

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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AMERICA

Long years ago this month, a nation was born. It was born because a few God-fearing men wanted their freedom of worship. They wanted a free place to work, live and serve their God. From the very beginning till now God has blessed this nation in so many ways. But as we celebrate the birth of this nation in July 1988, my heart is so heavy and melted to tears. So many have left the principles that this nation was built upon. Yes, today some say religion and state is not to mix. I wonder what George Washington or Abraham Lincoln would have said to this: The Bible and prayer have been taken from our youth. The U.S.A. of tomorrow will not even know why our country was—"Our country 'tis of Thee." It will mean nothing to the corrupted minds of the youth that have been wrecked by drugs, immorality and sin.

I feel today it would pay each of us to stir up our minds by way of remembrance with the words: "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34. And also, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17. It seems as though I can hear God's call now: "Why will ye die, O house of Israel?" Ezekiel 18:31. America, why die?

Yes, I thank God for my country and I as an American want to do something to rebuild our nation that it doesn't die because of sin. "For the wages of sin is death. . . ." Romans 6:23.

I can't help but wonder if our dear forefathers were allowed to come from the graves and walk through our big cities and small ones alike, if they wouldn't with their higher standards gladly go back to their graves.

May we, the people, celebrate this year by sending real fireworks into the heavens that won't fade away. Let us fall to our knees and cry for the help of our God.

Yes, I am thankful for all the many blessings God has shared with our country. But do you think we can exist tomorrow without His continued blessings?

Because I care,

—Elaine Dunn

Attend National Camp Meeting, July 15 to July 24, Neosho (Monark Springs), MO.

AIDS

During World War II, soldiers were forced to spend time again and again watching movies on the horrible effects of sexually transmitted diseases. Over and over again we were carefully instructed in the use of preventives. The preventives were made available free of charge in great abundance. For all this, the full proof that this program did not stop the spread of venereal disease is evident in the fact that the military found it necessary to try other measures. They cut soldiers pay for having the disease and reduced them in rank. They also placed areas of low repute in foreign countries off limits to United States military personnel. The disease continued to spread.

If education and preventives did not stop the spread of these diseases among heterosexuals, how then can people propose to use the same old tool to stop the spread of AIDS by males who practice perversion? Is the government helping to set this country up for a knock-out of death by AIDS?

Instead of this nation's leaders taking the example of the Biblical king of Nineveh, who in a great emergency called his nation to fast and pray, they seem rather to have the attitude of the Egyptian Pharaoh who in his grave confrontation asked the question, "... Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice? ..." Exodus 5:2.

Whether we choose to believe that AIDS came as a punishment for the sins of America or not, we do remember that it came first of all to the effeminate who had grown so proud and bold in their defiance. It came also to those who got "drunk" on illegal drugs. The God that America is officially declared to be "one nation" under, is outstanding and clear in His declaration, again and again, that drunkenness and effeminacy among men are evil extremes. (1 Corinthians 6:9, 10).

History teaches that there have been ancient civilizations of the western hemisphere of which no one knows why or how they vanished. Perhaps there are forces built-in, which cause nature all by itself to cleanse the land, or maybe it could be said, give corruption enough rope and it will hang itself. The Scriptures verify that there is a level of evil where God comes down and personally intervenes.

The king of Nineveh swung the balance back in line with God and spared that nation for a length of time, but when we uphold contrariness and place this country's stamp of approval on lewdness and drunkenness by giving our sons and daughters tools and the know-how with which to commit more of the same evils, then America has struck a new low and

cannot last long in its present course. To care for the sick and dying is godly, but if we hold up the arms of men that they may continue to defy God, then a worse disease than AIDS can come, or a worse variation of the same thing.

We know so well the answer for AIDS; in this country or anywhere. The news media keeps twisting the plain and easy enough solution so that it sounds like "abstinence." This is not the case. God never issued a commandment of abstinence. He said, "... Be fruitful, and multiply. ..." Genesis 1:22. The solution is not abstinence, but "... Let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband." 1 Corinthians 7:2.

—Burbridge R. Copeland

Pride

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." Proverbs. 16:18.

It seems in the world that we are living in today that pride is the leading sin.

It is everywhere you go. We can see it upon the faces of men in their everyday life, in their characters and in their manners. It just surrounds the environment, so to speak, that we are living in.

"Pride goeth before destruction. ..." Pride is the reason the world is in the shape that it is in. Pride is the reason why the crime rate is up so high. Pride is the reason why the jails and prisons are full of people. The Bible says that every nation that forgets God shall be turned into hell, (Ps. 9:17), and pride is the reason for this.

Jesus said unless we humble ourselves as a little child, we shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of God. (Matthew 18:3). There are very few who are willing to be humble enough to accept the ways of the Lord in their life. The consequences of this pride is deep sin. "... The wages of sin is death. ..." Romans. 6:23. Death is destruction of both soul and body.

We know that the devil is the father of pride. He is the father of all sin. It is the devil's purpose to keep people from humbling themselves enough to get saved and live a humble life. Through the ages of time the devil has caused much grief by this one trait of his evilness.

Pride is cheap and cowardly, so we know it comes from Satan. Humility is something we have to work for. It is something that is of much value, not only to one's own character but also of value to a good society. Just think, if everyone was as humble as Jesus, wouldn't this be a much better world to live in?

If we are going to live for the Lord it is going to take humility. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." Psalm 51:17. This is what the Lord is expecting out of His saints. To have this type of spirit is more precious than all the riches of the world. If one has this type of spirit, then in Christ he is rich. Eternal life is his inheritance, and peace, along with joy, in this life. But the only way a person can have this type of spirit is through Jesus. The Lord has promised to give us a new heart and spirit if only we would ask of Him. This is the only way a person will become humble.

It takes more than just having a Christian profession, but we must humble ourselves enough to accept God's ways. Whenever a person is filled with the Spirit of God, they will measure up to everything that God would expect out of them. They will measure up in attitudes toward the work of God and in outward appearance. They won't want to be like the world, but will have a desire to be like Christ.

Both Paul and Peter describe the spirit of meekness. They said it was not the outward adorning of ones self, the wearing of gold, pearls, etc., but it was the inward adorning of the meek and quiet spirit of God. Now someone may say that the outward appearance doesn't matter. But whatever is inside will surely come out. You will know the tree by the fruit that it will bear. You will know a saint not only by the inward expression of their humility but also by their outward expression.

