FAITHAND/ICTORY

Church of God Servant

At evening time

GOD IS

YE SHINE AS LIGHTS

JESUS

Unto Him shall
the gathering of
the people be:
ONLY

ONL

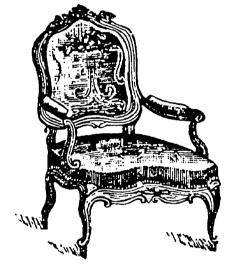
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Guthrie, Oklahoma

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We appreciate the goodness of God. We desire your prayers as we look into the Word of God, that the Lord would bless His Word, and God would bless our souls. We would like for you to turn with us to the book of Revelations, the 2nd chapter, beginning at verse 12 thru verse 17. "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. But I have a few things

Satan's Seat

Excerpts from a message by Bro. Charles Taylor Preached at Pacoima, CA, Sept. 5, 1992

against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes. which thing I hate. Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it."

The thought on my heart, is in the 13th verse. "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is." We want to talk about Satan's seat. I would like first to read a definition of "seat."

The dictionary says that a seat is a place in which something is established; where something is settled. It means a residence. It means the place of one's power. The Lord Jesus Christ is speaking to the church in Pergamos. Here He realized that Satan, the enemy of all souls, had gained a seat. He had been successful in geiting himself established, entrenched, and had taken up residence in this place, by building a stronghold of idolatrous worship right in the very area where this church was located. Jesus said, "I know where Satan's seat is. I'm looking down upon the situation. I know every problem, every test, and every trial that you are going through. I know all the persecutions you have suffered at the hand of the enemy."

As we consider this thought of where Satan's seat is, we are not dealing with a town, or any certain location, but with the minds and hearts of people. Satan has built a stronghold right in the very hearts of men.

As we talk about Satan's seat, in simple terms what we are dealing with is demonic possession and demoniac influence. In Mark, 5:1, we read, "And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many." Somehow Satan had been successful in getting advantage of this man; possessing his soul, and taking up residence in him. The scriptures say always, night and day, this man was in the mountains and in the tombs crying and cutting himself with stones. This man was in a miserable, wretched, sad condition.

I'm thinking also about Mary Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils. Somehow the enemy had been able to get an advantage of these precious souls. He had been able to get in and take possession of them. Listen folks, we are living in a world where Satan is taking advantage of people. "I know where Satan's seat is." The scripture doesn't give us any record of how the demons were able to get in and take possession of this man, but there were legions of devils in his soul. We don't know how the enemy was able to get an advantage of Mary Magdalene either, but listen folks, the scriptures do give us some thoughts of how the enemy, in the time in which we live, is successful in inhabiting, taking up his residence and possessing souls. We want to consider this as we look into the word of God.

Turn with us to Mark 9:14. "And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with

them. And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him. And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them? And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; And wheresoever he taketh him he teareth him: and he foameth and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me. And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child." Folks, do you know that Satan can also possess children?

Turn to Proverbs 22:6. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Psalms 51:5. Every child born into this world has a depraved nature. They have a sinful nature and as a result of that, Satan seeks to take advantage of them. When a child is born, to a degree he is already at a disadvantage. Children have a nature that is automatically bent toward evil, and the devil is right there to take advantage of it. Do you know that Satan is observing every precious soul, and he will commission and dispatch certain spirits to deal with individuals, because he knows that this is the best and most effective way to snare them?

For example, I am thinking about a rebellious spirit. As Satan observes certain children, he realizes the most effective way to deal with them is to promote rebellion in their lives. He will comission spirits to get with those children and follow them as they grow up. Satan is there to promote rebellion against the light. A child may rebel against counsel and instruction that's given him. He rebels against his parents, teachers, and the law enforcement officers. Do you know what? As rebellion continues he opens himself up more to the enemy. Satan gets a little greater grip on that child's soul and all the time the plan of the enemy is to work until that child will fully surrender and submit his will so that Satan can enter in and take up his possession; take up residence there.

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the enemy for him to take

possession of an

individual."

