

FAITH AND VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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There's Something We Can Do

There's something that we all can do
As on life's road we go,
To help another trav'ler on
His journey here below.

Pleasant words, like the honeycomb
Will soothe a heart of pain.
They'll sweeten the soul, heal the bones,
Restore life's joys again.

Effectual fervent prayers of faith,
Though many miles away,
Will reach the Throne of Grace and touch
God's heart, for those we pray.

A gift of flowers so arranged
With love and tender care,
Will brighten up the room of those
Who're sick and in despair.

A listening ear to other's woes,
Who need someone to share,
Will empty hearts of hidden grief
They feel too hard to bear.

A shining light we all can be
To those who're lost in sin,
Endeavoring by the grace of God,
Their precious souls to win.

Yes, there is much we all can do
As on life's road we go,
So let's be faithful unto death
And leave an afterglow.

—Olive Davenport

Our Space

(The following is adapted from a message preached at the 1986 Oregon Camp Meeting.)

In the last few years there has been a lot of development in scientific research. Time has advanced, and knowledge and science have advanced beyond what they used to be. We need a gospel that will reach down to our present time. I have found one. Man's interest in space, and outer space, has really flourished in just the last generation or two, but God has been interested in space for a long time.

Let's look in the book of Genesis chapter 1, verse 7, "And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so." I marvel at God's ability to do things that man can hardly comprehend. One theory advanced is that at one time or another there was a layer of water above which shielded whatever was underneath it from radiation activity. They use that to explain the idea that that is why man lived such a long time; they were shielded from that radiation. Whether that be so or not, I don't know, but I know this, that God has the power and the ability to suspend tremendous volumes of water up there. That is a miracle to me. I don't know how He can do that. I can look up at a cloud that I could run my hand through, if I could get to it, and it wouldn't make my hand wet. It is that way with fog. But some of those clouds came over in our area just a few days ago and they dumped 11 inches of water in just a few hours. How did they do that? It took God to do that.

"And God made the firmament and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so." The waters that accumulate down here

are what we call physical properties, and they follow physical laws. You can't build water up into a heap. Science says it seeks its own level; it flattens itself out, and when it does that, it will automatically run to the lowest place. That is what causes our rivers to flow. You spill water on the floor, and if there is a low place on the floor, that is where the water is going to go. If your wife puts a pan of water on the stove and it's deeper on one side than it is on the other, she will ask you to get your level and fix the stove. Somehow God knew how to suspend water in the firmament. I look at the clouds and, I don't know, maybe I'm kind of peculiar, but when I see a big black cloud rolling up, with thundering and lightning, it gives me a thrill. That is God.

"God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good." I want us to notice something. In the manufacturing of His creation, in the putting together of what He was doing, He began to divide things into their proper place, assigning to each one its own space. When I talk about the firmament, thought automatically goes up because God said that is where it was going to be; He assigned it a space. "The evening and the morning were the second day. And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place," Here is the ocean and the place it was ascribed to fill. So when the water falls on the earth, it begins to move to that place, doesn't it? The rivers flow, and where do they end up? In the place that God told them was ascribed to them. He assigned space to that creation.

"And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven." Do you see some more assigning of space? As each segment of creation came into being it was ascribed a place to fill. Where do you expect to see the birds? Right in the place that God ascribed to them. That is their space and they are filling that space just like His law told them to do.

"And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and,

every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good." If you started out to look for a whale, would you go to the Rocky Mountains? Would you go up on the high desert, or out on the plain? You would go to the water, wouldn't you? Because that is what God ascribed to that part of His creation. "And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good." He started out in the beginning and created the environment for this creation to occupy. He assigned it its space; He separated the dry land from the water; He separated them both from the sky and put them all in their respective places and then He made the creation that would fill those spaces. This teaches me a lesson: God has created space for everything.

I want us to think a little bit about space and what it involves. If I get out on the highway and start down the road, as long as I am the only one there, I don't have any problem, do I? But if I get out there and start down the road, and somebody else gets out there and starts down the road, and the circumstance develops that each of us try to occupy the same space at the same time, we're going to run into violence, aren't we? The laws of physics tell us that two objects cannot occupy the same space at the same time.

The biological world makes use of this too. Supposing I decide I want to be the host of a household pet. I go out and get a puppy and bring it to my home, and that little dog grows up there. After an amount of time he will begin to own that as his territory. He will get busy and establish his border in that territory. Nature has provided him with the means to do that, and he will go around the perimeter of what he feels belongs to him. This tells the rest of the specie in the neighborhood that this belongs to me, and if you transgress this perimeter, you are an intruder on my rights. When the time comes that a foreigner tries to intrude, he will meet some opposition.

This is true in the space world, the biological world, and all of the created world, and it is true in the spiritual world. Every man is assigned a space. Remember that.

Look in the book of Proverbs 16:33. Notice

what the wise man said. "The lot is cast into the lap;" Whose lap? Our lap. This is put in your hands. You are ascribed a space. But notice what he said to go along with it: "The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord." From the time it is ascribed to you, it is in your hand. You can handle it as you see fit. You can work with it as it seems good to you. You can utilize it in whatever way you elect to utilize it, but in time to come, you are going to give an account.

Look with us in the 15th chapter of Luke. It is an old familiar text we are all acquainted with, and yet it so vividly describes the picture we have in mind. In the 11th verse, listen to what it says here: "And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth unto me." The time had come that he recognized that space had been ascribed to him and he demanded the ownership of that space. He wasn't asking for a pocketful of money. He wasn't asking

land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" "What a ridiculous thing for me to do—sit out here in this vile-smelling hog pen and starve to death. I have squandered my means, and I am the loser." Every man who comes to that recognition in his spiritual life is ready to turn back to the Author, the One who can help him direct his own space. I notice that just as long as he was willing to stay out there in that condition, the father let him remain there. If this is what you have chosen, if this is what you prefer, if this is the way you want to conduct the space—the inheritance that's given to you—this is your option. You can pursue it, but there is a consequence that goes along with it.