Let us humble ourselves as little children of God and say "Thy will be done". There is a place prepared for the meek and lowly in heart. This place is called heaven. There is also a place prepared for the proud in heart. This place is called hell. Let us make sure we are humble enough to escape hell and gain heaven.

Let us love one another and love the commandments of the Lord, and let Him have His way in us.
—Bro. Clarence Campbell

If thou, then, wouldst have thy soul surcharged with the fire of God, so that those who come near thee shall feel some mysterious influence proceeding out from thee, thou must draw nigh to the source of that fire, to the throne of God and of the Lamb, and shut thyself out from the world — that cold world which so swiftly steals our fire away. Enter into thy closet and shut thy door; and there isolated "before the throne" await the baptism. Then the fire shall fill thee; and thou shalt labor, not in thine own strength, but with demonstration of the Spirit, and with power.
—W. Arthur

When To Keep Silent

The world suffers from too much talk. The wise man once said, "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin; but he that refraineth his lips is wise." (Proverbs 10:19). There is a time for silence as well as a time for speech.

1. *Keep silent unless you have something to say worth saying.* Speech should be sifted that the chaff may be taken out of it. Not all that we think should pass into utterance. It would be well to think "twice" before we speak.

2. *Keep silent when you have said enough.* A conversation may be prolonged until it becomes a waste of time. An address or a sermon may pass so far beyond a proper stopping point, that it becomes wearisome and profitless to the audience. An argument may run into endless controversy and contention, leaving neither party convinced but rather strengthening a determination to continue the contest. One needs wisdom to know when to stop—to know when he has said enough. Silence is golden at the end as well as at the beginning.

3. *Keep silent until it is your turn to talk.* Many people do not know how to listen because they want to do all the talking. To attempt to monopolize all the conversation is nothing less than conceit. Interruption is rudeness. It mixes things badly to have two people talking at the same time. I would say again, keep silent until it is your turn to talk.

4. *Keep silent when you are provoked.* Bite your tongue, press your lips together, do anything; but don't talk until the pain of the sting has in a measure passed away. A hasty reply to a provoking word means a quarrel. The quarrel begins when the hasty reply follows a word hastily spoken.

5. *Keep silent when you are tempted to yield to irritability of temper.* Just here let me say a kind word. I am sorry for the victim of an irritable temper. It is a disease of the mind and heart. The best remedy is a prayerful silence. Don't whine—don't fret—don't scold—don't complain because some vexing thing comes into your life. Life is full of vexing things, and the sooner one learns to keep sweet, the better for all concerned. You can make everybody around you wretched by yielding to an irritable temper.

6. *Keep silent when you are in pain.* Why tell all the family over and over that your head aches or your tooth aches, thus causing sympathetic pain of mind on the part of those who listen to your complaint. There is something heroic in learning to suffer in silence.

There is a time to be silent, and happy will it be for us and all others, if we can then "refrain our lips" and be wise.
—Enoch E. Rogers

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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Single copy, one year \$1.00
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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

July is the month in which the founding of America is celebrated. It is evident that the Lord blessed the God-fearing people who established this government. It is also evident that the succeeding generations have wandered far from the principles of our founding fathers.

Before the Pilgrims left Europe, the minister, John Robinson, read to them these words: "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing." Gen. 12:2. This was a prophecy of Israel. History verifies that as long as the children of Israel followed God, He fought their battles and all other nations feared and respected them. When Israel would turn away from God He would lift His hand of blessing and withdraw His approval.

Many of the problems facing our country today are a direct consequence of a nation that has forgotten God. Fear is increasing as the effect of evil reaches deeper and deeper into the lives of every citizen of this country. Due to the immorality of the deeds wrought, we have a hesitancy at times to address these issues and thereby subject the minds of our children and young people to its evils. However, the days of innocence are fast becoming a thing of the past and we must strive harder to maintain purity of heart in those whom God has entrusted into our care. We also are aware that to ignore problems will not make them go away.

To recognize a problem and to know that its effect reaches to far broader lengths than it is in one's power to control brings about a very futile feeling. Rather than be discouraged though, let us simply take advantage of every opportunity God sends our way to promote righteousness. There is still a work to be done and something for every child of God to do for Him. As it is brought out in one article in this issue, we should fall to our knees and cry for the help of our God.

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We have received an early shipment on the 10,000 pounds of paper which we recently ordered. The paper was delivered on June 14th and we have already begun printing two hard back books which were nearly out of stock.

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The Oklahoma State Camp Meeting was held in Guthrie from May 27 to June 5. It was well attended, especially the first week end. There were a number of ministers who came from quite a distance to be here. It was a special privilege to have in our midst Bro. John Varghese from India and Bro. Mayarino Escobar from

Mexico. During one night service a number of people who felt a need in their soul sought for help at an altar of prayer. We are glad for all the good that was accomplished.

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As is our usual custom, there will be no August issue of the *Faith and Victory*. This will relieve some of the workload here at the Print Shop and allow the workers to attend the Monark Springs Camp Meeting.

The bookstore on the Monark Springs Campground will be open for the meeting and a good selection of the books and tracts which we stock at this office will be available there.

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Although Sis. Maude Hornbeck had not been well for sometime, her sudden death on May 29 was quite unexpected. Sis. Maude had faithfully filled the capacity of cook for the Print Shop and additionally helped in preparing the *Faith and Victory* for the mail. We will miss her and her work for the Lord.

—Wayne Murphey

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

Camp Meeting Dates for 1988

Fresno, CA — July 1-10

National at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO
July 15-24

Bakersfield, CA — August 5-14

Duncannon, PA — Aug. 7-14

Durham, NC — Aug. 14-21

Boley, OK — Aug. 21-28

California State at Pacoima, CA —
Aug. 26-Sept. 4

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THE CHURCH OF GOD CAMP MEETING REPORT GOULDS, FL

Great was God's faithfulness in sending His Word. The Word came down in showers of blessings and as thunder to call His saints on up higher. God was also faithful to deal with the children. Continue to pray for us all that we will remain faithful.

—The Church of God, Goulds, FL

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THE PATH OF LIFE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL RETREAT REPORT

The retreat held at the "Lord's Barn" was a blessed experience, both spiritually and physically. The Staff were able to relax tired bodies while they renewed the inner man. The children enjoyed the fellowship with one another. Night

services were held in the "Cathedral in the Hollies" (which is a cut-out in the woods) around a camp fire. Bro. Louis Kimble brought God's blessed Word. Many were stirred. The theme was "Uniquely Created for God's Purpose." That is just why we are here — for God's purpose.

