

FAITH AND VICTORY

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Sad Or Glad, Which Are You?



Sad, a weary soul all burdened,
trav'ling on the road despair;
Glad, a happy soul for glory,
chanced to meet him traveling there.

"Lift thy head!" said Glad so kindly;
"Let my cheer to thee impart.
Come, tell Christ the inner thinking
from within your troubled heart."

But Sad would not lift his vision
from his downward darkened gaze,
And thus with trembling steps
dumbly stumbled on a ways.

Oh, how steep the grade he traveled
and with a downhill slant it went!
Again to Sad, Glad was calling:
"Friend, thy head need not be bent.

"Look up to Christ our all and all,
the Lover of our souls.
Give Christ thy heavy burdens
and let Him have the full control."

Then Sad moaned and groaned so loudly
that Glad's voice he could not hear.
Sad thought his burdens were too big
for him, or anyone to bear.

On went Glad a soul quite happy,
washed, redeemed by Jesus' blood.
On went Sad a soul yet troubled,
cumbered with his heavy load.

Sad with Glad again met never
for his chance had come and gone.
Sad, how close you came to being
Glad—just like the other one!

—Connie Sorrell

Helping Our Brother

"Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil. . . ." Psalm 141:5. The Amplified Bible renders this text, "Let the righteous man smite and correct me. . . ." Sometimes it is the will of God for a righteous man to give reproof or correction and it is so important as to how this is done. Jesus is our example. In Mark 10:17-22 we find the account given of a young man coming to Jesus inquiring, "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" After pointing him first to the commandments, verse 21 reads, "Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me." First, Jesus loved him and spoke out of a heart of love telling him just what he lacked and what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. Oh, how important it is for us to first love the one to whom we speak words of reproof or correction, then to do it in the proper season. This was the proper season for he had come inquiring of Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. However, the man went away sorrowful.

In Revelation 1:16 John describes Jesus as he beheld Him in a vision. "And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword. . . ." "For the word of God is . . . sharper than any twoedged sword. . . ." Hebrews 4:12. In the second chapter of Revelations are recorded the messages which Jesus sent to the seven churches in Asia. Let us take note of how He gave them correction. To the church at Ephesus He first commended them and said, "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear

them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted." He loved them and recognized that they had some virtues. Then he told them what he had against them. "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." He told them plainly what was wrong, then told them what they must do to correct the condition. He had given His life for them and loved them and desired that they repent. He had not yet cut them off and was giving them space to repent, yet warning them that they would be cut off if they didn't. Following the correction He gave them another commendation, "But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate." Revelation 2:2-6.

In Galatians 6:1-5, we are given some instructions as to how we should handle a brother

impatient or superior to him in his shortcoming, and go to him in this condition, we may do unrepairable damage. Our motive should be to help our brother if possible, not just to condemn him.

"For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself." (verse 3). "For if any person thinks himself to be somebody [too important to condescend to shoulder another's load], when he is nobody of superiority except in his own estimation, he deceives and deludes and cheats himself." (Amplified). If we possess a greater excellence than our brother, it is God who has helped us and it may be that we are weaker than he in some other area of our life.

"But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another." (verse 4). The Amplified reads, "But let every person carefully scrutinize and examine and test his own conduct and his own work. He can then have the personal satisfaction and joy of doing something commendable [in itself alone] without resorting to boastful comparison with his neighbor." Sometimes

***"For if any person thinks himself to be somebody
[too important to condescend to shoulder another's load]
when he is nobody of superiority except in his own
estimation, he deceives and deludes and cheats himself."***

overtaken in a fault and our own attitude and responsibility in it. "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." The Amplified Bible gives a fuller meaning and reads, "Brethren, if any person is overtaken in misconduct or sin of any sort, you who are spiritual—who are responsive to and controlled by the Spirit—should set him right and reinstate him, without any sense of superiority and with all gentleness, keeping an attentive eye on yourself, lest you should be tempted also." It is so important for us to be in a good spiritual state, responsive to and controlled by the Spirit to render help to our brother in his need.

Verse two reads, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." The Amplified reads, "Bear [endure, carry] one another's burdens and troublesome moral faults, and in this way fulfill and observe perfectly the law of Christ." Sometimes it is needful to bear patiently with our brother's fault for awhile, still showing him love until the proper time comes to approach him. If we feel irritated,

people boastfully compare their own virtuous works with their brother's fault.

"For every man shall bear his own burden." (verse 5). "For every person will have to bear [be equal to understanding and calmly receive] his own [little] load of oppressive faults." (Amplified). We will be held responsible as to how we handle the matter of helping our brother who is overtaken in a fault. If we have been spiritual and have waited upon the Spirit of God, have considered ourself and have possessed a meek and humble spirit, whether or not our brother responds, we will have cleared ourselves; but if we have been hasty, and not filled with the Spirit, or have gone to him in pride, feeling ourself above him, we will have to bear the responsibility of our own fault before God, the judge of all.

—Fern Stubblefield

Truth, if followed by all, would lead all into a perfect state of harmony, precluding every atom of deception; hence the great importance of following unreservedly that Spirit of truth — the Holy Spirit.

—I. R. Beaver

Call To Prayer

I address this to the people of God in every nation. We feel a real urgency from the Lord to call for special prayer for the many needs that we have in our land, in the Church, in our families, and for our young people and children, then especially for ourselves. I have been inspired to do this from reading how our nation was founded upon high moral convictions and religious principles. God honored that and blessed our nation with many, many blessings. Because of this, our nation grew and became one of the most powerful ones in the world, but it has forgotten God, as Israel of old did. The Lord warned Israel when they went over into the land of promise to beware, lest they forget God. That is exactly what they did. This nation is worshiping the creature more than the Creator and it has brought us to a depraved condition. Surely the Lord's wrath is not too far away. We need to pray as never before.

We read where men have prayed and changed the whole course of nature. The Lord told Israel if they would pray and turn from their wicked ways, He would hear them and heal their land. We read in the early history of our nation that great revivals were prayed down, that changed the course of time. The power of God prevailed and wickedness was put down. The whole city of Ninevah was spared through prayer and fasting. They turned away from their wicked ways. We are surely living in a very wicked world and our nation is one of the worst. There are over a million murders of unborn babies every year. Crime costs taxpayers \$2 billion a year. There is a serious crime committed every 3.5 seconds, a robbery committed every 8.3 seconds, a murder every 2 minutes. There are millions of dope addicts and alcoholics. One out of every two marriages end in divorce. There are two million unmarried couples living together. Suicide is the second largest killer of teenagers. 32% of children at nine years old have tried dope. We must pray for our nation. I am not expecting a big revival to break out and millions turn to the Lord. But we can see the power in prayer and what has been accomplished when God's people pray.

