, 50¢.

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

Divine Healing for Soul and Body by Enoch E. Byrum. Available ONLY in the German language, it contains 282 pages bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.50 each.

Bible Humility by J. W. Byers. An excellent treatise of this subject in 32 pages with a heavy paper cover. The price is 50¢ each.

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, \$5.50 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, \$1.50 each.

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, 50¢.

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, \$2.00 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, \$6.00 each.

Emma Bailey Seeks Truth by Mabel Hale. True experiences in "Pentecostalism". Paper bound, 24 pages. Price, 50¢.

How John Became A Man by Isabel Byrum. Life story of a motherless boy, especially good for children and young people. Paper bound, 64 pages. Price, 75¢.

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle. Reprinted verbatim in 541 pages, cloth binding. Price, \$6.00 each.

Rays of Hope by D. O. Teasley. Encouragement to those accused by the devil. 95 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00.

The Redemption of Howard Gray by Charles Naylor. True experience of a young man seeking and finding the truth of God's Word. Paper bound. 72 pages. Price, \$1.00

Remember Now Thy Creator, 16 page booklet of a sermon by Ostis B. Wilson, directed especially to young people. Price, 25¢ each.

A Saloonkeeper's Daughter Saved was written by Bertha Mackey. This 16 page pamphlet is an inspiring, true story. Price, 25¢.

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, \$3.00 each.

Lest We Forget by Sister Margaret Eck. 72 pages of many encouraging experiences with the Lord bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each.

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 everyday Christian living. It contains 368 pages in an extra-heavy cover. Price, \$4.00 each.

Paula, the Waldensian by Eva Lecomte. A 175 page book relating the touching story of a young girl who went to live with her uncle who was opposed to even the mention of God. Bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.50 each.

Little People Sing Unto The Lord. A songbook composed of 115 songs compiled by Patricia Bell. Although the songs are especially for children, they are favorites that any age would enjoy. Bound in a heavy paper cover, the price is \$2.00 each.

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BOOK WANTED

If any readers have the book, *Scripture Readings and Sermon Outlines*, by Russell R. Byrum, and would be willing to sell or loan the book, contact Bro. Don Dellenbough, 923 N. Ash, Guthrie, OK 73044. It would be greatly appreciated.

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.

Prayer Requests

IN—Sis. Ruby Blanchard desires prayer for a granddaughter who is mentally disturbed. She needs help from God to be able to care for her family. Also pray for Sis. Blanchard.

WV—Sis. Earl Tinsley desires prayer for herself, also for her husband.

MI—"Please pray for me." —Sis. R. Hess

OR—"Continue to pray for my afflicted body and depression." —Grace Jones

OR—Sis. Ruth Bethel fell on the ice and received an injury, please pray for her.

OK—Sis. Leona Duvall desires prayer, her nerves are bad.

MO—"Do remember me in prayer; I have trouble with my back. Also pray for my daughter, Joyce Hall." —Sis. Mamie Butcher

OH—"Please pray for Mrs. Ruth Murray who has heart trouble. Also pray for me that I can have greater victory over the imposing power of the enemy to doubt my healing."

—Sis. Essie Abbott

CA—"My wife has heart trouble; pray for her." —Bro. John Matthews

MI—"Please pray for us. I am afflicted and my youngest daughter has cancer and is not saved." —Irene Grover

NC—"We have a prayer request we would like to put before the saints. An algae called the "red tide" has polluted the coast of North Carolina since about the first of October. This has caused officials here to close the waters to shellfishing. The fishermen are suffering financially because many live on a day to day basis. Please remember this urgent request in your prayers. Thank you!" —Frankie and Lynne Millis

A dead man trying to come to life is no more absurd than a man who is not a real Christian, trying to make himself one. —Sel.

There is nothing noble in being superior to some other man. The true nobility is in being superior to your previous self. —Selected

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES**REVIVAL AT BAKERSFIELD, CA**

The saints at Bakersfield, CA, extend a warm welcome to all to attend the annual revival to be held, Lord willing, from Friday night, Feb. 5 through Sunday night, Feb. 14, 1988. In addition to nightly services, plans are for a daytime service at 1:00 p.m. on week days, with three services on the last Friday and on each Saturday and Sunday.

Please pray for the success of the meeting and that the Lord will send those of His choosing to help in the meeting. The chapel address is 1802 Virginia Ave., phone (805) 395-9314.

For further information, contact Bro. Robert Mays, 421 S. Brown St., phone (805) 325-2730, or Bro. Archie Sherman, Jr., 3400 Rayborn Way, phone (805) 871-1636. —Janice Herring

From the Mailbox . . .

FL—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Just a little note. I am very thankful for another year. The Lord has kept me in health to serve Him. He is my life and my daily meditation.

I have heard that Sis. LaDolia Fuller has gone to her reward. The last message I heard her bring was from Romans chapter 12, beginning with verse 1. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

I mean to keep renewing my mind and stay in His will.