Pray for the Path of Life Christian School as we prepare the children for God's service.

—Path of Life Christian School, Goulds, FL

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FIFTIETH NATIONAL CAMP MEETING

The fiftieth National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 15-24, 1988. We offer you a sincere invitation to come.

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

Those coming by bus or train may come to Neosho and take a taxi to the campground or call 472-6427 (Granby, MO) for local transportation.

The camp meeting is conducted on a free will offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campground. All are welcome. We are confident that God will supply every need. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space, tents, and trailer spots are available on the campground on a first come first served basis. Trailer spots include electricity, water, and sewer hookups. Motels are available nearby, but reservations should be made in advance.

All correspondence about tent orders or dormitory space should be addressed to Sister Delores Bradley, Route 1, Box 28, Bartlett, KS, 67332. Phone (316) 226-3390. She will be coordinating requests for sleeping quarters on the campground.

If you have any questions about the meeting or arrangements, I will be glad to try to answer them. Please come with a burden for the meeting and earnestly pray for its success.

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

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DURHAM, NC CAMP MEETING

The camp meeting of the Church of God in Durham will be held, Lord willing, August 14-21. There will be services daily at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Come praying that the Lord will bless in each service. We are praying that the Lord will send Holy Ghost filled ministers and workers of His choosing.

Meals will be served on the grounds daily. The directions to the chapel are: Take Guess Rd.

exit off I-85, go north approximately 4 miles. Turn left on Unstead Rd, then take 1st right on Bivins Rd. At stop sign turn right on Russell Rd., then left on Kelvin Drive. The chapel is on the right.

For further information contact the pastor, Bro. Melvin Lennon, 3203 Apex Hwy., Durham, NC 27713, phone (919) 544-2891 or Bro. Jerry Lennon, (919) 477-9451. The chapel phone is: (919) 471-1613.

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DUNCANNON, PA TENT MEETING

The tent meeting at Duncannon PA will begin on August 7th and run through August 14th, Lord willing.

The first service will be on Sunday morning. Services will be held everyday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Meals will be served and lodging will be provided.

Come praying for a profitable meeting. All are welcome to share in the blessings of God.

The meeting will be held on the Duncannon Church of God grounds which is located on Rt. 849, 6 miles from Duncannon. Look for signs.

For further information contact Bro. and Sis. Stanley Huss, (717) 834-4490 or Sis. Virginia Myers (717) 834-4595. The Duncannon Church of God phone is: (717) 567-6988.

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CALIFORNIA STATE CAMP MEETING

The California Camp Meeting will start, Lord willing, August 26, and continue through September 4. The camp ground is located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima CA. Phone (818) 399-9012.

Accommodations will be provided for all who attend. The expense of the meeting will be met by freewill offerings. Come praying the Lord to send a Holy Spirit meeting and a mighty stir in the camp, that souls will get saved and saints edified, and the sick to be healed.

For further information, contact Brother James Pierro, phone (818) 896-5331 or Brother James Kutra, phone (714) 981-1778.

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BOLEY, OK CAMP MEETING

The camp meeting of the Church of God will convene in Boley, OK, August 21-28, 1988, Lord willing.

We extend a hearty welcome to all nations to come and worship with us. "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 bless with a Holy Spirit filled meeting and a harvesting of souls. Let us remember the Lord's request: "... Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." Luke 10:2.

Services will be at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. with all-day services on both Sundays.

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

Prayfully submitted,

—Katherine Williams

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ROLLA, MO CHURCH SERVICE

I would like to announce an all-day meeting at my home for the 4th Sunday of September.

Let's pray the Lord will send ministers of His choosing. Rolla, needs the truth.

The address is: 37 Rolla Gardens and 72 Highway, Rolla, MO.

—Sis. Hettie Clements

SERMON TAPES

The following are sermon tapes by Bro. I. C. Chandler. The tapes sell for \$3.00 each. This covers both the tape plus the postage and handling.

The tape titles are:

1. The Young Christian
2. Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit
3. Self-Denial
4. An Angel Encamps Around About You
5. Forget and Forgive and Forget
6. The Church — Part 1
7. The Church — Part 2
8. Christ Arose From The Grave
9. Sowing And Reaping

Send all orders to: Bro. Charles and Sis. Thomasene Pierro, Box 1542, Paradise, CA 95967.

Prayer Requests

AR—"I have an unspoken request I would like for you to remember in prayer."

—Sis. Vera Dotson

WV—"I have kidney problems and dizzy spells at times which make me so sick. Please keep praying for me."

CA—"Please pray for my complete healing."

—Sis. Thomasene Pierro

TX—"I have been sick over a month. Please pray for my healing; also my sister needs healing."

—Sis. Louise Strickland

AR—"Please pray for my feet; also that my husband will find work." —Sis. F. S. Hepler

WV—"I desire you dear ones to remember me in prayer concerning a diabetic condition I have; also some others here at Greenbank need help from the Lord concerning their sickness."

—James White

From the Mailbox . . .

MO—Greetings to those who attended the camp meeting last year at Myrtle, MO. Do you remember the elderly couple there one Thursday from the Naylor, MO Church of God? They were there with two of their daughters. We ate dinner in the dining hall, and one brother gave us some watermelons. My dad walked to the rest room using a cane, he was quite stooped. A kind brother left the service to assist him, bless his soul. The meeting was in August. My dad passed away with cancer and pneumonia on December 3rd; my mother with a stroke on February 26th. They had been wanting to attend the meeting for the last few years, but something always interfered. I am so glad I was able to take them. They had been receiving the *Faith and Victory* for several years. I am getting their paper at the same address.

Yours truly,

—Lois Tucker

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OK—Dear Sister Maybelle and Saints everywhere: Thank you for your concern in my son-in-law. Thank you for every act of kindness and I do appreciate your earnest prayers. Continue to pray for him, also for Doris, my daughter.

—Sister Eva Hardman

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IL—Dear Saints: Greetings to all of you at the Print Shop. I have often thought I should write to you but am just now getting it done. We think of you folks often, and have such sweet memories of being with you in Guthrie. The saints of God are precious people.