We need to pray for the Church. Paul said, "... I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves [spirits] enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." Acts 20:29, 30. Those grievous spirits are still around, trying to scatter the flock of God. One thing about a grievous wolf is that he doesn't care who he

hurts just as long as he gets what he wants. We need to pray.

We need to pray for young married couples who are raising families. They are facing some real giants in this day and age. Raising families is a great strain on parents now. It is a financial burden, and there are many other burdens.

Many of our young people are confused and wondering what is going on around them. Too many are turning away from the Church. Oh, let us pray for our children. They are the ones who are suffering the most from all this wickedness and broken homes and unsaved parents. They get so mixed up and feel so frustrated. All they know to do is to whine and rebel.

We need to pray for our Christian schools and those who are laboring in them. This is one bright spot I see for the future. By the Lord's grace and help, maybe we can help our children to get started out right. I am convinced that Christian schools are of the Lord.

Please, let us pray for the ministers of God. I have never seen a time (and I have been around for a few years) when there was such little respect for God's ministers. But Paul compared them to oxen that get beat upon. Let us all pray for each other and for ourselves. We must not forget the printing work of the Lord. We also need to offer up special prayers for our dear brothers and sisters who are trusting in God for the healing of their bodies. Some are being very courageous and faithful. They are worthy of our prayers. Don't forget to pray for the unsaved and backsliders. After all, that is what Jesus came for.

I would like to invite all readers of this paper and God's people everywhere to unite our prayers in a special 48-hour agreement on October 28th and 29th. I believe God will hear us and change some of these things. These days are Friday and Saturday when more people will be free. If you are in a congregation, call for a special prayer meeting on Friday night, or whenever you desire to help pray at this time. When you pray, believe that you receive it and you shall have it. (Mark 11:24). Ask and ye shall receive. (John 16:24).

I would like to personally thank all of the dear saints of God for your prayers for me. I have had some light affliction of late, but I am much encouraged in the Lord. These many afflictions that we have had these last few years have caused us to see how helpless we are; they have brought us closer to God. We feel near the Lord and have perfect faith that He is going to see us all the way to the end. Let us all keep steady as we go.

Your fellow servant, —Bro. Mart Samons

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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SUBSCRIPTION RATES



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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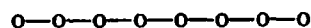
EDITORIALS



As this October issue goes to press it finds us thankful that we have an example to follow like Christ. We read in the Holy Scriptures of how Christ, through good times and bad times, had victory in both. An interesting incident is recorded in Matthew 26:30. "And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." To my knowledge, this is the only recorded incident of Christ singing. It is interesting that Christ sang just prior to entering Gethsemane. It would have seemed natural to sing on the Mount of Transfiguration or as He rode into Jerusalem amid the hosannas of the crowd, but it took something special to have a song on His lips a few moments from a place of agony. This is not to say that He felt no apprehension or grief, but somewhere within His spirit there was joy. Hebrews 12:2 gives us an insight for the basis of this gladness. "... who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." This was the joy that broke forth in a hymn of praise. It was actuated by the opportunity to do the will of His Father and to save perishing souls. This is just another glimpse into the great love of our Redeemer.

Life is worth living when we can put the will of the Father first in our affections and commit the consequences to Him. The story is told of a minister who once was assailed by a lady with whom he was slightly acquainted. She berated him for having "heterodox opinions" and menaced him with the consequences which, in this world and in the next, would follow on the course of action he was pursuing. His only answer was, "I don't care." "Do you know what don't care came to, sir?" "Yes, madam," was the grave reply, "He was crucified on Calvary."

Although we may experience grief, let us make sure that down deep there is the joy that no man (John 16:22) or circumstance can take away. Herein is the victory of the Christian.



We have in stock wall calendars for 1989. The price this year will be \$1.70 each plus \$1.00 for postage and handling. The calendar measures 7¼ by 13½ inches, and includes a colorful nature scene for every month.

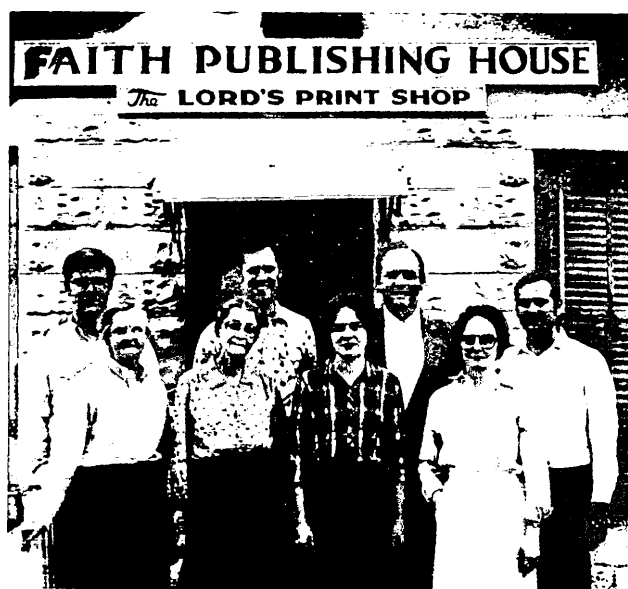
We would also like to remind our readers that we stock approximately 120 books and a large number of tracts. This literature is priced very reasonably and should be accessible to all who have a desire for the truth. You can obtain a free list of books and tracts by writing this office.

We would like to reiterate our thanks to all who have supported this work. It is only as God has moved upon the hearts of the saints to give that we have been able to continue publishing the gospel. There is much literature that leaves this office either free of charge or at a nominal rate. We feel that it has been profitable to souls to operate in this manner, and thank you for sharing in the vision.

A number of religious magazines come to the Print Shop, and in looking them over, I have noted one special difference between them and the *Faith and Victory*; that is reader participation. Some magazines have a board of contributors and others are mainly one long editorial. I feel that the *Faith and Victory* reflects that it is indeed the Church of God servant. We want to keep it that way. We continue to welcome your articles, announcements, mailbox items and testimonies. Those who have a question for the "Question and Answer" column may either send it to this office or directly to Bro. Ostis Wilson 34237 N. E. Sunset Dr., Albany, OR 97321.

—Wayne Murphey

Faith Publishing House Workers



Back row, left to right: Bros. Bob Wilson, Robert Sallee, Leslie Busbee and Wayne Murphey.

Front row, left to right: Sis. Charlotte Huskey, Maybelle Pruitt, Bunnie Craddock and Linda Craddock.

The soul is an empire where God would set up His kingdom. Wherever He carries out His big program most interesting things happen. Any one having the Kingdom of God building within will live a life of infinite interest and great significance.