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his father for what we normally think of as material wealth. He was telling his parent, "You give to me that which is my right to possess. I will direct my own life from here on. I have come to the place where I feel capable and fully able to handle my own space. I want you to give it to me." That is the story of the prodigal, isn't it? "And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of the goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living." God grants to every one of us the space that He purposed to give to us, and every one of us did just like this boy did. We went out and squandered it, didn't we? We had the space in our hands and every one of us directed it in the wrong direction. That is the reason we needed a Saviour. "He divided unto them his living." Apparently he didn't argue with him; this was ascribed to him. God purposed from the beginning that every man would occupy a space and he would be the one who had the jurisdiction of what took place in that space.

Well this story goes on, "Not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that

This boy came to the place where he said, "I have had enough of this. I will rise and go to my father." I see some humility here. "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father." The hardest thing it seems for an individual to do is to come to the place to be willing to say, "I am wrong. I made a mistake. I have done the wrong thing. I have taken the wrong path, will you forgive me?" That seemed like such a simple thing and it would solve so many problems. What keeps men from doing that? "This is my space and I'll take care of it, you keep your hands off." That is pride isn't it? We think, well, why didn't God provide a means whereby He could influence men back to where He wanted them to be, to where all men would automatically turn to the Lord? The Lord didn't come to make robots out of us, He wanted service—willing service, service that is yielded to Him, not service that He extracted. We recognize how carefully He respects the dignity of the perimeter that is ascribed to us.

(To be continued next month.)

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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 Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES



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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 Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II 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. All donations are tax deductible.

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

It is by the grace of God and cooperation of the saints that this printing work has marked 68 years of publishing, and with this issue begins the 69th. It is our aim to continue the Gospel work by defining again that purpose for which it was started and maintained. It has never been the profession of this paper to be the official voice or organ of the Church of God, and as it operates in the calling of the Holy Spirit, it never will be. Our intent is to be a coordinating vehicle for church activities, a source of encouragement for Christians and to shed light and hope where there is darkness of sin. The help that is rendered in helping us accomplish this is greatly appreciated.

This issue contains a list of camp meeting dates for 1991. Some which we regularly print have yet to be received. Those desiring meeting dates published in the April *Faith and Victory* should mail them in promptly.

As most of you are aware, U. S. postal rates were raised as of Feb. 3. First class postage was not only affected, but second class as well as most all other types of mail. We figure the cost of mailing this *Faith and Victory* issue will have risen by 31%.

The Collins Bible which was made available in last month's paper at a special rate has sold well. We do still have a good supply of them and would be glad to send you one. They sell for \$30.00 each plus \$1.60 for postage and handling.

In order to keep up with the demand of printing we have placed another order with the paper company for 10,000 pounds of paper. Financially we hate to see these times roll around, yet when we realize that it means thousands of pounds of literature have gone out in order to require the need for placing another order, we are grateful.

Easter comes on the fifth Sunday of this month, and we wish to devote some space in this paper marking that great event.

It is recorded in Matthew 27:36, that after Christ was hung on the cross, the people sat down and watched Him. No doubt there were many things going through the minds of those who beheld Him. There were the religious politicians who saw Him as the object of their hatred. Christ had exposed the error of their ways, and to them that was an unpardonable offense. Is it not still the nature of man to dislike having religious error exposed?

A mob beheld Christ hanging there. They were against Him because they were blindly following their leaders. They had not taken the time to investigate nor question His life. People today often follow their leaders without question and without a personal experience with Christ.

There were the soldiers, who to a great extent, were indifferent to the happenings. They were simply carrying out their duty. A great number of people today would fall in this class of indifference to the things of God.

The centurion was affected by what he saw and said, "Truly this is the Son of God." He weighed the evidence presented and came to a logical conclusion, yet it is not recorded that he went beyond that. It takes more than an acknowledgment of what is right. It takes obedient action.

The disciples beheld Christ as the object of their love. This is the true and proper way that a person must see Christ in order to be saved.

These are observations of beholding Christ while He was hanging on the cross, where He suffered because of judgment passed on Him. I wonder if some of the conclusions might have been different if they could have beheld Him suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane, where He suffered in the throes of love. Frances Havergal portrays well the scene of Gethsemane in the following poem.

Behold Your King!

Behold your King! Though the moonlight steals
Through the silvery shade of the olive tree,
No star-gemmed sceptre or crown it reveals
In the solemn shades of Gethsemane;
Only a form of prostrate grief,
Fallen, crushed, like a broken leaf.
Oh, think of this sorrow, that we may know
The depth of love in the depth of woe!

Behold your King! Is it nothing to you,
That the crimson tokens of agony
From the kingly brow must fall like dew,
Through the shuddering shades of Gethsemane?
Jesus Himself, the Prince of life,
Bows in mysterious mortal strife.
Oh, think of this sorrow, that we may know
The unknown love in the unknown woe!

Behold your King, with His sorrow crowned!
Alone, alone in the valley is He!
The shadows of death are gathering round,
And the Cross must follow Gethsemane.
Darker and darker the gloom must fall,
Filled is the cup, —He must drink it all!
Oh, think of His sorrow, that we may know
His wondrous love in His wondrous woe!

Prayer Requests

MO—"Please pray that God will answer my needs."
—Helen Brooks

IN—"I would like to request prayer. I need complete healing."
—Earl Bliss

IL—Sis. Nina Champion and Opal Howel have some serious problems for which they request prayer.

VA—Robert Powell and wife, Elsie, both desire to be closer to the Lord. Elsie has heart problems for which they request the prayers of the saints.

MO—Sis. Margaret Gilliland's granddaughter, Sarah Petty, has a severe cough.

OH—Bro. Cecil Majors requests that his wife be remembered in prayer for healing; also other family members for problems they are having.

AR—Mary Foster has an urgent prayer request for her daughter.

OH—Juanita Blankenship's grandson, Tommie, is in need of help from the Lord.

OK—"I have a very urgent request for my daughter-in-law."
—Lurenza Elam



MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

1991 Camp Meeting Dates

Goulds, FL—April 5-14

Myrtle, MO—May 8-12

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, OK—

May 24-June 2

Green Bank, WV—June 14-23

Jefferson, OR—June 14-23

Loranger, LA—June 28-July 7

Fresno, CA—July 5-14

National at Monark Springs, MO—July 19-28

Bakersfield, CA—Aug. 2-11

Boley, OK—Aug. 18-25



GREEN PASTURES, OK SPRING REVIVAL

The spring revival for the Green Pastures, OK congregation will be March 14-17, 1991. Bro. Keith Fuller of Akron, OH will be the evangelist.