We are getting along fine by the help of our Lord. We have had trials and are going through trials, but the Lord has been so good to help us. He has never failed and the Word teaches that He never will. Oh how thankful we are to serve such a loving and live God!

Shelly and Angie, our daughters, have afflictions in their inner ears. The tube inside the ears are not open as they should be. This causes hinderances in their hearing. Please pray for the Lord to open these tubes and heal them completely.

It comes to my mind more and more about how the Christian life is a constant warfare

against the enemy. He attacks one way and before you know it, he is coming in at another. How important it is to be prayed up and always on the watch for the enemy. Thank God, we serve One who has overcome him! We pray you all will keep encouraged and printing the gospel message. Pray for us to keep faithful to the very end.

In Christian love,

—Cilicia Frazier and family

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TX—Dear Aunt Maybelle, workers at the Print Shop and saints everywhere: I want to take this opportunity to thank God for His goodness and mercy. He has been so good to me all my life because Mother (Sis. Maude Hornbeck) taught us to pray when we were growing up. I really had a precious God-fearing Mother for 60 years, 6 months and 9 days. Not everyone is so blessed.

I was with Mother on her birthday, May 15. We got caught in a hail and rain storm near Edmond, OK. I couldn't see to drive due to the storm. I said, "Mother, we have to have prayer, I can't see, its hailing with the rain." Such a beautiful prayer she prayed. God protected us. There was a lot of hail damage but no broken windows.

I want to thank everyone for their prayers for Mother before she passed and for the prayers, flowers and all the food after she died. God bless all of you.

Mother prayed that she would not be confined to bed, never need to go to a nursing home or suffer over a long period. God answered all these prayers and I am thankful to Him for the care and answers He gave to her.

Thank you again, and pray for my family and me.

—Ruth Taylor

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CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and all the workers at the Print Shop: I send greetings of Christian love to each of you there. My heart is burdened this morning for friends and loved ones that are putting off the most important thing because they don't want to pay the price. They don't realize the price that heaven paid for their souls. They think God is too merciful to send them to hell. Many souls have and still are taking that chance. Oh, how sad. My determination is to make heaven my home. Pray for me.

With Christian love, —Sis. Agnes Huskey

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OK—Bro. Wayne Murphey: This came in the mail. It is current, but pretty lengthy. If heeded, it will help us to get on with the real

business of God, the mission of the Church — loosing bound, captivated souls that need to be snatched from the pit. Time is running out on us. We are losing precious souls to the world. When lost souls come in our midst do they see love supremely for God and likewise for each other, or do they see the results of wagging tongues, disharmony, backbiting, evil surmising, talebearing, coldness, self-centeredness, rivalry, competitiveness, favoritism, respect of persons, class distinction, and lack of love? May God help each of us to examine our own selves personally. . . . — Erma Johnson

(Editor's note: This letter was written by Sis. Erma Johnson just prior to her recent and sudden death. Sis. Johnson's daughter found the letter in her mother's Bible and kindly sent it on. Due to copyright laws we feel it wise not to print the article that was enclosed. The article does contain much needed truths on the harm of gossip and how God views it. Some of the Scriptures expounded upon include: Proverbs 6:17-19; 11:9; 18:8; Psalm 101:5; James 4:11; Philippians 4:8.)

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

HONDURAS MISSIONARY REPORT

On May 4, 1988 a company, including Bros. Lessie Brown, John Clement, Keith Fuller, Louis Kimble, Herschel Hargrave, Wesley Parmelee and Waymon Parmer, left for Honduras. We arrived on the same day at Coxen Hole, Roatan Island, Honduras, where we were joined by Sis. Liurie Sanders, Sis. Lydia Bennett and Sis. Judy Tregpanier, which completed our company. We then proceeded to the home of Sis. Sanders where we were to spend four days. Some of the brethren spent the nights at the home of Sis. E. Dilbert where they were well received.

On the second day of our stay, the brethren began to set up the generator and the water pump which had been purchased for the Honduras work. We are indeed grateful to the saints who contributed to the purchase of these and we can confirm that the generator and water pump are working well. The Lord certainly sent a versatile team to Honduras, for in the company were cooks, mechanics, contractors, singers, and preachers. The Lord is setting up a nice base from which His gospel can issue forth to the island.

Also on day two, the gospel tent which had been donated from the tent missionary work was set up in Coxen Hole. We held meetings for three nights and the interest was good. There were many inside the tent and standing outside

the tent listening to the gospel. There were some who came to the altar during the meetings for various needs. Especially impressive was the salvation of a young couple before our departure from the island.

On Sunday, May 8, we took the tent down and a company left Roatan Island for the mainland of Honduras. On the mainland the military is especially visible due to the recent tension in the area. However, we can safely say none of this affected our labor there.

On the mainland, we immediately went to Sis. Bennett's home. This home was dedicated to the work of the Lord as a place where the brethren can find a home away from home when they come to Honduras. From La Ceiba we went to Tela to the home of Sis. Elsa. Here we were received with hospitality, and we had service with good attendance at a nearby home.

On Tuesday, May 10, we returned to San Pedro Sula and spent the day there. Then on Wednesday, May 11, we returned to the States, after what we can say by the Lord's help was a successful journey. In conclusion, we received good response from the brethren there, and they showed a desire to work together for the promulgation of the truth in the area. Continue to pray for the missionary efforts in Honduras.

—Submitted by Bro. Keith Fuller for the Honduras Missionary Work

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From Mexico . . .

April 22—My beloved brethren: We give thanks to God always for you all. Every day we are growing in knowledge, wisdom and love for our Redeemer and for all the saints. (Col. 1:3, 4). This also finds us well in body and with the victory over sin and rejoicing in rich blessings from our glorious Saviour.

I am very much encouraged for all that God has done in my life and in the work of the Lord. The Lord has blessed us greatly this last year. We have seen more accomplished this year than previous years. Some have been saved and some sanctified. We had two funerals in which many people heard the truth. We praise God for all. Please pray for me. I want to go and extend the Word of God wherever He leads.

We had a beautiful camp meeting. There was some altar work and every service was a blessing to our lives. We appreciate much your prayers and love and burden for the work in Mexico and for all the saints that were able to be here with us.

We discovered that there was one sister that did not come to our camp meeting as she had no shoes. My wife took her to buy some shoes. She

said that she appreciated much the shoes but was more thankful that she was able to feed on the Word of God and be shod with the gospel of peace.