—Selected

SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Bro. Keith Fuller of Akron, OH is available to visit any congregation among the saints to give information on Christian schools, home schooling, the negative influence of the public schools, his experience in the public schools, etc. If you are interested in looking into the alternatives to the public schools, this information would hopefully be helpful and enlightening. For further information, contact: Keith Fuller, 244 Storer Ave., Akron, OH 44302. Phone (216) 864-1128 or (216) 762-2286.

BOOK AVAILABLE

Many people, through the years, have asked me to write a book of my experiences in Mexico, saying they felt it would be an encouragement to many to have more faith in God.

Consequently, I have prayerfully written of those instances that would please the Lord, that which would show forth the workings of God in and through the incidents whereby He could be glorified, doing it as unto the Lord. "My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad." Psalm 34:2.

It is my prayer that the book will prove a blessing to those who desire to be in the center of God's will.

The book is entitled, "I Want You To Go To Mexico." Those are the words God first spoke to my heart.

The price is \$3.95 plus postage: 90¢ for one book, \$1.25 for either 2 or 3, and \$1.60 for either 4 or 5 books. Orders may be made to: Opal Kelly, 1917 N.E. 20th, No. 135, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.

Yours for the furtherance of the gospel in its purity,

—Sister Opal Kelly

LIST OF TAPES AVAILABLE

Sis. Doris Halladay will have monthly lists of preaching tapes that are recorded at the Guthrie, OK chapel. If you would like to obtain these lists, write to her at: 1406 S. Pine, Guthrie, OK 73044. It is requested that all communications be done by mail.

Prayer Requests

CA—"Ed Eubanks has felt worse again these past few weeks; please remember him and his family in prayer."

—Eunice Cole

CA—"I fell and injured my body, please pray for me, also my sister-in-law needs healing."

—Helen Carson

OK—"I am still in need of much prayer."

—Wilma Meek

LA—Continue to remember Bro. Don Williamson. Thank God for the ones He has blessed and healed, including Bro. Gerald Harmon.

OK—Sis. Corrine Caldwell has a very serious affliction and needs earnest prayer.

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

BOLEY, OK CAMP MEETING REPORT

With thanksgiving and praises to God, we humbly thank Him for the wonderful camp meeting He blessed us with in Boley, OK.

Our hearts did rejoice as the sweet songs of Zion rang out and the Word of God was preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The Word of God was so precious to our souls. It seemed the theme of the meeting was to arm ourselves together with love and faith in God and to take a firm stand against the devil. Praise the Lord!

The Ordinance Service was very solemn. We were reminded of our dear Lord and Saviour's great price which He paid for our souls. Oh, what a Saviour!

We also had a street meeting which was blessed of the Lord. A few souls on the street asked for prayer.

May the dear Lord reward all the ministers, workers and saints for your labors of love during the Boley Camp Meeting is our sincere prayer.

Prayerfully submitted,

—Katherine Williams

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DURHAM, NC CAMP MEETING REPORT

We are thankful that God blessed us to have a good meeting. Souls received help and encouragement from the Word of God. May the Lord bless the ministers and laborers that labored so faithfully. We are thankful for all the saints who supported us with their prayers.

Christian love, —Bro. Jerry Lennon

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HOLLY HILL, SC REVIVAL

We are planning on an eight day revival beginning Oct. 9 through 16, Lord willing. We desire all that can come to please do so. As the Word says, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us." (Acts 16:9). All are welcome. We desire that the Spirit will lead and work in this meeting that souls may find their way home.

For more information contact me, Bro. Utson Platt, Rt. 1, Box 194, Holly Hill, SC 29059.

GREEN PASTURES, OK FALL REVIVAL

Lord willing, the congregation in Green Pastures, OK will be holding their fall revival October 11-16. If it is possible for you to attend, your presence will be appreciated. The chapel is located at 5721 N. Denver. For more information, contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Chandler, phone (405) 769-7413.

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GREENBANK, WV REVIVAL

There will be a revival meeting at Greenbank, WV, October 16-23. All are welcome to come and enjoy the blessings of God with us. All will be cared for who come. Bro. James Bell and family plan to be with us. Contact me, Bro. Mart Samons, P.O. Box 127, Greenbank, WV 24944, for more information.

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JEFFERSON, OR ASSEMBLY MEETING

The date of the Jefferson, OR Assembly Meeting is November 4-13. All persons in the northwest region who are interested in the truth as taught and practiced by the Church of God in this Evening Light Reformation since its beginning, are urged to attend this meeting. Accommodations will be arranged for you. It will help if you notify us in advance. Meals will be served in the dining hall on the grounds. The whole meeting expense, including meals, is financed by free-will offerings, as always.

If you drive, go to the "Texaco (Pride of Oregon)" service station in Jefferson. Go east from there on Marion Road approximately one mile to Skelton Road. Go north from there one-half mile, and you will see the chapel on the right.

The phone number at the chapel is (503) 327-9916, or you may call O. B. Wilson at (503) 928-7223, or write to O. B. Wilso, 34237 N. E. Sunset Drive, Albany, OR 97321 for more particulars.

If you come by bus or train, come to either Albany or Salem, and you will be picked up. If you fly, come to either Portland or Eugene and you will be picked up. You should phone beforehand so that someone can be there to get you.

We will be looking forward to seeing you in Jefferson, OR, November 4-13.

—Bro. Ostis B. Wilson

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LORANGER, LA ASSEMBLY MEETING

Lord willing, the Loranger, LA Assembly Meeting will be Sunday, November 20, through Sunday, November 27. Watch for a complete announcement in the November issue.

From the Mailbox . . .

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: I have a prayer request. Please help me pray for my niece and her husband. They are about to end up with a divorce. I don't want that to happen to them. They have a small child and she loves both mother and dad. If they go on and get the divorce it will make it hard on the little girl. Please help me pray for God to stop the divorce. God is the answer to all our problems. He knows and understands it all. Amen. . . .

—Sister Eathel Hill

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KY—Dear Brothers and Sisters: We pray everything is well at the Print Shop.

We trust that many souls were saved in the camp meetings over the country this summer. We went to Green Bank, WV, but only got to stay for two services. Our hearts were blessed and we were encouraged to be with the saints, and to know that there are people of God who hold a standard for the Lord.

We have a hard time here with many battles to fight, but the Lord is with us so we know we can't lose. . . .

Pray for us that God will keep us in His will and that we will always be found doing what will please Him.

Your brother in Christ,

—Victor Sanders

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IN—Dear Ones in Christ: Well, it is a lot cooler. We sure had a hot summer.

I went to have my eyes checked and was told I had something wrong, like a quick glaucoma. If it started hurting real bad I could lose my eyesight. I know God can heal.

My son's nerves are awful bad again. He got so much better and now he is worse.

Remember us and my unsaved children and grandchildren.