For further information contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Chandler, (405) 769-7413.



JEFFERSON, OR SPRING MEETING

The saints at Jefferson, OR would like to announce a spring meeting to be held here at the chapel on Skelton Road, from Wednesday, March 27, through Sunday, March 31. There will be services nightly from Wednesday through Saturday and then three services Sunday, March 31. We extend a hearty welcome to all to come be with us through the meeting. We are praying for the Lord

to send us ministerial help of His own choosing.

Any who may be flying in will be met at the airport. Please notify us when and where you will arrive. You may call Bro. Clifford Wilson, (503) 362-4384, or Bro. Clifford Smith, (503) 581-4575. We would love to have you attend, but if you can't please remember us in prayer. —Bro. C. W. Wilson

GOLDEN RULE HOME ANNIVERSARY

The twenty-ninth anniversary services of The Golden Rule Home, Shawnee, OK will be held on April 6 and 7. Lord willing, there will be a gospel singing on Saturday night and Sunday there will be a dinner and a service at The Golden Rule Home. Everyone is invited to come and spend the weekend with us. Accommodations will be provided for all who come.

Also, from March 31 to April 7, Bro. Louis Kimble plans to hold nightly revival services.

For more information contact one of the following: Bro. Derrill Smith, (405) 273-8250, Bro. Merrill Smith, 275-2833, or Sis. Janyce Porter, 275-6686.

WICHITA, KS REVIVAL

The Spring 1991 Revival Meeting in Wichita will be held, Lord willing, April 12-21. We are looking to the Lord to work according to His will. All are invited to attend. If you cannot attend, please pray that God will anoint, convict, deliver, save and heal. We are so glad that He is still on His throne and we are boldly asking for great blessings.

The church address is: 1701 N. Ash, Wichita, KS 67214; phone (316) 267-9582.

SHREVEPORT, LA REVIVAL

Lord willing, Bro. James Bell will be in Shreveport, LA for a revival April 10-14. There will be special singing on Saturday night. We desire the Holy Spirit, your presence, and prayers. For further information contact Bro. Jerry Melot, (318) 938-7233.

DUNCANNON, PA TENT MEETING

The Lord willing, and with His help, there will be a tent meeting again this year at the Duncannon chapel grounds from Sunday, August 11 to Sunday, August 18, 1991. More details will be forthcoming as the meeting draws near.

—Sis. Barbara J. Campbell

REVIVAL REPORT

The Church of God, Miami Mission, held its first revival. The Lord blessed His Word through Bro. Woodrow Warren. Please continue to pray that the Lord will lead, guide and bless this outreach ministry.

—Bro. Robert McIntyre and Hershal Hargrave

CASSETTE TAPES AVAILABLE

Bro. Harlan Sorrell is offering for sale an assortment of four tapes. Two of the tapes are recordings of congregational singing made at the 1990 Monark Springs Camp Meeting. Another of the tapes is of special singing of the same camp meeting. The last tape is special singing from the 1990 fall Myrtle, MO meeting. You may receive these tapes for \$8.00. Address your orders to: Bro. Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1, Box 118A, Myrtle, MO 65778.

From The Mailbox . . .



KS—Dear ones: Over the years I have enjoyed many messages from the Word of God, and I do appreciate the beautiful poems and songs written in the *Faith and Victory* paper.

I want to witness that the Lord has answered prayer different times in the last several months. It has been a long time since I witnessed through the *Faith and Victory*. Some things that have been taken from my home have been returned after a lot of prayer. God has answered other prayers, many of them! Some after a time had passed, and some quickly. Though this world pass away, God will always remain!

May God continue to bless you, all your loved ones, and the work. —Name withheld by request

LA—Dear loved ones: The family of God is a very dear family and we are thankful to be a part of that special family. We trust the Lord is blessing each and every one of you and keeping you encouraged during this sad time of war.

We feel Jesus will be coming soon and our desire is to be ready when He comes. Our burden is for grace to let our light shine for Him in this dark world.

This past year has been a sad time for our family. We lost our dear Christian mother, Wanita Didio, in September, and we miss her so much. Sometimes the thought of living on without her is

unbearable, then we think about the God of creation whom Mother trusted and we know that same God will be our God.

We earnestly extend this prayer request throughout the country. Please pray urgently for my son who at one time accepted Jesus as his Saviour. At present he is out on the sea of life, drowning, at his wits end, and we need the Lord to have mercy on his soul.

In the past year, we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that your prayers for our family have been reaching the Throne of Grace, and the Lord has been blessing and encouraging our family.

One song says, "Let a holy life tell the gospel story." We know that our actions and words are what the world sees. We need your prayers that we will keep oil in our lamps, burning for Jesus.

Christian love,

—Cathy Bhramayana and family

OR—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: Greetings to you all in the precious name of Jesus. I trust that He is blessing and keeping you all in His grace.

I wanted to send a note of encouragement. I appreciate so much the sacrificing and labors of love that go into this ministry. This paper has more than once lifted my spirits.

I am so thankful to be saved, to have been blessed with a mother who taught us the truth, and not only taught the truth but also lived it. She taught us we could live free from sin through the precious blood of Jesus. Because of His gift I can be a partaker of His divine nature.

This is what the world needs to see—Christ shining through our lives. They need to see the fruit of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance." (Gal. 5:22-23).

May the Lord help us to be more like Him and to treat others like He would. When our hearts are full of God's love we are able then to love our neighbor as ourselves.

In I Peter 1:22 it says, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:" Jesus prayed for this in the seventeenth chapter of John. The Lord wants us to be one in His Spirit. How it must grieve His heart when He sees dissension, bickering and hard feelings among His children. I have three children of my own, and when they don't get along it upsets me. How much more it saddens and hurts our heavenly Father.

We must "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling" before we can help others. I am

sure all of us want to take as many as we can with us to our heavenly home. And we can if we manifest a Christ-like spirit. People all around us are watching our lives. Talk is cheap; we must **show** them the way, for we are ambassadors for Christ. When He comes I want to be found doing His will.

I pray the Lord to bless and keep you all, and to continue to bless His work there.

Your sister in Christ, —Marlene Zinzer

AL—Dear brethren: Will you please keep the *Faith and Victory* coming. I like to read it. It has encouraged me to stay with the truth.