Now going back to the scripture in Proverbs, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." The Lord puts a responsibility upon you and me; we who are parents, overseers, and guardians. God places a responsibility upon us to observe the children who are coming up under our care. We are to watch and be able to discern the way the enemy is dealing with their souls and we have to take a stand. We have to work to help mold and fashion our children in a righteous pattern as they journey along the path of life. We have to be able to work with them that we can oppose that rebellious spirit that is working, and break the power of it before Satan can take possession of their souls. Oh, I know "where Satan's seat is." I know where Satan has been successful in entrenching himself, and taking up residence and possession of precious souls.

We read in Proverbs 23:13 and 14, "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest "The Devil cannot just walk up to a him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell." Folks, we are not talking about child abuse, but the

Bible plainly instructs us

that we are to use the rod. In some ways, that is the only method through which a rebellious spirit will be conquered. Sometimes it is going to take the rod to help bring a child into line. We realize that every child is not alike, and you can't deal with each one the same way. It may not always take the rod to bring correction, but God is expecting you and me to get down before Him and gain an understanding of how to deal with our children and our young people in order to find the best and most effective way to conquer that rebellious spirit and break the power of it.

As we consider this thought of dealing with our children, I'm thinking about the literature they read. Do you know that Satan commissions spirits to work with certain types of literature? Satan can commission and dispatch a spirit to deal with individuals, to accompany them everywhere they go. The Devil is there to present the rememberance of those things that they read and replay them in their minds. He can deal with an individual's mind through that thing, always with the plan to open up his heart and life to such a degree that he can enter in and take possession of his soul.

I'm thinking about the music our children listen to. Folks, do you know God is requiring us to be alert and watchful, to know what our children are reading and what music our children are listening to? Do you not know that there are spirits which accompany certain kinds of music?

I'm thinking about movies. Do you know that Satan can commission a spirit to work with certain kinds of movies and pictures? As people watch, there is a spirit right there present to work with them, seeking an entrance into their hearts. Listen folks, this is one reason why we have so many children and young adults possessed with unclean spirits; possessed with lustful, and murderous spirits. It is because of the literature they read, the music they listen to, and the movies they watch. They open themselves up and the devil takes advantage of them.

I'm thinking about witchcraft. Do you know

that sometimes our with things like that,

children, out of curiosity, begin to read literature on that thing. They begin to kind of pry into it. Oh, folks, listen, when you begin to tamper and play

do you not know there are spirits that go along with those things? Do you not know there are spirits that go along with the crystal ball? There are spirits that go along with fortune telling. There are spirits that accompany devil worship and all those kinds of things. We, as parents, as overseers, as spiritual workers, need to be observant of what our children are dealing with, that we might be able to help withstand those spirits.

How is it that Satan has been successful in getting a residence? The Devil cannot just walk up to a soul and push his way in, but there must be ground given to the enemy for him to take possession of an individual. In Romans 1:20, we read, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became

(Continued on page 11.)

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

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 35¢ to notify us of each change of address.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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; Il 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.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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Editorials

It hardly seems conceivable, but with this edition we begin our 71st year of operation. When reviewing the circumstances surrounding the infancy of this work, we see that there was a struggle in its initiation. There were sacrifices made, many prayers offered, uncertainties felt, and a pouring out of self. Yet we feel that the road was mapped out by a master surveyor, and His leadings have been true. Some things have changed drastically in these seventy years; the most outstanding being the mode of the printing trade. Giant strides have been made since the days when type was set by hand, and the press was hand-fed. Just in the last few years, the computer has become an integral part of our work, and many of the particular operations of times past are greatly outmoded.

Yet we are still publishing the gospel today because there are some vital things that are the same as in 1923. One which stands out in my mind is how there have always been individuals who loved the Lord, saw the need for the printed page, and were willing to sacrifice for its continuance. We are made to marvel, for whenever God takes someone home who has been a faithful supporter, another way always seems to open up so that expenses are met. God has always been able to find someone willing to fill the void.

Occasionally my mind turns to the ones who have dedicated a part of their lives to mail out accumulated millions of tracts and books. In addition to Grandfather and Grandmother Pruitt, who were a part of the beginning work, I think of their children who sacrificed what might be considered the opportunity to have a normal childhood, so that others could be served. Uncle Andrew Pruitt, Aunt Mary Embly, and my mother, Frances Murphey, have been spared to see this day, and we trust that God will even yet, after the many years since they have left home, bless them and give them a return for their investment. We also appreciate the current dedicated staff God has provided.