—Sis. Dessie Wilson

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CA—Dear Saints at the Publishing House: Greetings in Jesus' name. We are thankful for the love and mercy that the Lord has shown us. We are pressing on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:14).

The blessings of God are surely needed in this troubled world today. Jesus said, "Watch and pray. . . ."

Yours in Christ,

—Hubert and Elizabeth Corteway

OH—Dear Sis. Pruitt: Greetings to you again in the precious name of Jesus. I am dropping you this short letter to let you know again how much I appreciate the *Faith and Victory* and also the efforts of the Lord's workers at the Print Shop.

The Lord has blessed the opening of our Christian school. Things are going along pretty smoothly so far. We are looking to the Lord to bless us with a real good school year.

May the Lord bless all of our children and young people to be thankful for saved parents who are endeavoring to bring them up in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

I appreciate the prayers of the saints in my behalf and in behalf of my loved ones. Continue to pray for all of us here in Akron. . . .

With much love,

—Sis. Janice Shaw

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OR—Dear Sister Pruitt: How good to say our Lord has been with us today. He never puts us "on hold" or "I'll get back to you."

It is always so good to receive the *Faith and Victory* paper and we do take the dear ones in need to the Lord in prayer. We don't understand the illness or the problems, but He will undertake in His time.

We have had a time of illness in our bodies but again thank the good Lord, He has touched us. Some more healing is needed and we are trusting to get full recovery.

We trust God to be with all the Printing House family, to give strength and to provide what is necessary. . . .

Yours in His love,

—Doris and Bill Busch

—————o—————

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

CA—Dear Brothers and Sisters: We are thankful for your prayers. The Lord has wonderfully blessed us. We are praying that we may be able to hold up Jesus, wherever we go.

May God bless you and keep you. Continue to pray for us.

—Ed and Ruth Upton

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OH—Sis. Maybelle and Dear Saints: I want to thank the Lord for another opportunity He has given me to witness for Him.

We attended the California State Camp Meeting at Pacoima this year. We appreciate the blessings we received to our souls and the desire God has put in our hearts to have a closer walk with Him.

Friday had been set aside for a prayer and fast day for healing of the sick. That morning

we arrived for services and we had all gotten out of the car. I needed to get some things out of the trunk, so I reached into the car to take the keys out of the ignition. In doing this, I pulled the keys back too far. It was a foreign car and the engine started and took off across the driveway in gear, heading right for the chapel. Kenny got in front of the car and was trying to stop it. I tried to jump in the car to put my foot on the brake. With one foot in and one foot out, the car dragged me and caused me to fall under the car, causing it to run over my leg. My knee and foot were injured.

The Lord helped the car to be stopped just a few inches from the chapel. Kenny was in-between the car and the chapel when it stopped. We were thankful the Lord protected him and kept him from getting hurt at all.

I was sitting there on the ground and the Lord spoke to me and said, "Today is healing day." All the saints started gathering around me and praying. Sis. Beverly Reed was right by my side and I told her, "Today is healing day." Sis. Beverly said that it had already come to her mind too.

They put me in a wheelchair and took me to the nursing home there on the grounds to clean my knee and foot. Only the Lord knows the pain that I was in. I feel the Lord helped me to be very calm through it all. He gave me the song, "He Will Not Fail Me Now."

The saints got on their knees around the bed and travailed in prayer for my healing. While about the 6th or 7th person was praying, a sister took me by the hand and I got up out of that bed and stood on the leg that was injured. Saints, I can honestly say all the pain left me instantly. I walked out of that room and the hallway was filled with saints rejoicing seeing that I could walk.

It is truly wonderful what God has done. Our God still lives and has control. My father had phoned home and told my unsaved mother about the accident. The saints that were in the room with me while I lay in bed prayed earnestly for my mother's salvation at the same time they prayed for my healing. We returned home on the 5th of September and my mother, Mildred Sharp, and my younger sister, Naomi, had gotten saved the day before. Praise our Lord! My mother had not been saved for over 25 years. The Lord is still working.

I appreciate all the love God has bestowed on us. Pray for us. Our goal is to make heaven.

—Sis. Mary Abbott

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AZ—Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Greetings of love in the name of Jesus. We want

to write and tell how the good Lord has been keeping us saved and encouraged. We thank all the dear saints in Guthrie for their prayers. We can feel the prayers that have been prayed for us. The good Lord has blessed Eric with a good job out here.

The song "Never Alone" has been ringing in our hearts and proving a blessing to us, especially the part of the chorus, "No never alone, no never alone, He promised never to leave me, never to leave me alone." He will never forsake us. He will always keep His promises to us all.

With love in the truth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,

—Bro. and Sis. Eric Bonner

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

TX—Greetings of Christian love in the precious name of Jesus our Lord: I am still saved, sanctified and pressing my way to the heavenly home to be with my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord. . . .

The other day, when I got the *Faith and Victory* paper, I sat down in the porch swing under the shade tree and read it every bit without my glasses. I give thanks to the good Lord and many thanks to everyone that prayed for my eyes.

Love and prayers,

—Nellie Lovell

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

MO—Dear Saints: We want to thank everyone for their prayers and concern while I was sick. Our all-powerful God was very faithful and gave me a wondrous touch. We certainly serve a mighty God, and we do praise His name!

The very first day of the affliction the Lord allowed us to read the passage in Romans 8:35, 37. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress . . . Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." The Lord let us know that we didn't have to settle for a second-rate healing, but to petition for a complete touch "through him that loved us." This stand was tested. After I was getting some better, it seemed that good days without pain would be followed by bad nights, and vice versa. Then after the Lord had strengthened my body and relieved the pain, minor symptoms would keep flaring up from time to time. All we could do was trust in God's Word, as the song reads, ". . . more than a conqueror standing on His Word." Today we are thankful to report full victory!

During this time, Clifford got stung by some yellow-jackets in the eye and possibly also received a scratch to the eyeball from a large piece of grit that was in it. The pain in the eye was so irritating and aggravating that it was bothering his nerves. Once more we called around

for prayer, and once more the Lord was faithful to us and relieved the pressure on his nerves, even though the pain was still severe. However, by that evening, he was fairly comfortable and by morning there was little pain or swelling. God was again mindful of His children in need. For these and many other blessings, we can not cease to praise His name.

Christian love,

—Clifford and Vonda Cole

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SC—Dear Bro. Murphey and all the Saints at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We do thank all of you for the *Faith and Victory* paper. It is a good encouragement to me. . . .

I hope that all did enjoy the camp meetings wherever you attended. We down here were not able to attend because of sickness, but we requested prayer and God did wonderfully bless my wife. She is much better and is able to do some of her house work. I want to thank all of the dear saints for their prayers.

Yours in Christ,

—Utson Platt

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

AL—Dear Brother Wayne: I want to thank everyone for their love and prayers for me during my recent affliction.