I have seen my 77th birthday. I need your prayers. —Bro. Henry Effinger

AR—Dear friends: Yes, friends are a gift from God. I'm thankful for all of mine. It wouldn't be quite right, we just couldn't go on from day to day very well, if it were not for our friends in and around Guthrie, OK. We get help when we stand in need of encouragement. Aren't the saints wherever they are, a wonderful people? They are chosen of God and precious.

The prayers of saints reach heaven and we do thank God for answered prayer. It is so important to pray one for another.

Our needs are many, but our Lord will care for every need. His mercy is great and His love past finding out. I love Him and desire to love Him more and more.

The war news sounds bad, but God is over all. So many souls need God. We have two nephews and a niece there.

May God bless you and care for your every need there.

I am depending on God to help me be the light He would have me be. —Sis. Lou Bray

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne, and workers: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. . . . We know the end of time is very near and we look forward to seeing all our loved ones and all the dear saints again in glory. The *Faith and Victory* paper is so full of rich blessings. I love to read all the things the dear Lord does for His children, how He takes care of them and gives strength in sorrow when we lose our dear ones, and heals our bodies when we are sick. I am so glad I know Him. I couldn't ever live without Him.

I thank all of you for your prayers; I need your prayers. They are very precious to me.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Olive Getterson

MS—Dear ones: The family of F. R. (Sank) McCarty of Jasper County, Mississippi, would like to express their thanks to all who have prayed, visited, or shown love and concern for him. Continue your prayers for us as well as him!

—Nell McCurty

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TN—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in Christ's name from eastern Tennessee. I trust all is going well at the Publishing House, and that each of you are well and able to carry on by the help of the Lord. We appreciate the good work that has been done there over the years. Much responsibility, care, and spiritual discernment goes with it, but that is as it has always been, and God is just as real and able to guide and direct in the pure and holy way of truth as ever. May His indwelling Spirit comfort and direct each of you in reaching lost souls for Christ and in strengthening and encouraging the saints.

We are thankful for so many blessings from the Lord and want to be faithful to the end. We are in a troubled world, but we are not alone. God is our refuge and strength, a present help in time of trouble.

We lost a dear saint and gospel worker, Sis. Verna Samons—our loss will surely be heaven's gain.

Let us be strong and courageous, a light in the darkness, and a loving help to those about us.

Christian love, —Bro. Charles B. Williams

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in the name of our precious Lord and Saviour, who gave His life and shed His blood that we might live. I am indeed glad for Jesus. I am glad that God raised Him from the dead and set Him at His own right hand to make intercession for us and also to be our risen Lord and Saviour. In fact He is everything we need. . . .

We are having a break in the weather here now and appreciate it very much.

We also appreciate the good work all of you are doing there and trust God to continue to bless and uphold you.

Pray for us.

Your saved brother, —T. V. McMillian

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CA—Dear Bro. Murphey, and saints in the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I always pray for the work there.

I am 83 years old and the Lord is continually giving me strength to reach out and help the poor

souls that are walking in darkness. Tracts are a great help in witnessing.

I love the Lord and desire to ever be faithful. Pray for me. Please pray for my granddaughter and other unsaved souls on my heart.

Sincerely in Christian love,

—Sister Ruth Donnelly

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

OR—Dear saints: We'd like to thank the Lord for His many spiritual blessings that He has heaped upon us, and also that there is a Healer in Zion.

After Thanksgiving we all got bad flus and colds that lasted until almost Christmas. Our two boys, Alex and Justin, could not shake off the virus, and then it spread to their eyes. We called our pastor, Bro. Clifford Wilson, to come anoint and pray for them. Alex, who is almost five, got a healing touch almost immediately, but Justin, almost three, became much worse. We were constantly looking to the Lord, but didn't seem to be getting anything. One evening as we were having family worship, Alex said, "We need to really pray for Justin's eyes!" So we told him to go ahead. That little boy prayed a fervent prayer of faith. The very next morning there was only a small trace of the eye problem, and by that afternoon you couldn't even tell there had been a problem.

Also, Jeff's sister is in the Army as a medic and had been told that she would be going to the Persian Gulf the beginning of this past January. The boys prayed every night that the Lord would help Auntie Allison not to have to go to the war. We found out a few weeks ago that her orders had been changed.

So we surely thank the Lord for how He answers our prayers and also for the privilege of raising a godly family in this dark and sinful generation.

In Christ, —Jeff and Elizabeth Redington

— — — — —

OK—Dear saints: I want to thank the Lord for His healing power. Allergies, especially hay fever, tend to run in both sides of my family, and I have been troubled with it for years. The Lord healed me of asthma as a young girl, but every fall I would be miserable with hay fever.

This year (1990) at the Monark Springs healing service I felt the Lord wanted me to be anointed and prayed for that the Lord would take it away. The Lord touched me and healed me, but should I happen to sneeze the enemy would bring doubts

and say that I wasn't completely healed. For some reason I listened to him. One Saturday the Lord allowed me to really have hay fever. I was so worn out by the end of that day that I knew the Lord really had touched me and that I had been listening to the Devil. I told the Lord I would doubt Him no more, and that was the last I had any trouble. The weather over the radio would always give a pollen count and many times they would say that it was extremely high, but I wasn't having any problems. I would just thank the Lord for His healing touch.

Thank the Lord He can heal any problem we have. May we let our faith soar to God.

Thankfully,

—Anita Adams

OK—Dear saints: My heart goes up to the dear Lord this morning, with much gratitude for all His goodness to me!

On Jan. 12 my dear brother passed away. He was just younger than I, and had been a heart patient for years. On Monday night, Jan. 14, they had a visitation service at the funeral home. I took sick that afternoon and was not able to attend that service or the funeral service.

After several days, I grew worse. I was not able to be left alone, as I was so weak. The Lord saw my every need. My daughter and others in my family were sick with colds and didn't want to bring me that, so dear Sis. Probst came and stayed two nights and days. Then my daughter and others came to stay and care for me. The saints and loved ones were so good to call, bring flowers, send cards and pray for me.

After the Lord stopped the hurting in the gall bladder area, I would have terrible headaches at night. Then after I was able to be up some, my eyes began to bother me and now I have problems with seeing double.