Yours in His service,

—Sis. Kathleen Williams

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CA—Dear ones at *Faith and Victory*: This morning finds me encouraged in the Lord. What a wonderful blessing it is to live for the Lord and have His love and peace dwelling within us.

It is sad to see so much sin and sorrow in this old world. The devil is working hard on the saints today to deceive and discourage us, but praise God, if we just daily keep in touch with God, He will give us victory and see us through.

I am sending money to renew my *Faith and Victory* paper. They give me much encouragement.

Love to all of you at the Print Shop.

—Hazel Savage

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CA—Dear Sis. Maybelle and saints: I greet you all this morning in Jesus' name, the One who cares for us all.

We have had lots of rain out here and are thankful for it. We sure did need it as they grow

so many varieties of things here in this area. The Lord has blessed us with plenty of rain and sunshine. He sends rain on the just and unjust.

It sure seems I know you although I have never met you. We have Bro. Pruitt's book and have read it so many times. We sure have enjoyed it.

The devil sure is loose. I like that tract, "Just Before Jesus Comes". I read it often and I sent some out in Christmas cards. People need to wake up.

May the dear Lord help us to dig deep in these perilous times. We are praying for our ministers and all the saints everywhere.

Thanks so much for the *Faith and Victory*. May the dear Lord bless you all in a very special way.

Love and prayers,

—Bro. and Sis. Underwood

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WA—Dear saints at the Lord's Print Shop: We thank the Lord for salvation. He is our wonderful Lord and Saviour, our intercessor and the healer of our bodies.

I surely thank and praise Him for all He has done for me. I trust you are all quite well.

May the Lord bless and keep you all encouraged to press on until the victory is won.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Violet Thomas,

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TX—Dear Sister Maybelle: May the New Year bring peace, happiness, health and prosperity to each one at the printing office.

The Lord has spared my life to see the New Year and I trust I will be an instrument of good and do His will the rest of my life.

I'm still having trouble in my body. Arthritis is a terrible affliction.

I will be glad when I get my *Faith and Victory* paper. I believe it is late, or so it seems. Christian love to all,

—Sister Jewell McCaskill

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OK—Dear saints of God everywhere: Greetings of love in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We are still saved and praising God for His keeping power.

I recently had an encounter with God. Oh, how wonderful it is to have God talk to you.

On New Year's Eve I was looking for some black-eyed peas for the New Year. It has been said that having them on New Year's Day brings you luck all year. Then God spoke to me and said, "I'm everything you need." Phillipians 4:19 says, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Praise God! The Lord blessed me with

the peas, but I didn't have them that New Year's Day.

I thank the Lord for His mercies unto us. Pray for me that I ever stand true to God.

With Christian love,

—Sister Jackie Robinson

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KS—Dear saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am glad to report that I am encouraged to go all the way with the Lord, knowing that at the end of this journey there is a crown awaiting in glory for all that remain faithful. Thank the Lord. . .

Yours in Christ,

—Willard Davis

OK—Dear Friends in Jesus: My subscription to *Faith and Victory* has expired. Please renew it for another year. My wife and I look forward to receiving this paper and the interesting and enlightening articles. We receive much blessing from this work. May God richly bless your work in furthering the "Good News" in this wicked world.

With Christian love, —Roger Anderson

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PA—Dear ones at the Print Shop and saints scattered abroad: Greetings to all in the New Year. It is only by the goodness of God and His great mercy that we are spared. It is not any credit or merit we have.

We all have so much to be thankful for. We are admonished to give thanks in every thing for this is the will of God concerning you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

I thank God for the blessed Holy Word, knowing it is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. I know it will lead us from earth to glory.

We enjoyed reading Stan Lingar's testimony in the January *Faith and Victory*. God is still the same almighty God, able to deliver all who will obey Him.

Love and prayers, —Mrs. Paul Slifer

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Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

OK—I want to give glory and praise to God for touching me. In the latter part of November, I was bothered with some itching on the back of my shoulder and the side of my arm. I paid no heed to it for 2 weeks. One evening as I sat on the side of my bed praying, a severe stinging and pain set in. I began to pray and thank Jesus for the terrible suffering He bore and the sacrifice He made for our healing. I pleaded for mercy and deliverance in Jesus' name. The Word was so real and Jesus so near. Instantly

the pain, stinging and fever left. Oh, I was full of praise and gratitude to my God and Saviour. I lay down and oh, what sweet peace and good sound sleep I had; the first in weeks and months.

Pray for me to have grace to keep in the spirit of prayer and sight enough to read the Word.

—Sister Ada Scanlon

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OR—God's goodness is more than I can tell. First, I thank Him for protecting me for 40 years; driving over many miles without a wreck. Then on November 22, when I had my first one, He helped me through in the most gentle way.

I was looking at my sister-in-law and got over the line a little ways on the wrong side of the road. When I looked up a car was coming down the hill towards me at a pretty fast speed. They set their brakes and lost control of the car. Probably there was ice in the night. They came weaving down the hill on both sides of the road and smashed into my car.