One week before the Monark Springs Camp Meeting was to begin, I had chills, fever, severe headache and my kidneys were not functioning properly. I had thought I was over this affliction the following week, and therefore we went to the Monark Camp Meeting. Everything was fine until the following Monday afternoon. Then these symptoms came back on me but were intensified. Different ones came to pray for me. By the end of the week I was able to travel back home. After about three weeks, I was completely healed! Praise the Lord!

Yours in Christ,

—Marshall Whitson

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FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From India . . .

Aug. 10—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey, Sis. Maybelle Pruitt and the dear saints scattered abroad in the U.S.A.: Greetings to you all again in the precious name of Jesus Christ. By the grace of God I reached home safely on August 7. I thank God for the safe trip. I enjoyed all the camp meetings there this summer and the fellowship of the saints.

We have rain here and many are suffering from influenza and other kinds of afflictions. The Church activities are going on fine. I have

already started to visit the congregations and attend special meetings in the north and south. I hope the Church in America will give special attention about the needs of the pastors here. They need your support.

My wife is doing fine now. Thank you all for the prayers for her good health. Let us see each other everyday through the eyes of prayer.

Yours in Him,

—John Varghese

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From the Philippines . . .

Sept. 12—Dear Sister Pruitt and Brother Murphey: Greetings to you all in the name of Jesus. May these few lines find you all happy with your families and all the workers in the Print Shop. Hope you are all busy for the paper ministry and doing good everyday for the Lord's work in and out of the United States. We are so happy again to receive your letter and hear about your undertakings in the U.S.A. May God give you grace and strength to bear your everyday cross. Thank you so much again for the September issue of the *Faith and Victory* which was so precious to us in our ministry. Your activities are encouraging to us and give us strength and courage to go forward with the truth, thinking that we are all striving with our dear saints in the U.S.A. to reach more souls for eternal life.

We had a very blessed worship service in Sibut yesterday. We had many young people as visitors. After the service we all went to the river for the baptism of two young couples. This is a result of our daily personal evangelism in the city. More young people have expressed their desire to be baptized.

Ruth, my daughter, is now planning to come home from Saudi Arabia. She is thinking much about the gospel work in the Philippines.

May God continue to bind our hearts with love.

Your brother in Christ,

—Matias S. Tangunan

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Sept. 12—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey, Sister Maybelle Pruitt, Bro. George Hammond and members in the Print Shop: Greetings of love and care of our Lord Jesus Christ to everyone.

The Salvana family gave our heartfelt thanks to our God in heaven for the unnumbered blessings we have received from Him and from the loving saints in the U.S.A.

The Philippines today, especially Mindanao, need the missionary work in spreading more abundantly the glorious gospel of Christ. In these barrios people are affected by Communism's ideology. The Scripture says, "I must work the

works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." John 9:4.

The insurgency is feared by the people which weakens their faith in God. But thanks to God that democracy prevails in our country. Everyday we pass on the gospel, reminding our brother Filipinos that we are Christians to live and even die for the liberty of our faith in Christ and His kingdom eternal.

We pray to God that our brethren, the saints, the faithful servants of truth, shall also pray for us for more spirit and more strength to enable us to persevere.

Yours in Christ,

—Bro. Leonardo Salvana and family

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From Central Africa . . .

Aug. 26—Dear Brother Murphey: How are the brethren? I hope the Lord's work is progressing smoothly. We have but one enemy, the devil, who does not want the success of the Lord's labor, but I thank God that Jesus is too much for him. Whether he (Satan) likes it or not, Jesus' business must go unstopped.

I am now in Cameroon, a country in Central Africa. According to my findings, this country has no truth. Oh, how difficult it is for one to be in a country where there is no light (real light). He is there alone beholding the evils of Satan with his heart vexed all day long. It is difficult to be alone, but through God's gracious grace I must not run out or falter when pushed to the front of the battle. The whole earth is the Lord's and all souls. I thank God for Philippians 2:9-11. That is the Holy Ghost's positive statement against Satan and his gang of demons. Many souls are involved with the spirits of the underworld. Oh, the people are finished and my heart is bleeding with the situation. The demons mean business and are fighting openly. They are no more hidden for the people are sinning openly and the God of heaven is not revered. Alas, they don't know what harm and danger they are causing to their souls. I pray God to pardon the sins of these people and overthrow the throne of Satan. I pray God to forgive them and open their eyes. How could God allow a whole country to perish? Is there no more mercy? Has the blood of His holy Jesus Christ lost its quality and power, or is the country not on the roll of God's mercy? My spirit is badly troubled with the situation down here and the task is too much for me. I want to do the work of God, but I need to be sustained by your prayers, hence I am writing. . . .

Yours truly,

—Chinidu Dibe

From Mexico . . .

Sept. 17—Dear Bro. Murphey and Sis. Pruitt: I salute you with much love in the only name by which we are saved, sanctified and unified: Jesus Christ. We trust that all are well in health, rejoicing in the rich blessings of our God, and much encouraged in the ministry that God has commissioned you to. That is my desire for all those that read this.

Beloved brethren, I write this letter much encouraged. The Lord has been really good and great to us. He has blessed us with 18 adult brethren in less than two months. They testify that they want to continue firm in the truth. For two Sundays and two Thursdays young people have come to the altar, and it is beautiful how they then go with victory over sin and are very encouraged to serve the Lord. I am grateful for what the Lord is doing in the work here in Mexico. Our little chapel is full each Sunday. Lord willing, and the weather permits, we want to have a baptising in October.

My principal desire and prayer is that the Lord will continue working all over the world, but for this to work and come to pass, we need to consecrate all our lives to God and do what He wants us to do. Our love to God should not only be manifested in the congregation and among those that love God, but in everyplace that we go. We need to testify, invite and visit. We each one can do much for the work of the Lord. He that is unconcerned and apathetic for lost humanity will also be unconcerned and apathetic towards God. Oh, that God would help us not to give attention to each new day until we give attention to God!

I have had much joy in seeing and visiting with the brethren in the U.S. Every visit has been beautiful and precious to me, because all have treated me very good. I appreciate what all has been done for me, and I know that all have done it to honor and praise the Lord, for the work is of God. (I Corinthians 16:13-18).

I ask you to still pray much for the work in Mexico. The economic condition of this country is very low and the political condition is just at the point of not having peace. It looks like the political parties will cause a revolution soon. The moral condition is falling more and more. "Esta un poca muy tremendo nuestro paiz." (Our country is a little bit very terrible.) But I have faith in God that our country will not be unestablished. The Bible tells us to pray for those that govern us. We ask you to pray for the brethren here and for my family that we may continue with more courage to serve the Lord. I want everyday to be a true servant of the Lord and I know that now I am not alone. There are

more behind me. Elijah thought he was alone until the Lord showed him that He had 7,000 men that were still serving Him. . . .