I am looking to the Lord for strength for my body and healing for my eyes. It has been three weeks today since I took sick and I am lots stronger. I thank the Lord for the privilege of trusting Him, and again I thank each one for your prayers, sympathy and get-well cards, food, phone calls, as well as every sacrifice made for me. May God bless each one.

I thank the Lord He made it possible for me to retire from my job three months before my 65th birthday. It was such a blessing not to have to worry about going to work while I was sick.

While sick I was listening to a tape of Bro. Ostis Wilson from two or three years ago. He made a statement like this: "The Church lost something important, its missionary zeal and burden. Young

people lose a vision of what they can do for God." This concerns me. I am sending an offering for the missionary fund for you to distribute.

Christian love and prayers, —Frances Perkins



Foreign Mission Reports



From the Philippines . . .

Jan. 22—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, to all saints everywhere and the workers at the Print Shop.

Here in Mindanao, we have been praying for peace in the world, that the war and battles might stop in the Middle East.

The Gulf crisis has very much affected our country's economic growth. Our government is afraid of our supply and demand on oil, food, and other consumption of the people of the land. . . .

We hope that Filipinos shall always have freedom of belief, even in the years to come in our life.

Yours in Christ,

—Bro. Leonardo Salvaña and family



Honduras, C. A. Report . . .

Feb. 11—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints scattered abroad: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. We are glad to report victory through His blood. Our report of the Honduras work is long overdue, but the Lord is still blessing us and His work is progressing. Some of the saints send their love and request earnest prayer. I also request prayer for my unsaved children.

Many souls are yet retaining their experience of salvation. Do pray for the work of the Lord in Tela, and other new areas which the Lord is blessing us to reach. We are in the States for a little while and will be returning soon to accomplish the task which the Lord wants us to do.

Our souls were really blessed when the saints were over last year, and some are still rejoicing from the messages which the Lord sent and are encouraged to press on.

Our classes are increasing, and we feel that the Lord is leading us to erect a small building for shelter from the rain. The tent can only be used during the summer months due to all of the bad weather. We are asking the saints for their prayers and support in this effort for souls.

The brethren are preparing, through prayer and the leadings of the Lord, to come over this year for another revival, for a longer stay. We also appreciate your prayers and support in this matter. We thank the Lord for all the saints and for their support in the past.

Yours for souls, —Sis. Liurie Sanders

Question and Answer

by

Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Please explain Matthew 15:11.

Answer: This verse reads thus: "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man."

This response came at the end of Jesus' answering of a challenging question which was put to Him by the Pharisees. The question was this: "Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread." (v. 2).

I beg permission to transfer the discussion to the seventh chapter of Mark; the first 23 verses deal with the same thing but go into more detail. Verse three explains their custom of washing their hands, etc. It says, ". . . Except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders." Then, verse four explains this a little farther by saying "And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not." And verse four continues on to say that many other things they have received to hold as washing of cups, pots, etc. In verse five they asked Him why His disciples didn't observe these traditions of the elders but ate with unwashed hands.

The words "*when they come from the market*" in verse four throws considerable light on this point. Involved in this was the fact that God had drawn a sharp line of separation between the Jews and the Gentiles for His own particular purposes and set the seal of circumcision upon the Jews to identify them as His special people and forbade them to have any inter-communications with the Gentiles, unless the Gentile would be circumcised and become as one of them. God's principle purpose in doing this was to have a pure stock that He could set apart unto Himself and establish His covenant with, and through them bring Christ into the world. He gave them certain things to

observe in order to establish in them and through them, to the world, the idea of clean and unclean, pure and impure, right and wrong principles, etc. The whole system was principally ceremonial and had nothing in it to purge the conscience and purify the heart and affections from the polluting effects of sin. It required the blood of Jesus to do this, and until His sacrifice of Himself on Calvary, the standard of holiness maintained throughout the Old Testament period was a ceremonial external system which could not make the comers thereunto perfect. Hebrews 7:19 says, "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God." God pronounced unto the Jews certain things which were unclean—things which the Gentiles practiced—and commanded them not to do those things. But the Jews had carried these things clear beyond the bounds of what God had said, through the traditions of their elders. The traditions of the elders were oral, or verbal, additions to what God had commanded, which were written commandments, and they had become as binding upon the Jews as the written commandments of God. But God never recognized them. But the Jews had carried the idea of clean and unclean to such an extent that they considered the Gentiles unclean (physically), and when they returned from the marketplace they washed their hands and arms to the elbow to cleanse them from any contamination they might have received because of brushing against a Gentile. Perhaps physically the Gentiles were as clean and well kept as the Jews, and such bigotry would be difficult for us to imagine, but that is the extent to which the traditions of the elders had carried it.

Mark 7:7-9 says, "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition." Then He proceeds to point out to them a particular commandment which Moses had commanded them from God which was a written commandment. Verse 10 points out a commandment Moses had given them which enjoined them to honor their parents. "Honor" in this text refers to assisting, maintaining, and supporting them. This meaning of the word honor here is confirmed by what He said in verse 11, that if the son should say to his parents that it was a gift—that is a consecrated gift to the temple—that he would be free from the obligation of helping his parents, and in verse 13 He said, "Making the word of God of none effect through

your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things ye do."

Then, in verse 15 Jesus said that nothing entering into a man from without could defile him; but the things which come forth out of him are what defile him. This thought is again emphasized in verse 18. Verses 20-23 says, "That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man."

The weight of Matthew 15:11 comes down on us when we look at the formal, external, outward, put-on type of religion that is prevalent in many lives in our day. It can be said in our day as Jesus said in His day, "In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." It is certainly true that God has a standard of dress and general behavior and moral conduct and uprightness for Christians to observe, and it is all found written in His Word. But let us realize that it is possible to be misled by putting all of our emphasis on externals behind which and underneath which may be bad attitudes, unkind feelings, unforgiveness, pride, bigotry, and many other things which will keep people out of heaven.

In Matthew 23:23 Jesus told the scribes and Pharisees that they paid tithes, etc., but had overlooked the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith. Then He concluded by saying, "These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Oh, my brethren, let us govern all phases of our life by this maxim and have our lives properly balanced between the doing and the being, and have a good relationship between our inward condition of heart and our outward appearance and conduct. God have mercy on us and help us to be all He is calling us to be, inside and out.



In Memoriam

Nancy Whited Miller, 84, of Danville, KY, passed from this life at her home on Dec. 11, 1990.