At first I thought my head was hurt, then I decided it wasn't hurt at all. I felt comfortable so I remained sitting behind the wheel of my car. The people talked to me through the window of my car because there was no longer any glass in the left door. The people pointed out to me that I was bleeding. Someone showed me that the glass had made a bad cut on my head, but all the soreness was gone in 12 days. I was calm and comfortable all the time and never had any severe pain at any time.

The saints are so good to pray and make sacrifices. They are always ready at anytime. Bro. and Sis. Ostis Wilson drove to pray for me. Sis. Patsy Smith provided me with transportation.

Pray for me that I will learn the lesson I need to learn from this.

—EvaLee Stice

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OK—Dear ones: I feel like I have a long overdue testimony. I have testified of what the Lord did for me to the congregation here, but I think I need to tell more. The song says, "Tell what the Lord has done for you, others may need Him too."

Right after I got saved in 1982, I was called for an interview with my disability Social Security. I had been bothered for years with arthritis, but they decided I was able to go back to work. They stopped my check for over a year. At that time I had lots of proof to get me back on; altogether about 19 different doctors.

Last July during the Monark meeting, I was called up again. At first I thought, "Oh, Lord,

you know I can't work on my feet, and now I don't have any doctor's records." But, thank the Lord, I had Him. I went to the interview in Oklahoma City. When I left, prayer was requested at Monark concerning this. It was quite a while before I heard from them and the letter said, "We find you are still disabled and your checks will continue."

I want to thank all the saints for their prayers and love. The Lord is so good and I want to please Him in every way. I also want to say that my arthritis is getting so much better. Praise to God.

Christian love,

—Vi Gibson

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OK—To all the dear saints: I feel a burden to write my testimony to the paper and tell a little of what the Lord has done for me this past year. I love the song, "Higher Ground", and I know that the Lord has been leading me to higher ground. Truly He has brought me to a place in Him that I've never found before, and I find His service "sweeter as the days go by."

The Lord has delivered me from a sharp tongue! As long as I can remember, I have talked about people and told things I shouldn't. I have hated this in myself and tried over and over to do better, only to fail again and again. This last year I have been seeking the Lord for a closer walk with Him and a deeper consecration. One day I realized that when a name is mentioned in conversation, I have only good things to say of that person. When the conversation turns to something I'm not supposed to tell, my mouth is stopped just like the lions!

I'm sorry I ever had such a fault, but I'm also thankful that Jesus had deliverance even for such a thing as that. I appreciated all the good messages on gossip at the Guthrie Assembly Meeting, and I was thankful to be able to listen to them without condemnation.

I've been much impressed with the story in Matthew 24 about the servant who, because his Lord delayed his coming, began to smite his fellow servants and to eat and drink with the drunken. Saints, if the Lord comes and finds us talking about our fellow servants, He won't take us to Heaven with Him. I'm so thankful He helped me to find deliverance from this fault before the end. Pray for me that I'll keep humble before Him. I want to go to Heaven more than anything.

—Patsy Cain

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MO—Dear Bro. Murphey: God is a good God. There is no one on earth that can take His

place. He is a miracle working God, One that always keeps His promises. He has never failed me yet.

I was down in my back for 3 days unable to walk. I was prayed for and God touched me. Now I can walk to the store and pull my cart back full of groceries. I still desire prayer for more strength. Your prayers mean so much to me. May God supply every need at the Print Shop.

Your Christian friend,

—Sister Eathel Hill

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FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From Honduras . . .

Dec. 15—Greetings to Sis. Maybelle Pruitt, Bro. Wayne Murphey and all the saints scattered abroad: We are glad to report victory through the shed blood of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. We are still encouraged to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life.

We are having plenty of rain and muddy roads. Sometimes we have to go through the mud, but we are willing because this is the way Jesus went.

I have been reading Psalms 119:1-5 and meditating on, "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord."

On Saturday, the 29th of November, 1987, I came to the United States due to the death of my stepmother in Boston. We request prayer for our sisters, brothers and loved ones that they may believe the gospel message before it is too late.

Continue to pray for us that the Lord would continue to supply the needs.

Yours for souls, —Sis. Liurie Sanders

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From India . . .

Dec. 23—Dear Sis. Maybelle Pruitt, Bro. Wayne Murphey and other dear ones in America: Greetings to you all again in the glorious name of Jesus. Happy New Year greetings to the dear saints everywhere in America.

We are almost ready for our 23rd General Convention at Bethel ground, Karikkom.

God opened a new station for our work at Ayur. Please pray for this new congregation. We remember you all in our prayers every day.

With love and prayers,

—John Varghese

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There is much unfairness everywhere, but our relationship to God should be the key to how we react to those who mistreat us.

—Eugene R. Connes

In Memoriam

William Egbert Allen was born December 7, 1908 to Roscoe and Carolina Thompson Allen in Wright County, Missouri. He went to meet his Lord and Saviour on December 23, 1987, at his home following a short illness. He departed this life on the same date, December 23, as his mother had 72 years previous.