Beyond financial and physical assistance, the saints have, over the years, offered countless prayers for the success of the gospel. We sincerely appreciate every one who simply tells us that they are praying for the Print Shop and its workers. Spiritual battles are still the same as they ever were, and courage and victory are still accessed by prayer, so we thank each of you for keeping us in your thoughts and petitions before God.

We attribute what has been accomplished to no person, wholly, but we offer to God our thanksgiving and praise.

We counted it a privilege to have Bro. Mayarino Escobar and his wife, Sis. Panchita, from Ensenada, Mexico, visit us here at the print shop for a few days. They brought news of an encouraged congregation in Mexico, and of outreaches that are being planned. The temporary building they are worshipping in is overflowing in attendance, so they are trusting God to provide something better in His time and way.

There doesn't seem to be suitable words to express the loss the church feels over the recent passing of Bro. Ostis Wilson. It was on February 18, at 84 years of age, that he went to claim his eternal reward. He was a pioneer minister who left many impressive and precious memories in the lives of those who knew him. In his sixty plus years of ministry, he pastored congregations in Kansas, Oklahoma, California and Oregon. He was instrumental in establishing contacts with the saints in Nigeria, West Africa. It was in this endeavor that his first wife, Sis. Opal, fell ill and died.

Bro. Ostis wrote several books which are often requested, and also edited the "Question and Answer" column, a regular feature in the paper. By choice, he never knew what retirement was. It was while holding a meeting in Neosho, MO that he fell ill and within a few days, passed away.

I know that his wife, Sis. Evelyn, who will feel his loss the keenest, would appreciate your prayers. If you would like to send her a card of condolence, you may do so by addressing it to: 38801 Hardesty Road, Apt. 29, Shawnee, OK 74801.

It was on the 14th of February that Bro. Orie Young, of Sapulpa, OK, succumbed to a rather lengthy illness. He was also a minister whose influence had reached to quite a number of people in this part of the country. The saints knew him as a man who had a kind and gentle spirit. His love for the Lord was outstanding, and he often expressed it.

We pray that Sis. Dorothy, his wife, will feel God's comfort in her lonely hours, and if you would like to let her know she is in your thoughts her address is: 12 S. Walnut, Sapulpa, OK 74066.

Printed in this issue is a list of Church of God camp meetings for the coming summer. If your local meeting isn't included, feel free to mail us the information so that we can insert it in next month's paper.

—Wayne Murphey

BOOK READY FOR SALE

"God Love Your Hearts," by Vesta-Nadine Severs, a biography of Bro. Sam Barton, has been published and is ready for sale. It may be ordered from: Vesta-Nadine Severs, P. O. Box 36432, Oklahoma City, OK 73136-2432. The price of the book is \$7.95. Please include \$1.05 for postage.

EVANGELISTIC TENT NEED

The Goulds, FL congregation desires to have a tent meeting the first of April. Several other localities have also expressed an interest in using the tent this summer. As of now, the truck and tent are in Greenbank, WV, and the truck needs some repair before it is roadworthy. If you would like to contribute toward this cause, send your donations to: Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldredge St., Coffeyville, KS 67337.

REBUILDING OF CHURCH HOUSE

Dear Saints: We are thankful to the Lord for His care over us, especially during the rage and aftermath of hurricane Andrew. None of the saints were injured. There was heavy damage to the chapel and many homes. The chapel is in the process of being demolished and the land cleared. Most of the saint's homes are being repaired. We appreciate the offerings of money and various brethren who have come down to help. We are in the process of considering other building sites for a chapel. The worship services are attended regularly at Bro. & Sis. Ken Baxter, Sr.'s home.

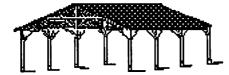
We need the continued prayers, finances and support of the saints abroad. We will keep you informed of the building status.

Yours in Christ,

—Bro. Norm Simpson of the Goulds, FL congregation.