Salute all the saints, and from me, I salute all in the name of our Saviour.

Yours in Christ,

—Bro. Mayarino Escobar

In Memoriam

In Maringo County, Alabama, February 18, 1900 a baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Carr. They named her Ora.

The family moved to Boley, Oklahoma in 1911. Ora had two sisters and two brothers, all preceded her in death.

Ora attended the Sand Creek Elementary School, and the C.M.E. College in Boley. In her young life she worshiped with the St. Emanuel Baptist Church. She heard the teachings of the Church of God and accepted it in 1944 and remained faithful until the end.

On April 16, 1924 Ora was married to Boley Spears. To this union four children were born, three daughters and one son. One daughter, Eunice Thomas, preceded her in death.

Sister Spears was a faithful saint of God here in Boley, ever carrying a burden for the congregation, supporting it with her prayers, labors and means. Her home was always open to the saints and friends. She manifested a sweet spirit of hospitality and humility.

During her illness she was very cooperative and manifested a very sweet spirit, never complaining about anything, but always expressing thanks to those who ministered to her needs.

Sis. Spears leaves to cherish her homegoing: her husband, Bro. Boley Spears; one son, Kytus Spears and wife Novella of Lynwood, California; two daughters, Gwendolyn Arnold and husband Ted of Perris, California and Anna Mae Thompson and husband, Caldwell of Boley, Oklahoma; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Woodrow Warren and Sis. Katherine Williams in the Church of God chapel, Boley, Oklahoma.

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A NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to thank the saints and our many friends and loved ones for your acts of love and

kindness during Sis. Ora Spear's illness and passing.

We appreciate the lovely cards, telegrams, food, phone calls, flowers, offerings and your prayers. It surely helped to lighten our grief.

May the dear Lord reward everyone that shared in our sorrow.

—Bro. Boley Spears and family

Question and Answer Column

by
Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Will you please comment on Psalm 127:2 and does it bear any relation or have any connection with the verse preceeding it or the verses which follow?

Answer: First I will insert the full text of Psalm 127:2. "It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep." This seems to me to have a direct connection with verse 1 which says, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." The Holy Scriptures abound with many strong references to the power, strength and ability to help us in our undertakings which are worthy undertakings and also the feebleness and fruitlessness of human efforts to accomplish anything when men leave Him out of their plans and projects and undertake them on their own. What is said here about the laborer building the house and the watchman protecting the city and all the efforts being in vain except the Lord is an active participant in it is also true of all other areas of life. These two verses taken together just confirms how utterly vain and ineffectual all purely human efforts are to accomplish their desired end when the Lord is left out and Divine aid is lacking. The obtaining of any desired worthwhile objective cannot be realized. All this is true in all areas of life but especially in the spiritual life and the work of God.

I Corinthians 3:9 says, "For we are labourers together with God. . . ." II Corinthians 6:1 says, "We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain." The last part of Philippians 2:12 says, ". . . Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" and verse 13 says, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." These verses and especially the last two (Philippians 2:12, 13) confirm that

our own personal salvation is a co-operative work between our soul and God. We work out our own salvation by humbly submitting ourselves to God and permitting Him to work out His will and His works in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure. Try as we will to work out our own salvation, grow in grace, and increase in the divine virtues and graces of God within ourselves and by our own means and efforts without the inspiration of His Spirit, and we will make no progress. Jesus said, "Without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5). But, praise God, Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13. Again Paul said, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God." II Corinthians 3:5. Still again he said, "But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: **yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.**" I Corinthians 15:10. And yet again Paul said, "For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me. . . ." Romans 15:18.

In our text (Psalm 127:1, 2) we have the case of a laborer building a house and a watchman on the wall protecting the city and they rise up early and stay up late and just work, work, work, work, until they are exhausted, but the text says it is all in vain if the Lord is not in it and directing the operation. Verse 2 mentions them rising up early and staying up late **to eat the bread of sorrow**. Even so it is with people who try and try and work, work, work to improve their spiritual stature and grow in grace and add divine virtues and graces in their lives without the aid of the Spirit of God working within them and enlightening and guiding them; they eat the bread of sorrow and disappointment because of their failure to gain their desired objective. But it can never be obtained no matter how hard one may work at it without the aid of the Divine Spirit working within us to enlighten and guide us.

Now let us look at the last thing said in Psalm 127:2. It is indeed marvelous and glorious—"For so he giveth his beloved sleep." Jesus said, "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." Matthew 11: 28, 29. Peter said, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." I Peter 5:7. God's Word says again, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be

moved." Psalm 55:22. Again we read in Psalm 37:5, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

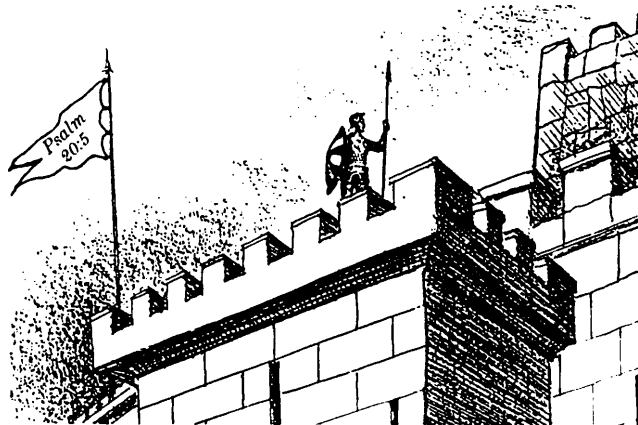
Oh, dear soul, how exceeding great and precious these promises are to the troubled soul. When we can learn the full impact of these great promises and learn to trust in God with all our cares and burdens and commit our way to God and cast all of our cares upon Him and feel safe and secure with all our cares, burdens, and anxieties as well as ourselves in His hands and under His loving care; then we shall learn and know the peace, calm and rest that salvation brings and then shall He be able to **give his beloved sleep**.

What a contrast this is to all that strain and stress; getting up early and staying up late in order to have a longer day to worry in and battle with our anxieties in and eating the bread of sorrow because things are not working out like we want them to. But such is the sad lot of all who attempt to bear their own burdens, solve their own problems and choose out their own courses in life. They are appointed unto sorrow and disappointment.