He was united in marriage to Pearl Schudy, April 28, 1936. He accepted the Lord in February 1933 and was called to the ministry in 1934 which he faithfully followed until he was called home.

His interest was always serving and testifying for the Lord. He went whenever and wherever he was called. Because of this he was known by many people. His life of service touched the hearts and lives of a great number of people both near and far from home.

He is survived by his wife, Pearl Allen, of the home and one surviving brother, Lawrence Allen, of Pineville, Missouri. He leaves behind a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at the Craig, Hurt, Hutsell funeral home of Mountain Grove, Missouri on December 26, 1987. Services were conducted by Brother Leslie Busbee. Bro. Egbert and his wife had a special song, "Because He Lives", that was sung by his special friend, Bro. Leslie Busbee. Burial was in the Oak Forest Church cemetery.

NOTE OF THANKS

We want to thank each and every one for every concern shown in our behalf in the time of our sorrow. We are so very grateful to the Lord that He did not permit my dear companion a long term of suffering. I know without one doubt, that he is resting from his labors. I wouldn't call him back if I could. I know God never makes a mistake.

We surely do thank every one for their prayers, cards, letters, phone calls, flowers and love gifts. May the dear Lord bless each one for their love which was manifest to us at this time.

Pray for me. I desire to be faithful to the end.

Christian love,

—Sis. Pearl Allen and close relatives

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Funeral services for **Ruth Doolittle** 86, of Texico, NM were Saturday at 2:30 in the afternoon. Burial followed at Mission Garden of Memories Cemetery.

Mrs. Doolittle died Wednesday, December 23, 1987, in Lubbock Texas. She was born on October 16, 1901, in Indiana. She had been a resident of Texico since 1902. She married Truman Doolittle on March 20, 1920.

Survivors include two daughters, Doris Tucker and Sue Scott; five sons, Marvin, Ansel, Leon, Gayle and Kenneth; three sisters, Genevieve Randall, Wilma Smith and Gladys King; five brothers, M. E. Bell, H. B. Bell, Glen Bell, Ansel Bell, and A. B. Bell; 25 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Truman, and four sons, Darwin, Mansel, Jerial and Hershal.

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LaDolia (Chaney) Fuller was born in Grayson, OK on March 1, 1924, and departed this life to be with the Lord on Monday, January 4, 1988, at the age of sixty-three years and ten months.

She was the daughter of Henry and Victoria Chaney who preceded her in death. At the age of four years, she moved with her family to Akron, OH. It was here she attended the public schools and matured to adulthood.

It was in Akron, OH where she met Charles S. Fuller. After several years of courtship, they were married in 1948. To this union five children were born: three sons and two daughters. Her husband, Charles, and her son, Mark, preceded her in death.

As a child she was nurtured in the truth of the Church of God and received salvation in 1955. She maintained a consistent walk with God until her death. In 1966 while engaged as a homemaker, the Lord called her to the ministry. She remained faithful until her death.

Sister LaDolia, as she was affectionately called, loved the Lord and her family. Upon her was placed the responsibility of the religious training of her children. Many miles she traveled taking them to service and campmeetings. She labored in the Akron congregation as a minister, Sunday school teacher, song leader, Trustee Board secretary and advisor to the young people. She also ministered in Pittsburgh PA, Water Valley MS and Cleveland, OH. In her later ministry the Lord called her to assist Bro. Louis Kimble in a young congregation in New Orleans, LA. where she resided at the time of her death. In recent years, she also worked as part of a missionary team in Honduras, Central America.

Deeply saddened by her passing are her children: two daughters, Francine Hobbs of Fontana, CA and Dianna D. Fuller of New Orleans, LA; two sons, Keith A. Fuller of Akron,

OH and Charles C. Fuller of New Orleans LA; daughter-in-law, Juanekee J. Fuller (Keith); son-in-law, Kenneth S. Hobbs (Francine); six sisters, Thelma L. Grant, Blanche Porter, La Vern G. Shaw, all of Akron, OH, Mary L. Lakin of Dayton, OH, Viola Sanders and Marie Hubbard, also of Akron, two brothers, Henry S. and Richard, both of Akron; 12 grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Herschel Hargrave, assisted by Bros. Mart Samons, and Louis Kimble. Burial was in the Mount Peace cemetery, Akron, OH.

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La Vern M. Manuel, was born November 6, 1909 to Oscar and Etta Williamson of Hammond, Louisiana. She was one of ten children; two boys and eight girls.

At 13 years of age, in September 1922, she was soundly converted and born into God's Church and lived saved until her death. She sat under the pastoral work of Brother C. E. Orr in Hammond, Louisiana. She recalled Bro. Willis M. Brown and other pioneer ministers of the reformation from her childhood. Her grandfather, Bro. F. M. Williamson was a contemporary of Bro. D. S. Warner and a pioneer minister of that time in the Southern United States.