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Camp Meetings 1993



Myrtle, MO—May 12-16
Oklahoma State at Guthrie, OK—May 28June 6

Jefferson, OR—June 11-20 Green Bank, WV—June 11-20 Tulsa, OK—June 11-20 Loranger, LA—June 25-July 4

Fresno, CA—July 2-11

National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 16-25 Boley, OK—August 22-29

California State at Pacoima, CA—Aug. 27-Sept. 5

Meeting Reports and Notices

GREEN PASTURES, OK WEEKEND MEETING

Lord willing, the saints of the Green Pastures, OK congregation will hold services March 12-14. Bro. Charles Lowe plans to be with them.

The address of the chapel is 57th and Denver. For more information call the pastor, Bro. Charles Chandler, (405) 767-7413. The chapel phone is: (405) 771-3710.

GOULDS, FL TENT MEETING

An evangelistical tent meeting is scheduled by the Goulds, FL congregation for April 4-11. Services will be held nightly at 7:30, with day services to be announced.

Accommodations will be provided for all that come. There are spaces for trailers and campers on the chapel grounds, but no sewer hook-ups. There are limited hotel accommodations in the area.

Come praying that the Lord will send showers of blessings.

You may obtain more information from Bro. Norman Simpson, phone, (305) 232-9194, or Sis. Mary Hargrave, (305) 258-4102.

CHURCH OF GOD REVIVAL AT BOLEY, OKLAHOMA

Lord willing, our annual revival will be held April 29-May 2. We are praying that we will be more humble so we can hear and obey the voice

of God. Surely God's grace is sufficient to save the lost.

For more information about the revival contact Sis. Exzetta May, (918) 667-3746, or Sis. Anna Mae Thompson, (918) 667-3648.

Prayer Requests

OH—"Maryettta Ashcraft is having a lot of trouble with her legs." —Juanita Blankenship.

OK—"I need your prayers." —Bessie Patton

KY—"Remember me when you pray; I have a need. Also I have a sick brother that needs strength in his body." —Sis. Juanita Evans

OR—"Doris is still in need of help for the muscle spasms she continues to have."

-Bro. Bill Busch

MN—Lee Hilton desperately desires prayer for soul and body.

PA—Remember Sis. Ruth Godshall's husband, and for God to give her strength to be of help to him.

AL—Jeanette Mooney has requested prayer for a problem concerning her car, and is also burdened for an unsaved relative.

OH—"Please remember me in prayer. I am in poor health due to a heart condition and diabetes."
—Aaron Evans

OR—"I have a place on the ball of my foot which gets real sore at times, and hurts when I walk on it very much. I would appreciate prayer for it."

—Sis. Grace Jones

FROM THE READERS. . .

OH—Dear workers: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus....

We covet your prayers. There are just a few of us here at Dayton, but the Lord is blessing us in our services and we appreciate it. The Lord has added a few in the last couple years and we are grateful for them.

Continue to remember Jeff. He sure needs help in his body.

Christian love, -John and Della Gutwein

KS—Dear Bro. Wayne and Faith Publishing House workers: May God continue to bless each of you and His work. I am grateful for the effect the Faith and Victory paper has had on my life.

The explanations of the Bible verses are very helpful, and the many poems printed in the paper over the years that are written by Leslie Busbee are a real blessing. They carry such beautiful messages of our Redeemer.

Thanks for your prayers. The requests I have written over the past several weeks still need praying for, and our son, Jack, who has been out of work so long, is just getting started in a new, small business. He sure needs prayer.

In His love, —Naomi Dickerson

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: May God bless you and the workers there at Faith Publishing House. We appreciate the efforts in getting the gospel out through the printed page. May many souls be blessed through this work.

I have been refreshing my memory by reading again the latest edition of "God's Gracious Dealings." I have really been blessed, and feel that the Lord has had His hands over the work there a long time. May He continue to bless that work in a great measure.

We are doing very well at present. Some days are better than others, but the Lord is with us to keep us both encouraged in Him. We have much to be thankful for and no complaints.

Remember us in your prayers that God will work out our future.