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The Watchman On The Wall

By Wayne Murphey



Part 3

Redeemed focused his eyes on the plains, sweeping them from one side to the other and occasionally to the hills beyond. He was meditating on the goodness of the Commander and particularly sweet were the thoughts of the time that the Commander had rescued him from the very clutches of the enemy. It happened when he was a young boy. He had begun gazing off in the distance and dreaming of what it would be like out on the plains. Finally one day he decided that he would see for himself. Much to the consternation of Conscience, he set out. She plead and begged him not to go, but he ignored

her warnings and purposed to go anyway. He soon encountered some men who were very kind to him at first and offered to help him explore the territory beyond. After several month's of wandering, however, he suddenly came to the realization that the excitement and pleasure of his journey was gone and that the men had no intention of letting him return home. They began to abuse him and he was powerless to help himself. He realized then that they were the enemy that the Commander had often warned about.

His attempt to escape one night and return to the city was unsuccessful, and finally he fully realized his helplessness. It was at this point that he began earnestly desiring help. He knew that his only hope was the Commander. One day he succeeded in getting a message through to the Commander, offering an apology for wandering away and then requesting deliverance. In a short time the Commander came with a mighty force, routed the enemy and safely carried him back to the city.

Redeemed's musings were interrupted by the watchman nearby who commented, "You sure did miss a good meeting this morning. The Commander's words were very inspiring. He said that we should always have a true love for our brethren. He explained that this is how people will know that we are His men, because of our fervent love for each other."

"That sounds very interesting," said Redeemed, and he began to muse upon the thought.

The day progressed and nothing much of interest occurred. However, a rumor surfaced and passed down the wall that one watchman reported to duty that morning without his spear. "How can that be?" thought Redeemed, "If he were as good a watchman as I, that never would have happened." Then he stopped short. "I wonder what I am thinking! That isn't like me. Anyone can make a mistake. Since the Commander has often told us not to judge each other, but to be merciful, I had better forget it and get back to my watching. It is liable to be me in trouble next."

One day followed another and Redeemed passed through the normal routine of each. The late night visitor, Self-interest, did not return for some time, but one night, Redeemed was again awakened. Self-interest motioned him into the courtyard, saying, "I want to compliment you Redeemed. You have served the Commander well." Redeemed was slightly uneasy at the apparent compliment, however he continued to listen. "I am on a tight schedule tonight and haven't much time, but I want to share a piece of vital information. Do you remember the watch-

man who forgot to bring his spear to the job with him?" Redeemed nodded. "Well," and here Self-interest lowered his voice, "there is something else wrong with him. You need to keep your eyes open and you will discover what I mean."

"What do you mean?" questioned Redeemed, "What am I to look for?"

"The only thing that I can tell you," replied Self-interest, "is that he is not nearly as good a soldier as you and there is something subversive to your Commander going on." With this startling statement, Self-interest was gone.

This was such a shocking revelation that Redeemed stood in the courtyard for several moments in a daze. When he finally shuffled into the house, the voice of Conscience came to him, "What are you going to do now?" she asked.

"I don't know," he replied. "Let me think on it and we will discuss it, perhaps in the morning."

Redeemed slept very little that night. Thought after troubled thought ran through his mind. As the first rays of the sun lightened his room, he arose, prepared for work and took his seat at the kitchen table. Conscience entered to prepare his breakfast. "Well, have you come to a conclusion?" she asked.

"Yes, I have decided what I am going to do. I am going to keep my eyes open as I was warned and discover this subversive activity. I feel that this is my duty."

"But why don't you just tell the Commander about it and let him handle it?" reasoned Conscience.

"Can you not think of the hero that I will be if I am the one to expose it?" returned Redeemed. "I will be admired by many and the Commander will think especially well of me."

Conscience sadly shook her head and said, "Somehow this does not seem right. I think you are doing wrong."

"I have made up my mind," replied Redeemed, and with these words he arose and departed for watch.

(To be continued in next issue)

Going Home

The thought "going home" has been resting upon my heart and mind for sometime and I'd like to ask the readers to join me in thought for just a few moments. I am sure your first thoughts would be, "How sad," but please, as we move on I don't want you to think on sad things but happy things.

First, let's go back to our home as a child. The thought "going home," what did it mean to you? Yes, I recall those thoughts were very

special! In school I would watch the clock, knowing in a few hours I would be going home. Oh, I knew at home Mother would be waiting for me and Dad would soon be home. I had a place of love, peace, joy, rest and security to call my own—home was also filled with understanding. No matter if I had a good day or a bad one, I was always happy to go home because I knew I had loved ones there to share both my tears and joys. Yes, just the thought of going home always brought happiness. That's the way it should be. I feel so sorry for some of the youth today who know nothing about a home life. They don't know where their parents are, neither do the parents know where they are. No mother to call, "Come on home now, it's suppertime." What joys they are missing out on.

Next, let us think on our own home. After we are grown and married, the thoughts of "going home," are they still sweet? I can't relate to this one personally, but through watching my parents and other godly couples, I know how things should be. Again, for either a wife or husband there should be the joys of going home. It is a place of love, joy, peace and rest, also of security and understanding. The wife who is a keeper of the home—cleaning, cooking, loving and guiding the children—will find herself watching the clock and the road for her husband to come home. The children busy at play know when it is time for daddy and they too are watching. Hard at work that day the husband also watches the clock knowing that in a few short hours he will be going home. If his day has been good or bad he knows there is love, a family, supper and rest waiting for him.

How sad it is to see the ties of home and homefires go out because of sin. Where sin abounds the love waxes cold. Oh, for more real happy Christian homes in America.

Now ending up our little trip in time, we want to think of "going home" when our life has been spent. See dear ones, when we had a real home all the thoughts of going home were sweet and special. We just waited for the chance to go home, right? When we think of our heavenly home our thoughts should even be sweeter than our home here. Heaven is a place of love, joy, peace, rest security and understanding, forever. What could beat that, friend?

I recall being homesick in life for my home. I also recall getting homesick for heaven. So the thought I'm trying to bring out, "going home," should only mean happiness. I trust our thinking together has made you happy, because a real home will always mean happiness.

—Elaine Dunn

Is It Well With Your Soul?



Our soul is the most valuable part about us. God bestowed it upon Adam when He breathed into his nostrils, and man became a living soul. God placed such value upon it, that He designed it to never die. The soul was also designed to enjoy God's presence and communion with Him. How blessed Adam and Eve felt when God would come down in the garden with them, and how God's great heart must have rejoiced when He saw Adam and Eve enjoying and appreciating everything He had made for them. However, there was one tree in the midst of the garden—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God had carefully instructed them to neither eat, nor to even touch its fruit. Even though the fruit looked so very good, it was forbidden. If they disobeyed, it would mean death!