We ask your prayers much for the work in Mexico. There are many poor people and some have no means to get food. We ask your prayers that these people, above everything, might be rich in spiritual things. We tell them that it is better to be rich in spiritual things than to have material needs, for then God will help us to be content with everything.

We do thank the Lord for better transportation that we can use to transport the people that desire to come to church. The Lord has supplied a Dodge Maxiwagon. We have also been able to pay the import tariff and buy the Baja, CA, plates with money that was loaned to us by a brother in California, so that we could use the van now. We are praying that this money can be paid back soon.

We love you all and appreciate your generous offering for the work in Mexico. May the Lord bless you and all the saints and keep you in His hand is my wish and prayer.

Your brother in the Lord,

—Mayarino Escobar

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From Nigeria . . .

May 18—Dear Sis. Maybelle Pruitt and the redeemed everywhere: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus the one who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. All glory and honour unto Him forever!

The King's business required haste. (1 Sam. 21:8). The spread of unworthy religious practices have left the Church in need of revitalization, as it is to Zion men have to turn, as to a fountain from which the pure water of evangelistic truth is drawn. All glory unto Him that none here are standing idle.

We are back in Benin City. The Church did exist here twenty-one years ago, but went into the wilderness and became practically non-existent as a result of the Nigerian Civil War. We were happy to receive two brothers from Benin City who crossed over from sectarian enclosure to visit us in Zion. Our answer to their Macedonian call materialized on April 8-10. We plan to be back there within this year, Lord willing, for a week long stay of evangelistic meetings and teaching.

It is a matter of much interest that in Christ our earthly nationality has been crucified. We rejoice for the divine maturity of His own children this way, as seen to hold at all times as first priority our membership of the City of God.

We live in unity no matter from where our birth

All prayer requests received for healing have been taken to our Great Physician, our Heavenly Father, who has created these bodies and who is abundantly able and willing to heal and correct every disorder in these bodies of His own children. All things are possible to them who believe.

Yours in Him,

—Titus U. E. Enu

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From the Philippines . . .

June 2—Dear Sister Pruitt: May the peace and joy of the Holy Spirit fill your hearts as you work everyday in the Print Shop.

Please say thank you for us to all the dear saints who are concerned for the mission work. We are so thankful to our loving God for the completion of the church building in Caridad. It is a beautiful, small church building. It is now built in a better and permanent place. I am so happy for the cooperation of the saints in Caridad. They are poor financially but because of their love for the Lord and cooperation, they were able to build a better building for their worship services.

There are calls for evangelistic meetings in other towns and provinces, but we do not have the finances necessary to go. We are praying much for our good Lord to provide the means. My heart is heavy for them because they have been deceived by false teachers. They seem to be religious, but their hearts are full of worldly things and idol worship. People in remote places have been led to believe much superstition. Everyday people are dying with the hope to go to heaven, but they are deceived.

In Christian love, —Matias S. Tanganan

In Memoriam

Maude (Miles) Hornbeck was born May 15, 1909 to William I. and Lycenia Miles in Alamogordo, NM, and passed from this life on May 29, 1988 in Guthrie, OK.

When she was a young child she moved with her parents and others in the family to Clovis, NM, where she attended school until 1922 when the family moved to Corsicana, TX. Later the family moved to Mexia, TX and Maude came to Guthrie, OK when in her teens and later the family moved here.

In 1926 she was married to T. D. Hornbeck and to this union five children were born, two

daughters and three sons. She was preceeded in death by one daughter, Flossie and two sons, Karl Glenn and Lester D., also her parents, six brothers and two sisters.

She is survived by one daughter, Ruth Lycenia Taylor of Dallas, TX; one son, Warner Hornbeck of Oklahoma City, OK; one sister, Maybelle Pruitt of Guthrie, OK; one brother, Clyde F. Miles of El Toro, CA; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and many close friends.

Maude lived most of her adult life in Oklahoma City where she reared her children. She moved to Guthrie three years ago and had helped in various ways in the Lord's work at the Faith Publishing House. Sister Maude always wanted to help others and she made ways to do it many times when she was hardly able. Her heart and mind was to serve the Lord and she was so thankful how the Lord helped her many times in her suffering, although not bedfast. The Lord saw her work was finished so He called her home suddenly.

Funeral services were held in Oklahoma City, OK on June 2, 1988 in the Guardian Funeral Home, conducted by Bros. Charles Smith and Carl Shaffer. Interment was in Sunnyslane Cemetery in Oklahoma City, OK.

NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to express our love and appreciation to every one who has stood by us in this sad time, also the many calls, cards, letters, food and everything. How can we thank you enough? We pray God will richly bless and reward each one.

With sincere thanks to all,

—Maude's family, Maybelle Pruitt and all of my family, Clyde and Connie.

Safely Home

I am home in heaven dear ones;

Oh, so happy and so bright!

There is perfect joy and beauty

In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,

Every restless tossing passed;

I am now at peace for ever,

Safely home in heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly

Trod the valley of the shade?

Oh! but Jesus' love illumined

Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me

In the way so hard to tread;

And with Jesus' arm to lean on,

Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still:
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand:
Do it now while life remaineth —
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!

—Selected by Ruby Miles

Question and Answer Column

by

Ostis B. Wilson

This is the second installment of comments on the ministry and other officers in the Church; the methods of their selection; their duties, the method of certification and ordination, etc.

I wish to return now to Hebrews 13:17 and note a few points in regard to the ruler, overseer, pastor or guide (by whatever name you desire to call them — all are Scriptural). This verse says, "They watch for your souls as they that must give account." This identifies them with the watchmen referred to in Ezekiel 33:1-9. The first 6 verses refer to the nation at war and how they select a man for their watchman and what his duties are. If he sees the sword coming and blows the trumpet and sounds the warning, whether the people respond to it and prepare themselves for battle or not, the watchman has cleared himself no matter what happens to the people. But if he fails to blow the trumpet and sound the warning and the people are destroyed, their blood will be required at the watchman's hand. Then verse 7 says, "So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me." The first word of the verse, "So," means "In like manner." This had reference to literal Israel but it is also a type of spiritual Israel, the saints under the new covenant. God has appointed watchmen, overseers, rulers, pastors or guides over His people in this "now" age of time for the specific purpose to keep them warned, advised, admonished and instructed concerning things God reveals to them. If people will give heed to their pastor's admonitions and he faithfully warns them of impending danger it will be well

with both them and their watchman. If they fail to heed the warnings given, and the enemy comes in and gains advantage over them, deceives and overthrows them, it will still be well with the faithful pastor but not for them. If the watchman fails to see what is happening and fails to give warning and evil comes upon the people, then their blood will be required at the watchman's hand.