She was married to James Manuel on July 1, 1926. She loved her husband and children, and by her faithful example over the many years won her husband to the Lord. He was wonderfully saved before his death.

Sister Manuel is survived by two sons, Oscar A. Manuel, Eugene, OR and Othur J. Manuel, Hammond, LA; a daughter, Reba L. Voltz, La-Crescenta, CA; four granddaughters; two step-grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; five sisters, Myrtis and Alta Flynn, Cwilla and Shirley James, all of Loranger LA; and Hazel Savage, Shingletown, CA; a brother LeRoy Williamson, Hammond, LA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, J. W. Manuel; two sisters, Louella Narretta and Katherine Harmon and a brother, Merrill Williamson.

Sister Manuel spent the first 10 years of her married life in Louisiana and Tennessee. She moved with her family to Glendale, CA in 1936. There she sought and obtained the experience of entire sanctification. She said that she "sought several times to be sanctified, but when the work was done I knew it and it was glorious. . . it did something for me."

Sister Manuel was ordained an Elder of the Church of God in 1943 at Guthrie, OK. She aided Bro. Issac Chandler, at his request, for

two years at the Los Angeles congregation of the Church of God. She then in 1955 accepted the call to pastor the congregation in Pomona, CA. She continued as pastor there 17 years until she moved to Loranger, LA in 1972. She ministered there until her death on January 9, 1988.

Funeral services were conducted at the Oak Grove Chapel of the Church of God, Loranger, LA on January 12, 1988, by Bro. Danny Layne. Interment was in the Oak Grove Cemetery, beside the chapel.

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Question and Answer Column

by
Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Will you please comment on John 14:1-3 together with 1 Timothy 3:15.

Answer: Yes, I will to the best of my understanding and ability by the help of God. First, I will insert the full text of John 14:1-3 and discuss it separately from 1 Timothy 3:15 and pick that up later. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

The first thing to consider here is that Jesus was nearing the time of His going to the cross and dying and He also knew what confusion and wonderment this would produce in His disciples and how disheartening this would be to them. Read Luke 24:13-21 to get a picture of the dejected, defeated, deeply disappointed spirit and disposition of two of them. Verse 21 says, "... We TRUSTED that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel. . ." It does not go on to spell it out, but we conclude from the entire passage that they had trusted and hoped, but now their hopes are all dashed because He is dead. Another look at the downcast, crestfallen spirit of the disciples after the death of Jesus is found in John 21:3 where Peter said, "I go fishing," and the others said they would go too. They had been fishermen before they had left all to follow Jesus and now that was all over and they just returned to their old occupation. Jesus knew this would happen and was trying all He could to fortify them against total disaster when it did happen.

Jesus endeavored to draw out their minds and thinking to the kingdom of glory which He would soon enter and which they also would

enter in due time. But their minds were not at this time spiritual enough to comprehend this. This is evident from the context following this. (Verse 4 through 14). He presented that kingdom of glory as His Father's house. (Verse 2). Then as a descriptive term of His "Father's House", He said there were many mansions there. In my understanding, He is not presenting the idea of a literal place with literal mansions but something comparable to that of a spiritual nature. He endeavors to convey the thought to them of heaven as a real place with real people and real substance; not just an imaginary, mystic something with disembodied, even invisible spiritual beings floating around up there in the uncharted sky some place.

The reference to "many mansions" describes the spaciousness as well as the grandeur, glory and breathtaking beauty of that place. Jesus did not refer to a place with segregated areas for different classes of people; mansions for the rich, other areas with less magnificent dwellings for the common people, and ghettos with dirty, run-down tenement houses and dirty little shacks for the poor and poverty-stricken such as we know here. Oh no, heaven is a place of supreme grandeur, glory and matchless beauty with nothing to mar it; nothing there but grand mansions. Many mansions would require an area of great expanse because mansions are large structures. The place prepared for the eternal abode of the righteous is sufficiently large to accommodate all who will get there. Neither will God be straightened for providing places for late arrivals and unexpected guests. He provided room in His great heart for every member of the human race from the start even though he knew they would not all be coming.

Even though all of this may be true, yet the "mansions" convey a definite message concerning the eternal abode of the saints, so let us examine them a little in particular. A reference to 2 Corinthians 5:1 will throw considerable light on this statement of Jesus. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." It is clear here that "Our earthly house of this tabernacle" which was to be dissolved refers to our earthly, physical, material bodies in which we now live. Also, it is clear that, "We have a building of God, an house not made with hands," refers to that resurrected, immortal, glorified body in which the righteous will live in eternity — "eternal in the heavens". This is also confirmed by verse 2 where it says that in this (this physical, corruptible body) "we groan, ear-

nestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven," or that spiritual, glorified body. Verse 4 further confirms this where the closing phrase says, "that mortality might be swallowed up of life." This is endless, eternal life.