We all know how Eve was overcome by listening and yielding to the serpent, (the devil) and then enticed her husband to also eat of the fruit. No doubt they agreed that it tasted very good while they were partaking, but something was taking place in their conscience that they had never experienced before. A great and heavy weight of guilt had fallen upon their souls, and how they feared the coming of their Creator! Instead of eager anticipation for God's usual visitation, now was a feeling of great dread and fear! They hid themselves among the trees of the garden to no avail. Too late, they realized their dreadful mistake! They had sinned and were condemned to die! They didn't know what death meant, but oh, the terror they felt! Adam blamed the wrong committed onto his companion, and Eve blamed the serpent. Where did the real blame fall? The serpent did not force Eve to eat the forbidden fruit, he only enticed.

Dear ones, whatever God forbids us to do, are the very things Satan will entice us to do. His ways are so cunning that we may scarcely realize we are doing something displeasing to our Creator. If we override God's checks, or heart tugs, we are all the more enticed and think, "This can't be so wrong!" Stop! Disregard all of Satan's reasonings and say to yourself, "What would Jesus do?" This simple question will settle any enticement or ensnarement the enemy of our souls has planned out for us. When we ask ourselves this simple question, God will always be faithful to impress in the right way and give us the answer.

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Hebrews 10:31. There are many examples in the Bible of disobedience and then their recompense. Let us consider Nebuchadnezzar, a Babylonian king. God caused this

king to realize that a dream he had dreamed was very important and needed an interpretation, so the king commanded his magicians and astrologers to interpret his dream for him. They were astounded and frightened for their lives when they realized he couldn't remember his dream; and expected them to not only interpret the dream, but to be able to tell the king his own dream. But God had a plan. He knew Daniel was a true man of God, and would glorify His name. In due time, Daniel was brought before the king. Daniel requested, "... that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation. Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven." Daniel 2:16-19.

Daniel was now able to tell the king what he had seen in his mysterious dream, and also the interpretation. The king had dreamed of a great and terrible image. "This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth." Daniel 2:32-35.

I am sure while Daniel was telling the dream, the king was filled with awe that Daniel was able to tell him the forgotten dream which had so troubled him. No doubt, it was all very vivid in his mind as he could now recall the dream, and he listened very closely to the interpretation.

"Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as

iron breaketh in pieces, and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure." Daniel 2:37-45.

What a glorious dream and interpretation! Jesus is that stone "cut out without hands," (man didn't have anything to do with it) and His kingdom fills the whole earth; for His kingdom is in the hearts of all His people scattered over the whole earth. In Luke 17:20, 21, "... The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you."

I believe King Nebuchadnezzar received a glimpse of that glorious kingdom that we are now enjoying. Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and said, "... Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldst reveal this secret." Daniel 2:47. So the king gave him many great gifts and made him a ruler over the whole province of Babylon.

Things went well with Daniel and his companions for a while, till evil men devised a plan to destroy them. When they were thrown into the fiery furnace, Jesus Himself appeared with them, and no harm befell them whatsoever. King Nebuchadnezzar was filled with astonishment, and made to realize again the existence of a true and living God.

Despite proof of the mighty power and love of the living God, it is the devil's business to cause us to forget God and look to ourselves. The devil despises faith and love for God, and is out to destroy it in any way he can. His biggest weapon is self. The devil tried to get Nebuchad-

nezzar to look at his own greatness, and forget about God and the godly lives that Daniel and his companions lived. Sad to say, the devil succeeded; for one day, the king boastfully said, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the honour of my majesty?" While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven saying, "O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee." (Daniel 4:30, 31). His pride was reduced to nothing, for he was driven out of his palace, and lived like an animal for seven long years. God then saw fit to restore his reason, as He saw some honesty in King Nebuchadnezzar's heart, yet how much better it would have been if the king had kept pride and self out of his life.

We don't want to allow ourselves to get in King Nebuchadnezzar's condition: to see the great kingdom of God, and then forget all about it when we look at self! Self, will cast us down and bring complete ruination into our lives. We must fight it daily as the Apostle Paul instructed us to do.

Is it well with your soul? Do you daily put self down in order that Christ may be seen in your life rather than self? It is not well with your soul if you permit self to indulge in anything that is not Christ-like. If it is not well with your soul, resolve to make preparations now for your soul to live forever in eternal bliss and happiness; or else your soul will languish forever in eternal night, where there is "weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth." Don't let self be your master when Jesus made every provision to be your King!

Yours for Christ,

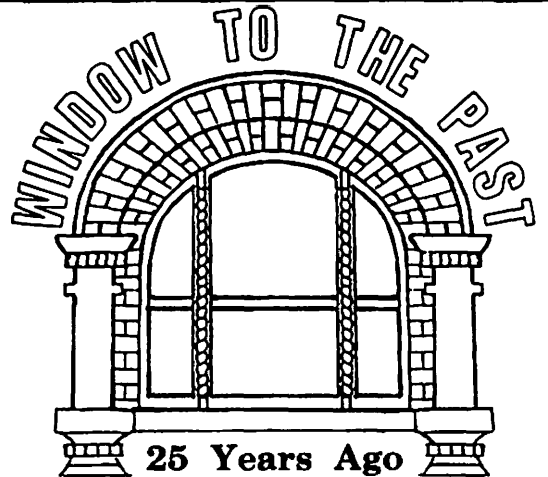
—Carol Cole

The Indispensable Man



Sometime when you're feeling important, sometime when your ego's in bloom, sometime when you take it for granted you're the best qualified in the room; sometime when you feel that your going would leave an unfillable hole—just follow these simple instructions, and see how it humbles your soul. Take a bucket and fill it with water, put your hand in it up to the wrist, pull it out and the hole that's remaining is the measure of how you'll be missed. You may splash all you please when you enter, you can stir up the water galore; but stop, and you'll find in a minute that it looks quite the same as before. The moral in this quaint example is do the best that you can; but remember: there's no indispensable man.

—Selected



Excerpts Taken From

October, 1963 *Faith and Victory*

"The clock of Time is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop—
At late or early hour—
To lose one's wealth is sad indeed,
To lose one's health is more;
To lose one's soul is such a loss
That no man can restore."

—Selected

"The story is told of a village blacksmith, a very ungodly man, who came to the end of his life on earth, and he said that no one had ever spoken to him about the salvation of his soul which had been provided for him through Jesus Christ. Seemingly he could say, 'No man sought after my soul!' How tragic for a soul to leave this time world without preparation to meet God because no one told him of the free gift of redemption! Yet, no doubt today there are many also who have never been brought face to face with a special invitation to accept the free gift of salvation through Christ's blood. The message was left with the Church and the command to 'go into all the world and preach the gospel.' The debt that we owe to the world is this good news of God's salvation."

—L. D. Pruitt

"I am so thankful for the opportunity to have been in two camp meetings this summer. The Lord surely did bless us in every way, spiritually and many other ways. It seems that the devil was trying to defeat us in going, by making our car not work right and so many things happening to it. But the Lord triumphed in all that too."

—Ralph and Dorothy Wilkins