She was born Mar. 8, 1906, in Casey County, KY. She was a daughter of the late Daniel B. and Ida B. Cochran Whited.

A retired seamstress, she had worked for Palm Beach Co. for 23 years. She was a member of the

Church of God. Her life in living for God was a great inspiration to all who knew her.

Survivors include four daughters, Bernice Johnson, Julia Emma Prestone, Alberta Jones, all of Boyle County, KY, and Lillian Brackett of Garrard County, KY; two sisters, Ellen Whited of Liberty, KY, and Esther Lay of Moreland KY; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Curtis Williams and Gordon Humphrey with interment in the Buffalo Springs Cemetery at Stanford, KY.

NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, and appreciate all the prayers that were prayed for Nancy Miller. —The family of Nancy Miller



Willard Ira Davis was born June 8, 1920 at Hennessey, OK to Thomas and Ada Davis. He departed this life on Dec. 16, 1990 in Wichita, KS.

Bro. Davis attended high school in Hennessey, OK, as well as three years at Langston University in Oklahoma. He worked at the V. A. hospital in Topeka, KS until retirement.

He always said he wanted to make heaven his home. He lived a faithful life, was a kind person, and was loved by those who knew him.

He leaves behind his son, Willard I. Davis, Jr., of Topeka, KS; one sister, Laura Camel, and three brothers, Elve Davis of Flint, MI, Thomas Davis of Denver, CO, and Vernon Davis of Los Angeles, CA; nieces and nephews, other loved ones and a host of saints and friends.

His mother, father and three brothers preceded him in death.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at Topeka, KS.



Elizabeth (Loewen) Friesen was born on Nov. 4, 1915 in Plum Coulee, Manitoba, Canada to Bernhard and Anna Loewen.

She was married to Henry Friesen, and to this union were born two sons and four daughters.

Elizabeth loved her Saviour and diligently read her Bible. Her greatest desire was to meet Jesus in peace.

She very peacefully passed from this life, after a short and sudden illness, Dec. 26, 1990.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by her husband, and daughter, Elizabeth.

She leaves to mourn her passing, two sons, Jake and Bernie; three daughters, Ann, Mary, and Agathe; one brother, Peter Loewen; three grand-

sons, Tim, Dan, and Shawn Friesen; and two granddaughters, Tammy and Michelle Friesen.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Curtis Williams

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear saints: We wish to express our appreciation for all the thoughts and prayers for us during the loss of our mother. Thank you for the cards and expressions of sympathy and love from each one.

—The Friesens

Hardy G. Hutchinson, Jr., born Aug. 3, 1928 near Irvinville, LA, the son of Hardy Garfield Hutchinson, Sr. and Amy Marie Hutchinson, passed from this life to his eternal reward Saturday, Dec. 29, 1990 at the age of 62 years, from his home in Albany, LA.

He was married on Aug. 12, 1967 to Nava Jo Short. Together they had lived in Neosho, MO for several years, having moved there from Louisiana, and then back again to live in Louisiana.

Bro. Hardy is survived by his wife Nava Jo, of the home; one son, John David and daughter-in-law Sherrie; two granddaughters, Brittney and Kristin of Loranger, LA; his mother, Mrs. Marie Hutchinson; four brothers, Elliott, Robert, Richard, and Virgil; seven sisters, Lucille Maklary, Thelma Cowart, Delores Jones, Betty Rawls, Annie Spica, Martha Zeigler, and Mary Bigner. He was preceded in death by his father and one sister.

Bro. Hardy had committed his life to the Lord about a year and a half or so ago after having suffered a severe heart attack, and since that time he lived a consistent life for the Lord.

Funeral services were conducted in the Oak Grove Church of God chapel by Bro. Bob Forbes, with burial in the cemetery near the chapel.

Earnest A. Perkins, Jr. was born July 28, 1927, in Okmulgee County. He departed this life Jan. 12, 1991.

Earnest was retired from the Riley Southwest Co. where he was a supervisor. He had also worked for Riverside Industries.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Delores; one son, David Perkins of Beggs, OK; three daughters, Janie Tollette of Locust Grove, Janet Hibbard of Sapulpa, and Joy Cline of Oklahoma City, OK; three brothers, Elmer of Beggs, Barton and Lee Roy of Sapulpa, OK; six sisters, Juanita Welch, Frances Perkins, and Alta Bock all of Tulsa, Dorothy Meek of Jenks, June Moore of Mannford, and

Loretta Ironbridge of Sapulpa, OK; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were at the Liberty Mounds High School Gymnasium with the burial in Beggs Cemetery, Beggs, OK.

NOTE OF THANKS

We want to thank each of you for your prayers for Earnie. Also for the kindness, cards, and love shown to us in our sorrow. —The Perkins family

Othur James Manuel, son of James W. (Jim) and LaVern Manuel, born Sept. 7, 1928 in Hammond, LA, passed from this life Jan. 30, 1991, at the age of 62 years, 4 months, and 23 days, from his home in Ponchatoula, LA. He was married to Linda Sue Vanderah Manuel.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jim and LaVern Manuel.

Othur, also known by some of the family as "Jim," is survived by his wife, Linda Sue of the home; three daughters, Pamela Evon Monnich of Alta Loma, CA, Sue Ann Forbes of Amite, LA, and Lisa Marie Martello of Natalbany, LA; one son, Robert Gerald Thibert, stationed with the U. S. Navy in the Persian Gulf region; one sister, Reba Voltz of La Crescenta, CA; one brother, Oscar Manuel of Eugene, OR; five grandchildren and many relatives.

Funeral services were conducted at the Geisler Funeral Home chapel in Hammond, LA, with interment in the Oak Grove Church of God cemetery near Loranger, LA.

James Richard Ward was born March 23, 1921, in Creek County, OK, and departed this life Jan. 31, 1991, in Oklahoma City, OK, at the age of 69 years.

James Ward lived most of his adult life in California, recently returning to Oklahoma to be with his mother, Sis. Katie Gaines, and his sisters.

James got saved in the last months of his life. It was related in the funeral service of how in one of the last church services he attended he came into the chapel aglow with the love of God.

He was preceded in death by his father, Tandy; one brother, Roosevelt Vernon Ward; and one sister, Mavis Cornelia Ward Freeman.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his beloved mother, Sis. Katie (Ward) Gaines; two sisters, Pauline Inez Glover and Mildred Helen Blair; one brother, William Samuel Ward; nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the Seward United Baptist church in Seward, OK.