Again in Phillipians 3:20-21, we read, "... the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body. . ." Again in 1 John 3:2, we read, "... But we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him. . ." Also in 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 where Paul is discussing the resurrection of the saints he says, "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. . ." In verse 51 Paul says "We shall all be changed." In verse 53, it says, "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

From all of this we see that this mortal, earthly, natural body in which we live our lives here is not fit or acceptable to enter into heaven; it must be changed into a body fitted for that place. All of these scriptures and a number of others make it very clear that the resurrected body of the saints will be a glorious, immortal, incorruptible, spiritual body fitted for that eternal world prepared for the righteous. Projecting all of this into the sayings of Jesus in John 14:1-3, and considering the totally magnificent, shining glory of the resurrected bodies of the saints which would fittingly correspond to what Jesus spoke of as "Mansions" in His kingdom of glory, we could safely conclude that those mansions were the resurrected, glorious bodies in which they would live in that everlasting kingdom of eternal glory prepared for them. Jesus said there were many mansions and we are sure that there are myriads of redeemed souls through the ages who will be there, every one in his own mansion.

Now I feel for the sake of space I will have to break here and next month discuss 1 Timothy 3:15 with other scriptures because that text does have a direct connection here.

What was the prominent characteristic, the chief distinguishing feature of the primitive Church of God? What made her different from the other religions with which she was surrounded? I answer, not mere outward appearance, peculiar dress, or forms of worship, but the fact that "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost," and "great power," and "great grace rested upon them."

—H. M. Riggle

HOME LIFE



There are but few sweeter words in the English language than the word *home*. Home is the dearest place in all the world to the Christian heart. To have a fond love for home is not at all injurious to Christian character. Those who have but little love for home will never succeed well in the Christian life. It may sometimes occur that some of the home members are so disagreeable that the Christian for peace' sake will quit the home roof; but he still loves home. Sometimes young people think that to enjoy life they must get out from under parental rule and roof. We have an instance of this nature recorded in the Bible. How soon we learn of the prodigal's longing for the comforts of home. How often he thought of his father's house, that place so dear to him now. The love of home is a high mark of integrity. Show me one who has no love for home, and I will show you one who has but little true manhood or womanhood. The Bible command to young Christians is to be "chaste, keepers at home." When our duty and service to God demand our absence from home we submit and go in the strength of His grace, but lose not our love for home, and return in joy at Father's will.

You can nowhere find more of heaven upon earth than in a Christian home. Look at the picture: A father with the Holy Bible, the mother and children listening in reverence to the heavenly message. Where, I say, can you find more of heaven? Such a scene is most sweet and sacred. "Such a picture," you say, "is very beautiful and inspiring to look upon, but where is the reality?" Thank God, such a home can be real in life, and it is your duty as a Christian to help make it so. God is pleased with such a home. It is much to His praise. Since such homes are so rare they are all the more glorifying to

God, and we should strive the more earnestly to have them real.

In your home is the place to shine for God. It is the place to shed forth the radiant beams of Christian light from your grace-laden soul. If you hope to prosper in the divine life, be your best at home. Do not think you can be careless at home and then shine in the splendor of Christian virtue when before the public. Your life at home leaves its mark upon you. Shine in Christian beauty at home, and you will shine in beauty in public; but attempt away from home to be more than you are at home, and you will miserably fail. A few years ago while in one of our large Eastern cities laboring for Jesus and souls for whom He died I wrote a few lines to the dear ones at home, which perhaps will not be out of place to insert here.

When the light of day is dying
And the shades of night steal on,
Voices to my mem'ry whisper
Of the dear loved ones at home.

Ere the chandelier is lighted,
Ere the day's last ray is gone,
O'er me comes a fond remembrance
Of the dear loved ones at home.

Far above in arch of heaven
Lamps are lighted one by one,
But I only see the bright eyes
Of the dear loved ones at home.

Far away beyond the region
Where I see those shining stars,
Somewhere in the land of angels,
Dwells a little boy of ours.

Years ago one wintry evening
Heaven's gate was opened wide,
And an angel swift descended,
With a sickle at his side.

Paused he at our boy's low trundle
In the evening twilight hour,
Caught away his happy spirit
To its home beyond the stars.

How my heart adores the Giver
Of all good o'er land and sea,
But I praise him more than ever
For the dear ones left to me.

As I think of her He gave me
In my happy youthful time,
How He bound our hearts together
At love's pure and sacred shrine;

As I think of her this moment,
Given me by love divine,
Seems I almost feel the pressure
Of her gentle hand in mine.

In the arms of night I'm folded,
 Soon in dreamland I shall roam;
 Then I'll go and see the dear ones—
 See the dear loved ones at home.
 —Taken from *Food for Lambs*

What Some Men Have Said About Infidelity

"Infidelity, indeed, is the root of all sin; for did man heartily believe the promises to obedience, and the threats to disobedience, they could hardly be so unreasonable as to forfeit the one or incur the other." —Isaac Barrow

"Faith in God hallows and confirms the union between parents and children, and subjects and rulers. Infidelity relaxes every band, and nullifies every blessing."