So the watchman stands in a very responsible place and must be very sincere and diligent and faithful if he is to save his own soul. Also the congregation whom he serves must be very diligent and sincere to obey and submit themselves if they would save their souls. All things considered, it is easy to see why these instructions are given to obey and submit. God has placed them there for that specific purpose and people are helping on their own destruction and total ruin who take an independent stand on any thing they have been admonished by God's man and fail to obey and submit themselves. Some have said, "If God tells me, I will accept it, but I will not accept it from man." But the advice from here is that if you take an attitude to discredit and discount the worth of God's man and say you are just going to get your direction from God Himself, I will almost guarantee you will come up with a grand deception and just go shouting your way right on to your own destruction and ruin. In Luke 10:16 Jesus said, "He that heareth you heareth me." He speaks through His men.

In 1 Peter 5:2 and Acts 20:28 we read that it is the duty and responsibility of the elders to feed the flock, the Church of God. It is the elders duty to always have something from God to feed, nourish, edify, strengthen, build up and inspire the souls of the people; also to admonish, instruct and enlighten them.

In Hebrews 13:17 where it says, "Obey them that have the rule over you. . . ." the margin says "Guide." The true man of God rules his flock or congregation by guiding and leading them and showing them how to fulfill the Word and will of God in their lives by performing it right before their eyes. In Philippians 3:17 Paul said, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample." Again in Philippians 4:9 Paul said, "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and SEEN in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." Peter writing to the elders in 1 Peter 5:3 said, "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." And Paul wrote to Timothy, the pastor or overseer at Ephesus, in 1 Timothy 4:12, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conver-

sation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." Oh, how beautiful this is when a pastor can bring a message from God's Word on any line and when he has finished can say: "Now that is the message from God's Holy Word. You just watch me now and I will show you how to do it." I promise you that you can guide, lead and govern your congregations more successfully by this method than by being a lord over God's heritage and governing by dogmatic commands.

Then we see in Matthew 18:15-20 Jesus giving instructions and directions to His ministry for maintaining order and discipline in the Church. Clearly this is one of their major responsibilities. The instruction here is if a brother offends, go to him and tell him his fault between the two of you alone. If he refuses to hear you, take one or two more with you and go again. If he refuses to hear them, take it to the Church. And at this point the pastor and elders come into it and it is their responsibility to settle the matter equitably and right even if it comes to expelling the offending party from the fellowship of the Church. Jesus said He would put His seal and sanction on any judgment rendered by His spirit-filled men according to His Word. In verse 18 He said, ". . . Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." But the conclusion of the whole matter is in verse 20 where He said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." It is Jesus executing judgment through His God-called, spirit-filled, Holy Spirit appointed men performing the work of God in their place.

In Matthew 16:19 Jesus said to Peter, "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. . . ." This was not just to Peter, but it was said in a direct conversation between Jesus and Peter so it has been taken that way by some. However, this applied to all the Apostles and all of their successors, (ministers of the Church of God) throughout this gospel age of time. Every God-called, God-qualified minister has those keys. They are God's Word and God's Holy Spirit. And all the work done through these agents has the seal and sanction of God and heaven upon the back of it.

(To be continued)

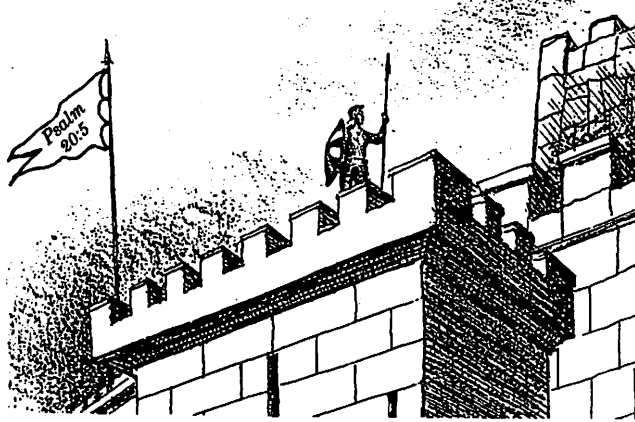
As a little child relies

On a care beyond his own;
Knows he's neither strong nor wise,
Fears to stir a step alone;
Let me thus with Thee abide,
Thou my Father, Guard and Guide.

—Selected

The Watchman On The Wall

By Wayne Murphey



Part 1

The stars were shining brightly and the night air was balmy out on the open plain. In sight was the outline of a great walled city. Creeping silently toward it was one well-skilled in the careful art of stealth, for even the guards which were posted on the outside of the wall at night failed to detect his approach. Near the entrance to the city he paused to observe one of the guards. When he saw movement and knew that the guard was fully alert, he crept on until he found a watchman who was softly snoring. With a light step he skirted the sleeper and scaled the wall. Once inside the city he hastened on his way with confidence and purpose.

Traversing several side roads he eventually turned in at the house of one named Redeemed. The shadowy visitor slipped over a backyard fence and then dropped through a window into the bedroom. Softly sidling up to the bed, he placed his hand on Redeemed's mouth, awakened him and whispered his name. Redeemed's eyes registered great surprise upon seeing the stranger but the intruder motioned him to silence and waved him outside. "Above all," he whispered, "don't awaken your wife."

Upon entering the courtyard, Redeemed inquired, "Who are you and what do you want?"

"Not so fast," replied the stranger. "First, let me assure you I simply want to talk with you. I know you very well for I have seen a file on you that a certain person keeps. For the sake of conversation you may call me Self-interest. Concerning my point of business, I want to talk with you about your job."

"My watchman job?" questioned Redeemed.

"Exactly so," replied Self-interest. "Has anyone told you lately what a fine job you are doing?"

"Oh, I'm sure that they have, but I can't really recall any particular instance of it."

"Didn't anyone compliment you last month

when you caught the enemy sneaking up the wall?"

"Well, everyone seemed to be real happy about it," returned Redeemed.

"Listen," said Self-interest, "you are due some respect around here. No one else has sounded as many alarms as you have and I doubt that even the Commander could have done as well as you did on that last enemy."