Tribute to Sis. Martha Moore

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We had a mother in Israel, of which no one could ignore.

She was so beautiful, and her name was Sis. Martha Moore.

She was always so kind and sweet,
The children she always loved to greet.

The young folks she wouldn't leave out,
For they loved her dearly, there was no doubt.

She would counsel them each day,
As she went on in her wonderful way.

The minister she would encourage all she could,
That he might get up and preach all that the Saviour would.

The older folks she did love so well,
The way they came to her, you could just tell.

She told me so much one day,
That for each person in church she would pray,
everyday.

And for her own family the burden she did bear,
That heaven's glory they would share.

Yes, Hubert and Martha shared many joys,
heartaches, and tears,
For they were married for 65 years.

Into the union two fine boys came,
Kenneth and Harold are their names.

She was 83 when the Lord called her home,
And that's the very reason for this little poem.

They say that beauty is only skin deep,
But with this lady it was not so, for the blessings
of the Lord she did reap.

Yes, we miss her so much since her crossing,
For the gift that God gave her we can say was
surely a blessing.

You may rest in peace this glorious day,
As the Saviour has taken you away in His own very
special way.

—Don R. McIntosh, March 28, 1989

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"Blessed is the memory of those who have kept themselves unspotted from the world! Yet more blessed and more dear the memory of those who have kept themselves unspotted in the world."

Home Life



(These notes were found in my wife's Bible. She intended to teach these things at camp meeting, but the Lord took her home. These teachings are so needed. I hope they will be a blessing to all who are bringing up their children.—Bro. Mart Samons.)

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies." Prov. 31:10. The virtuous woman cannot be lazy and please the Lord. She must keep the house and make it a home.

A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband. (Prov. 12:4). Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the Land. (Prov. 31:23). The woman is the glory of the man. (1 Cor. 11:7). She is someone he is proud of, honors and admires. She is someone to help her husband manage his income, to make it go farther. She is not always wanting something, but encourages her husband when he is down.

The virtuous woman is a good mother to her children. It is the mother who is with the children more than the father, consequently much of the responsibility of training them lies with her. Children will do just what you do; so much of the way you train your children is by example. If you want them to keep their room clean, keep yours clean. If they see you don't care how the house looks, they won't care either.

You should not allow your children to go to other people's homes and tear things up. But if you allow them to do it at home they will not know any better away from home. Your children are going to act away from home just like you allow them to act at home. A child left to itself will bring its mother to shame. (Prov. 29:15).

If you want others to love your children, and want them to visit other children, you must train them to behave at home. It is easier on the flesh to just let your children raise themselves, but when they get older, that's when the trouble starts. Then they tramp on your heart. When your children misbehave, people will not look just at the child,

they will look at the mother for not training them.

A lot of children do things just to get attention. Are you giving your children the love and attention they need? When your children are grown and gone from home you will have plenty of time then to do the things you want to do. But right now your children are your duty.

When you have children in school you need to make sure your child is clean and neat. Don't send them to school looking like they just got out of bed. Give your children a good breakfast. If you neglect to properly feed your children they become irritable. You know how you feel when you don't take time to eat right.

Always have prayer with your children, or see that they say their prayers.

—Sis. Verna Samons



"Faith Which Worketh by Love"

"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but **faith which worketh by love.**" Gal. 5:6. Paul had been living under the law, very zealous for what he thought was the will of God. On the road to Damascus, with the purpose in his heart to bring any of the followers of Jesus bound to Jerusalem, suddenly a great light "shined round about him," "And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:3-6). Then Paul obeyed the first command that Jesus gave him and went into the city and prayed, waiting for instructions. As he obeyed, step by step, the love of God, through the sacrifice of His only begotten Son, began to open up to Paul in a way that he had never seen it before. He saw that eternal salvation did not come through the works of the law, but through the faith of the Son of God, "who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Gal. 2:20). The result was that Paul just opened up his heart to the love of God through Jesus, and his heart was filled full of God's love. He said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20.

Jesus was begotten in the likeness of His Father, God, with a perfectly pure heart. No sin was there. As He grew up, He kept Himself in full obedience to His Father's will, understanding that

He had come down from heaven to do "the will of Him that sent me." (John 6:38). He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Heb. 4:15). He testified to His disciples not long before His crucifixion, "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me." (John 14:30). He had a perfect faith, for there was no sin there. Sin hardens the heart. (Heb. 3:13). He knew by the Old Testament Scriptures that it was the Father's will for Him to become the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, and that the third day God would resurrect Him from the dead to the state of immortality. He would become the first fruits of them that slept. (I Cor. 15:20).

"Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here and watch with me. And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." Matt. 26:36-39. Although Jesus had been living in full submission to the Father's will up to this time, and had a perfect faith in Him, yet He felt the drawing back of the flesh just as you and I feel it. He felt the desire for help from His disciples in watching with Him and praying. Oh, how it helps us when our brother or sister is praying for us when we are in heavy trial. Also, when they are faithful, that is a source of strength to us. Jesus was denied both, for the disciples slept, then didn't have strength to stand with Him when they came to take Him. Jesus went back and prayed the second and third time, saying the same words, "Nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." He was determined "through the eternal Spirit to offer Himself without spot to God." (Heb. 9:14). He wrestled there alone until the Father gave Him the power that He needed to go all the way.

As the multitude came to take Him in the garden, led by Judas, He knew that even then He could pray to His Father—"Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?" Matt. 26:53-54. His heart was filled with faith which worketh by love. He was willing to go all the way to death, even the death of the cross in order to pay the awful price for our eternal salvation.

After hanging there for six hours, suffering greatly in body, mind, and spirit, and everything had been fulfilled, then the Father withdrew His

Spirit. Jesus felt that withdrawal and "cried with a loud voice, saying My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" The powers of darkness were pressing hard against Him to overthrow His faith. In this awful time of suffering, when He was tried to the limit of human endurance, He must make His choice: would He still choose to fulfill the eternal plan of God, or would His faith fail at this crucial time in His life?

"Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost." He did not question the matter nor wait, but immediately yielded Himself as our sacrifice. Oh, what a challenge to us today! Let us also live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved us and gave Himself for us.