—Johann Pestalozzi

"When once infidelity can persuade men that they shall die like beasts, they will soon be brought to live like beasts also."

—Robert South

"There is one single fact which we may oppose to all the wit and argument of infidelity, namely, that no man ever repented of being a Christian on his death bed." —Hanah More

"Infidelity and Faith look both through the same perspective-glass, but at contrary ends. Infidelity looks through the wrong end of the glass; and, therefore, sees those objects afar off which are near, and makes great things little, diminishing the greatest spiritual blessings, and removing far from us threatened evils. Faith looks at the right end, and brings the blessings that are far off close to our eye, and multiplies God's mercies, which, in the distance, lost their greatness." —Hall

"They that deny God destroy a man's nobility; for certainly man is of kin to the beasts by his body, and if he is not akin to God by his spirit, he is a base and ignoble creature."

—Francis Bacon

"Let any of those who renounce Christianity, write fairly down in a book all the absurdities they believe instead of it, and they will find it requires more faith to reject Christianity than to embrace it." —Caleb Colton

"Infidelity reproves nothing that is bad. It only ridicules and denounces all that is good. It tears down, but never builds up; destroys, but never imparts life; attacks religion, but offers no adequate substitute." —J. R. Paxton

"Hume took unwearied pains to prove that nothing could be proved." —Edward Bellamy

"Man may doubt here and there, but mankind does not doubt. The universal conscience is larger than the individual conscience, and that

constantly comes in to correct and check infidelity."

—H. R. Haweis

The Power

"... Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power." Mark 9:1. Jesus said, "And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49.

What is this power? We find the answer in Acts 1:8. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you. . ." It is through the power of the Holy Ghost that we can be sanctified and have power over Satan. "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God. . ." Acts 26:18.

Jesus told the apostles to wait at Jerusalem until they received the "power from on high." "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance. . ." 1 Thessalonians 1:5. It is through the power of the Holy Ghost that the apostles were led and inspired of God. It is the same for us today. It is through this mighty power that God works today. Christ died on the cross to usher in this power, destroying the power of the devil.

Under the old covenant only a few men were inspired by the Holy Ghost because before Christ died on the cross, "... The Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified." John 7:39. Now the Holy Ghost, the power, is promised to all that believe in Jesus Christ and obey God. "... Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38. "Him (Jesus) hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." Acts 5:31, 32. "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him." Acts 10:38.

It is through this power that we can stay within the will of God and God will be with us, too, holding "fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which

was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us." 2 Timothy 1:13, 14.

It is this indwelling power that God gave us through Jesus Christ which keeps us from sinning for we now have power over the devil. "... that through death he (Jesus) might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil." Hebrews 2:14. We no longer have to be under the power of the devil! We have access to a greater power, the Holy Ghost! We cannot deny this power. Those "having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. 2 Timothy 3:5. Those denying that power are those who contend that they are Christians, but are sinning everyday, admitting that Satan still has power over them. How can they believe that they are sons of God while still subject to Satan? "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:7, 8.

Christ destroyed the power of the devil and gave us the power of the Holy Ghost so that we are no longer under the bondage of sin. The reason Christ died for us was to deliver us from sin. "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins. . ." 1 John 3:5. The only power Satan has is what we allow him. We can be armed with a greater power, "the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us," (2 Timothy 1:13, 14) if we present our "bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God. . ." Romans 12:1.

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost." Romans 15:13. —Joyce Hall

The King and the Stable Boy

During King George the Third's visits to the royal stables, one of the stable boys attracted his attention. Something about the boy won his master's favor, and the King treated him kindly in many ways.

But a time of temptation came, and the poor lad fell into disgrace. He had stolen some oats from the royal bins, and being detected, the head groom had him discharged. There seemed to be no idea of speaking to the poor lad about the sin of stealing the oats, and abusing the confidence of his master, but only a determination to treat him as he deserved, and dismiss him. How good that God "hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities." Psalm 103:10, or he would have

turned us from His presence for ever, and consigned us to everlasting judgment, for we "all have sinned." (Romans 3:23).

Not long afterwards, when the King again visited his stable, he noticed that the boy was absent, and asked one of the men what had become of him. The man, fearing to tell the truth, yet not liking to tell a falsehood, said he had left. His Majesty was not satisfied with the groom's reply, and, suspecting something wrong, called the head groom to him, and made the inquiry again.

"I have discharged the boy, sir," answered he.

"For what reason?" asked the King.

"He was discovered stealing oats from one of the bins," was his reply, "and I sent him away."

The King felt sorry for the poor boy who had disgraced himself thus, but determined not to give him up, and ordered him to be sent for immediately. The order was obeyed; without loss of time the boy was brought to the king. What a scene that was! Face to face with Britain's King stood the boy, a convicted thief!