"Now just a minute," bristled Redeemed, "I have nothing against the Commander. He is both good and competent. I owe everything to Him. He not only rescued me from the enemy once, but all of my training and talent for the watchman job came from Him. He is the one who trained us all in the technique of watching. Before every watch He has a session in which He gives words of advice and encouragement to those who are ready to go on duty. It is in sessions like these that He teaches us how to detect the enemy. When we see something that is suspicious, we have to discern whether it is supposed to be there or if it is the enemy's doings. If we sound the alarm without a just cause the Commander is very unhappy, for it causes much confusion in the city and is counter-productive, but if we fail to sound the alarm and the enemy comes in and someone loses his life, we must stand accountable for it. You see what a great responsibility lies on a watchman? And there is no one more qualified to be Commander than He for He has experienced all the tests of a watchman and has proved faithful in them all."

"Hold your tongue a minute if you would," interrupted Self-interest, "I never meant to disapprove of your Commander, I want to talk about you. I just think that you should begin taking note of your accomplishments. When you walk down the street don't you notice the worship in the eyes of the children as they follow you? Even they recognize your greatness. Doesn't it bring to mind the many times that you looked up to the watchmen and decided that someday you would work for the Commander?"

"I hadn't really thought of it, but I guess you are right," said Redeemed, "I have accomplished a great deal for the Commander."

"Of course you have," returned Self-interest. "Now look, I have to be going, but I want you to think about what I have said. I will be back before long and we will discuss it further." With that Self-interest climbed the fence and was gone.

Redeemed in deep thought, quietly returned to his room, unaware of his wife's wakefulness. As he eased himself onto the bed the voice of his wife penetrated the darkness.

"Who was that, Redeemed?"

"Oh, just a man wanting to talk," he answered, uneasily.

"Just a man wanting to talk? At this time of the night? There is something suspicious about this. If I were you I would report him to the Commander first thing in the morning."

"Well, I don't know," Redeemed returned, "It is rather strange, and yet everything that he had to say was true. I don't see any reason for a big alarm. And I did rather enjoy the conversation. I think I will let it go this time."

Redeemed attempted to sleep, but he was troubled by what his wife had said. Why had the stranger awakened him in the middle of the night to discuss such a matter? Unable to sort it out, Redeemed dozed off into a fitful sleep. If he had only been able to see the stranger's face in the full light, he surely would have recognized him as an enemy that the Commander had often warned the watchmen of. His true name was Pride.

(To be continued in Sept. *Faith and Victory*)

HOME LIFE



Evening and Morning

It was late in the evening and I was exhausted. Yet there was work for me as a mother and wife to finish before I joined the rest of the family in sweet slumber land.

"Oh, Lord," I prayed aloud to myself, "I need some physical strength and some soul strength from you. Please give me a promise to help me make it through!"

There were supper dishes to wash, green beans to can and laundry to sort, but I had to take a moment to gain strength from the Lord. With my Bible I sat down at the table to gather composure for the final evening duties. I had to have a promise from God and a promise I got. "O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me." Psalm 30:2.

How true and firm a statement that is! I simply cried unto the Lord, sought for His comfort and He healed my burdened spirit one more time. Thank you, Lord!

Physically, too, my Lord and my God has always taken care of my needs. He heals me in His own patient way, or immediately, and He keeps me well and able to do my work. I can relax my nerves and calm my mind just knowing that He is right within calling distance any time around the clock.

"Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness." Psalm 30:4. Sing? Yes, I began to feel like singing again! All the many precious things I could remember the Lord doing for us! "The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell."

Then in the next verse, I found another promise so fitting. "For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Psalm 30:5. Often sorrow, trouble and trials thicken our eyes with tears and turn our life into "night time". Faithful children of God have these times like King David wrote about. He said, "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

Bro. B. E. Warren wrote a song about the evening and morning (number 369 *Evening Light Songs*). I looked up that song, read it and received another blessing.

"When the evening is coming,
And the dark clouds appear,
I am happy in knowing
My Redeemer is near. . . ."

This holds a secret to enduring strength — to be happy in knowing our Redeemer is near! Right now, in these last days that the world is yet existing in, we can be glad the Redeemer is with us. He is near. The dark times in life will give way to morning. There will be a reward, a pay day for those who are happy they have the Redeemer as their Lord and Saviour.

"When our life's evening endeth
In one bright lasting day,
When our Saviour descendeth
In His royal array,
We'll be caught up to meet Him
In the air, we are told,
To abide with Him ever
In that city of gold."

When we are one of God's children, all our labor here is done unto the Lord. None of our good, faithful labor is in vain. We have an assurance that promises us glorious life everlasting.

I was literally ready to get the "evening" work done so I could meet the "morning" with peace and joy. I agreed with verse six: "And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved." Lord, with your abiding Holy Spirit within, I shall not be moved from your caring hand.

Then it was verses eleven and twelve that really got me up and ready for work. "Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness; To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever."

The Lord took off my sackcloth of weariness and girded my soul with gladness. To thee, Lord, will I verbally sing a song of praise and all the labor of life will go by quickly.

The Lord successfully brought me through that evening as He has other darker evenings in life. I know that when the last morning has come, we will give thanks unto the Lord for ever.
—Sis. Connie Sorrell

Soul Rest For The Weary

Rest for the weary sounds so comforting and inviting. Have you been experiencing some deep inner turmoil, something so complicated and perplexing that you almost despair? Jesus can solve any problem you might have with this certain formula: love, faith and waiting. While you are waiting, you should be praising. This will all add up to something that every soul longs for, rest. This formula will work on any kind of problem that you are facing. When Jesus suffered and died for us, His blood not only had the full power to wash away our sins, but gave us the keeping power to withstand any temptation, obstacle or trying circumstance in life.

Our adversary, the devil, despises anything that is right and good. He will do all in his power to tear down everything good that God has planned for us. If we fail to keep close communion with God the devil will use his own formula on us. Where love should be, we will have suspicion and imaginations, bringing about doubts and fears when we should have faith; and impatience and anxiety, when we should be patiently waiting. This all adds up to murmuring and complaining instead of resting and is a most unhappy state of agitation and confusion of the mind.

If the devil can keep his formula working in us long enough, negative thoughts will fill our mind and crowd out any faith we have. This will soon lead to a very discouraged and disheartened condition. Then the devil will say, "The

way is too hard, you just as well give up and not claim something you don't have."