—Sis. Fern Stubblefield



The Great Shepherd

This is one of the most familiar and most loved verses in the Bible. What a blessed consolation to know that Jesus, the great Shepherd, was willing to lay down His life for His sheep—that we should not want.

Our minds can better comprehend the great sacrifice Jesus made when we realize that **no one else** was worthy to be the sacrifice for our sins. When the apostle John was banned to the isle of Patmos, his persecutors thought they would be rid of a man they had already tried in vain to kill. God used this isolation of John for His own glorious purpose. God had messages He wanted sent to the seven churches in Asia, and He also revealed and unfolded to John prophesies that would be fulfilled until the end of time. These prophesies can be read in the book of Revelation.

"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet. Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; . . . I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;" Rev. 1:10-11, 18-19.

In the fifth chapter of Revelation, the scene shone before John is so traumatic that he starts weeping. God wants us also to look upon this scene to enable us to appreciate more fully His great plan of redemption.

"And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is

worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book. . . ." Rev. 5:1-4.

God had created man in His own image of purity and holiness. When sin entered into the heart of man because of disobedience, God said they would surely die. However, God so loved His creation, that He had a plan of redemption. God revealed to John of the great search made for someone worthy enough to open up the seals of the book. Who had the power to break the bands and chains of sin so that precious souls might have an entrance into heaven? John was overcome with weeping when he saw that no man **anywhere** was able to open the book. John could feel part of the grief God had felt for His creation, but John was not left in a state of grief. He was greatly comforted and uplifted by the next scene.

"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne . . . stood a Lamb as it had been slain, . . . And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, . . . they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hath redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; . . . Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. . . forever and ever." Rev. 5:5-13.

How our hearts should rejoice that Jesus, God's only well beloved Son, prevailed to open the book! Jesus freely gave His own blood in order to open up the way for our eternal life.

On the first Easter morning, when our Lord and Saviour arose triumphant from the grave, He had the "keys of hell and of death." The power of Satan had been broken! "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Believing in the atoning blood of Jesus will save us from our sins and from hell. Death and hell cannot claim us if we plead the blood of Jesus.

Jesus, who is **alive forevermore**, is on the right hand of God, making intercessions for us. He is our great Shepherd. He tends to each one of us so tenderly by means of the Holy Spirit, and talks with the Father about all of our needs.

Satan may rant and rage, but **good has triumphed over evil**. Though we are in a world full of trouble and care, we can rest in the blessed words of Jesus, our great Shepherd, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:20.

In His love and care,

—Carol Cole



Salvation in the strictest sense means much more than being saved from our past evil deeds. It is one thing to be justified from past sins, and quite another to be kept from sin. We shall illustrate it this way: Suppose a man is traveling in a strange land, in the darkness of night, when suddenly he plunges headlong into a violent stream of water whose current is dashing swiftly over rapids and into whirlpools. He realizes his danger and calls for help. Someone hearing his cries comes immediately to his rescue, and with a cable pulls him out of those turbulent waves, brings him to shore where there is light, and gives him warning not to travel any more without a light. The man is saved from that stream and its awful consequences by being taken out of it, and the only safe way to keep out is to have light.

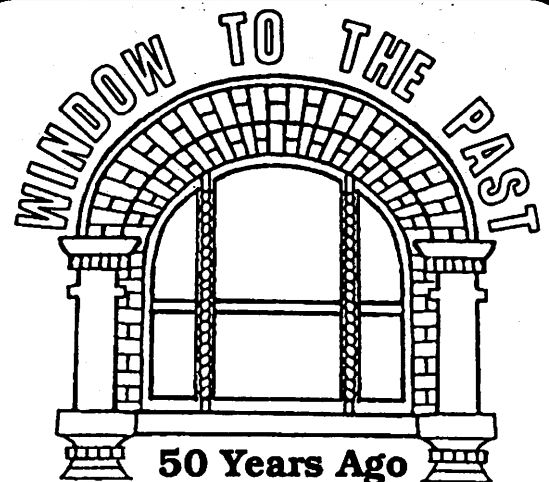
We are taken out of sin, and kept from getting into it again by walking in the light of God. Jesus said, "Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you." (John 12:35). Therefore to keep saved, we must keep in the light. We might be saved and sanctified, but unless we "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," we shall sooner or later find ourselves in the rolling waves of spiritual darkness.

—George N. Stewart

—Taken from *The Gospel Trumpet*, 1914



The self-absorbed individual has a weak character. He blows from either the East, the West, the North, or the South, depending upon his varied self-interests. He plays both sides of every street and works both ends against the middle. The stuff he feeds you is hard to stomach, when you learn him; for it is too thick for a spoon and too thin for a fork. He is brave when there is no fight. For the sake of opportunism or vengeful satisfaction he may secretly knife at your back, because he is too cowardly to fight you openly at your face. His decisions are not made on the basis of right and wrong, but primarily on the grounds of how they will affect him, though he pretends a selfless interest. He longs to fill big shoes; and when he gets the chance, his own selfishness, which begets envy, shrinks him to such littleness that he can barely see out. What a shame! —Leroy Brownlow



Excerpts Taken From March, 1941 *Faith and Victory*

"David calls up his soul and tunes it to the great heart of God. Keeping in tune with heaven is the secret of holy living. We must catch daily messages from the sky that we might keep in harmony with the mind of God. We must hear the voice of God, we must feel His life playing on the tender chords of our soul, we need to be moved by the impulses of His loving heart beats, to live as holy as we should. Let there be no discordant notes in the music of your soul. You can keep tuned in with the sweet harmony of heaven in the very face of strife and sin in the world. Paul kept the music of heaven in his heart while fast in the stocks; Daniel kept tuned in with the world of glory at the entrance to the lions' den; the furnace fire cast no fear over the life of the three Hebrews; Habakkuk rejoiced in the God of his salvation with empty fields, storehouses and stalls before him; Job kept the proper wave length in his soul amid all his adversities. Beware, oh beware, lest something of earth gets your harp out of tune. Why will mortal man allow the poor, weak things of earth disturb the music of his soul!"

—C. E. Orr



"There are several kinds of dumbness. One is hereditary; no one so born is responsible. Some have sense, but do not use it. They are just plain dumb. . .

"The head of the family who expects his children to be religious while he swears, gambles and drinks, is just plain dumb."

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