"Well, my boy," said his Majesty when the poor lad, not knowing what awaited him, stood before him, trembling and looking very pale; "is this true that I hear of you?"

The lad could not look up into the King's face, but, with his head bent down, his only answer to the kind inquiry was a flood of tears. His mouth was stopped, for he knew he was guilty; he stood condemned, without excuse.

We read in Romans 3:19: "that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God."

The King, seeing the stable boy was truly sorry on account of his sin, spoke to him of the evil, how he had not only taken what was not his own, but abused the confidence reposed in him.

"Well, my lad," said his Majesty, putting his hand kindly upon the boy's head, "I FORGIVE YOU." Then, turning to the head groom, he said, "Let the boy have his former place, and let him be cared for."

What a thrill of joy the lad's heart felt as the King uttered those three words, "I FORGIVE YOU." Instead of being ordered off to prison and punished and disgraced, he was restored to favor, and reinstated in the place he had lost.

As his Majesty was leaving, he turned around, looking steadfastly at the boy, and in the hearing of the grooms and servants about him said, "If any one says a word to you about those oats, TELL ME!" Now this was a double

assurance to the boy. Not only was he forgiven, and that publicly, but not a word was to be said to him about his past sin; it was to be forgotten. Who would incur the royal displeasure by telling the boy of his fault? This act of grace had a greater effect upon the boy than any punishment would have had. How, after such kindness and forgiveness, could he again wrong so gracious a master who had so deeply interested himself on his behalf? Nay, rather would it call forth devotedness of heart in his service, and a fear of grieving him any more.

Is not this a beautiful illustration of divine grace, of God's ways with sinners like ourselves? It may be, like the poor stable boy, we are thoroughly conscious of our guilt, and with a broken heart, finding no words to tell out its contrition and godly sorrow. Now God frankly and freely forgives all who believe on His Son, who died for sinners. Salvation, free and full is offered to all.

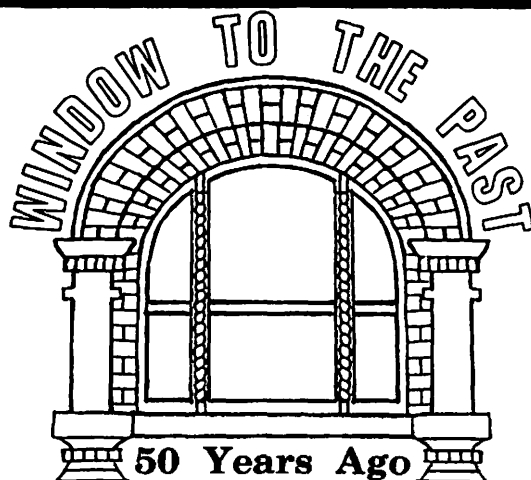
Just as the King said to the boy as he left the stables, "If any one says a word to you about those oats, tell me," so God speaks to His children. He says (Romans 8:33, 34), "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died." Romans 8:31 says, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

If Satan distresses me about what I have been or what I have done, I go to the Lord and tell Him about it. It's all true perhaps what he says about me, but then, "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin."

The King restored the stable boy to his position. God has done far more than this. He has united us to Christ by a link that never can be broken, and we not only have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins, through the riches of His grace, but He says we shall in a little while be taken away to be forever with the Lord Jesus, where there will be none to tell us of our past sins, but every tongue will be employed in the praise of Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. —Selected

Establish Upon the Word

All true advancement in spiritual things is obtained by settling deeper and deeper into God. It is not through a hard mental strain nor any intense physical effort, but simply by letting go our thoughts and ideas and getting established upon the pure Word of God. There is no foundation but the Word of God. The more we settle upon it, the more established we become. If we live in the Word of God, we shall never backslide. We can get so firmly established that nothing will move us. —J. W. B.



Excerpts Taken From

February, 1938 *Faith and Victory*
"Faith and Victory" paper

Once a month comes to me;
Bringing news of those I cannot see—
Faith and encouragement, Lord, from Thee.

Come, ye who love the Lord
And will obey His Word—
Let's send this message of cheer
To poor souls far and near.

For in "Faith and Victory"
There's the dear old story
In a message so true
Direct from God to you.

Yes, "Faith and Victory"
Your neighbors all should see—
Why not send them one,
And get a blessing therefrom.

—Florence Pearson

"Dear soul, the law of kindness (Prov. 31:26) is a beautiful white lily, a tender plant, which, planted in the human heart by the blessed finger of God and watered by His infinite love, is a plant whose tree is laden with heavenly fruit that will help to thrill the society of heaven with the praises of God from the heart and lips of thousands who have been encouraged and helped to get there by the tender kindness, coupled with the briny tears of some other precious, longing, praying, kindhearted soul. The lyric poet has so beautifully said, 'Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness, cords that were broken will vibrate once more.' Keep on, kindhearted soul, when it's done for Christ's sake, with your ministry of kindness, it will be as a 'balm in Gilead' to some soul and your requiem will be sung by and by."

—J. H. Pierson