Don't give up! That's the devil talking to you. It's the devil's business to kill every bit of faith he can by filling your mind with negative thoughts. The only way to overcome this onslaught of the enemy, is to fall on your face before God and plead, "God help me!" When we start praying and reading God's Word, our faith will be spontaneous. Praying and reading God's Word activates faith, and God's formula of love, faith, waiting and praising will be manifested in your life.

How grieved Jesus must be when He sees us fall short of His plan for us, yet how tenderly, patiently and lovingly He will work with us. He doesn't cut us off when we make mistakes, but He wants us to be diligent. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Proverbs 4:23.

Webster defines diligence, "to esteem highly, using constant, careful effort and perseverance." God wants us "to esteem highly" His great salvation. When we are faithful to do this He will reward us with a deep and satisfying soul rest.

Adversity, sickness and sorrow will come to all mankind, but if we are living for God He will give us grace to go through anything that comes our way.

As many of you already know, my husband passed away a year ago last June. It was the most devastating experience I have ever faced. It not only affected me, but our children. Our way of living was suddenly and completely changed. I leaned heavily upon the Lord and He gave me strength and grace when I had none within myself. At first I couldn't really concentrate on reading my Bible. I would just hold it and cry and pray for help. I had always loved music and singing, and that is the method God used to help me. I had some good spiritual singing on tapes and would listen with my heart open for strength and help. God did not fail me. When the nights were so long and lonely, I would listen to more singing, until at last, I would fall asleep.

Here is a beautiful song I would like to share with you dear ones.

Resting In Jesus

Resting in Jesus, oh, it is precious,
Making the wounded heart perfectly whole;
I have believed it, truly received it,
Wonderful glorious rest of the soul.

CHORUS

Resting in Jesus, singing His praises,
Telling the wonderful story of love;

Peace like a river, flowing forever,
Deep in my bosom from heaven above.

Resting in Jesus, sorrowing ceases,
Since I have found an abundance of grace;
Trusting each moment in the atonement,
Sitting with Him in the holiest place.

Resting in Jesus, when in the tempest,
Till I shall land on that beautiful shore,
Asking, receiving, trusting, believing,
Resting securely in Him evermore.

Oh dear ones, it is true that we can trust each moment in the Lord's atonement no matter what our problem may be. Use God's formula: love, faith, waiting and praising, and it will add up to **resting**.

Let's analyze the formula. First we have love. God is love, so we have to have love one for another. It's easy to love someone that loves you, but it goes against the flesh to love an enemy. Yet Jesus says to "love your enemies, to bless them that curse you, and do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." (Matthew 5:44). Praying for an enemy, or doing good to them will activate love in your heart. If you fail to pray or do good to an enemy you will have a bad attitude and ill will toward that person. The devil will be quick to put hard feelings, jealousy, or bitterness in your heart, because these are characteristics of himself.

Next we have faith. The whole plan of salvation is based on faith. ". . . Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:6.

What is faith? "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1.

Waiting is the next word, and probably one of the hardest things for us to do, but if we never had to wait, we would not be exercising trust and faith in God. Waiting keeps us in a prayerful attitude and helps us know for certain what God's will is for us. While we are waiting God wants us to send up praises and thanksgiving to Him. If we are faithful to praise Him, He will give us joy and patience while we are waiting. This leads us to an all-important word, **resting**. This is something that God designed for us to have in the atonement and will be the end result if we follow God's formula.

So dear one, if you are struggling with doubts or fears, or if there is any root of bitterness in your heart, or if you are suffering physically, or if you are in a financial strait, whatever it is, Jesus can give you rest.

Picture Him with His arms outstretched to you and notice His nail-scarred hands. He wants to hold you in His arms of love and power, and for you to nestle close to Him, while you wait for Him to work and lead and guide in your life.

Here are some of the most comforting words in the Bible that Jesus said. Read them slowly and let God's Holy Spirit reveal to you the depths of His love. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30.

Fully believe and trust in the atonement, and your weary soul shall have rest.

Your sister in Christ,

—Carol Cole

The Will Of God

Are we capable of doing the will of God? This is the only way we will see God and have everlasting life. ". . . But he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." 1 John 2:17. "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might might receive the promise." Hebrews 10:36. Jesus said, "For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Matthew 12:50. We can only be counted as the adopted sons of God if we do the will of God.

"Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Ephesians 5:17. "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:9-14.

We see that under the new covenant Christ has delivered us from the "power of darkness" or the power of the devil so that we need not sin anymore. ". . . The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7. Our past sins are forgiven whenever we are "born again" and we become a servant of Christ laboring to

please God. "Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." Ephesians 6:6. "...that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God." Colossians 4:12.

"Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour, Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God who hath also given us his Holy Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8.

"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. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Romans 12:1, 2.

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." 1 Peter 4:17-19.

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." Hebrews 13:20, 21.

We see that God not only expects us to do His will, but our salvation depends upon it. It is the only way we will "abide forever". God has provided a way for us to know His will through the New Testament, if we will desire and seek this knowledge. "...For he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:6.

—Joyce Hall



Excerpts Taken From

July, 1963 *Faith and Victory*

"Fred Pruitt, first editor of *Faith and Victory* paper and associate founder of Faith Publishing House, passed rather suddenly to his eternal home on Thursday, June 6, 1963."

"Dear ministers, fellow-laborers, and saints of God, let us take up the task and burden for souls our brother [Fred Pruitt] has laid down and carry the torch on to a final victory, closing the ranks and uniting our forces in love and humility for a valiant soldier of the cross has laid down the armor and gone to receive the reward for the faithful. Let us follow the Captain of our salvation who is leading this battle for truth and right to a final victory."

—Ira D. Stover

"Marriage is an institution founded by God upon the constitution of man. . . . We have seen some homes that were a Bethel, and we have seen others that were a Babel. . . . A wife was asked by another, how she managed to manage her husband. She replied, 'I manage him by not managing him.' There is a secret here. When two get to trying to manage each other they get to be unmanageable. The arithmetic of married life is to increase joys by sharing them and lessen troubles by dividing them."

—C. E. Orr

"We wish to take this opportunity to thank you every one for your prayers and love offerings sent to us to make it possible that we could get a new car to go forth to spread the truth of God's Word in new and isolated places."

—Darius and Evelyn Gibson