God bless now, -Max and Lula Williamson

LA—Dear Bro. Murphey: Thank you for your letter.... I have been a shut-in going into six years. I really do need the fellowship of the saints.

As I was reading God's Holy Word, searching for a golden nugget, Zechariah 8:23 inspired my faith. It behooves me to live close to our Saviour, that those who know Him not can see and feel God's presence in my life and spirit, so that they too would hunger and thirst to know Jesus as their Saviour.

Please keep me on your prayer list. God is able to heal my hands. I need them to do a work for Him....

I love to serve our Lord, —Ivy Brooks

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love. I hope all is going well with you and the work there. I am grateful for what God has done for me recently. I took the flu about two weeks ago, and then got out too soon and took a backset. I had severe pain in my lungs, head and throat. After a few days of suffering, the Lord

began to heal me of all of them, and then I took a severe hurting in my right shoulder. I couldn't use my right arm or hand. God has touched that too, and I am much better. Thanks be unto God for His great mercies unto me. When we go through suffering and pain, we realize how frail we are. I feel I have drawn closer to the Lord, and want to please Him in every area of my life.

I desire your prayers for complete healing and that God will have His complete way in my life.

Your saved brother, —T. V. McMillian

Grand Cayman—Dear Bro. Murphey: How thrilled I am to receive my copy of "God's Gracious Dealings."

When I was ten years old, I noticed an old Faith and Victory at our local post office. The first impression I got was that "faith" is the "victory." That was forty-one years ago, and the title of your paper has been my "watchword."

I want you to know I believe in the gospel the way you present it, and wish you nothing but good in your endeavors.

Sincerely, —Samuel Powery

MO—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in the name of Jesus. Today finds me still trusting God for both soul and body. I had been very sick for two days. God raised me up and now I can walk again. I sure do love Jesus and thank Him for His healing power. What would we do without Jesus? He is all I need. He hears and answers our prayers when we pray the prayer of faith. God means more to me than all the world. I want to be ready to meet Him when He comes for all His children. Still pray for me. I will for you.

Christian love. —Sis. Eathel Hill

CA—Dear ones at the Print Shop: We here in southern California have had a lot of heavy rain, and may get more. My roof leaked pretty badly, and I finally got it repaired. When we get a lot of rain it reminds me of the floods you have had there in Guthrie in the past. Even though we live here in the valley, we haven't had a lot of flooding.

I pray each of you are well. I am trying to get over the flu. Please remember me in your prayers....

With love in Jesus' name, -Helen Carson

WA—Dear Print Shop saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We surely thank the Lord for

His blessings to us. We thank Him for protecting us and our property during our recent hard windstorm. Much damage was done all around Puget Sound. God was so good to us....

I am quite well at this time. Remember us in prayer as we do all there.

Love in Jesus, —Sister Violet Thomas

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints: Greetings in the precious name of our blessed Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I am rejoicing in the Lord, thanking and praising Him for all of His blessings; for answering prayer and keeping me well in body and blessing in my soul. Amid the sorrows and trials of this life He gives me victory.

The precious testimonies and articles in the Faith and Victory paper are very encouraging and a real blessing. I read them over and over. I am always thanking the Lord for His faithful workers in His Print Shop. I pray that the Lord will supply your every need.

Please pray for my unsaved loved ones, and others I have on my heart.

Sincerely in Christian love,

-Sister Ruth Donnelly

WV—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: Greetings of much love and prayers in the name of our Lord and Saviour.

We have an urgent prayer request we wish you would print in the *Faith and Victory*. It is for Amber Riley. She is almost nine years old. She has diabetes. Last Tuesday they found out she also has epilepsy. Also put a request in the paper for Cecil Criss. He has chromes disease. They both need prayer.

The Lord sure did answer prayer for us. The Lord has helped us in so many ways we can't begin to tell what He has done....

Your brother and sister in Christ,

-Steve and Edna Cashdollar

MO—Dear saints of God: We just wanted to acknowledge our thanksgiving to the Lord for the many blessings He has bestowed on us this past year. It is truly wonderful to serve such a mighty God.

Last May I experienced severe dermatitis from contact with the poison ivy plant. The rash and swelling affected my legs the most, and for a short time I was unable to walk. But the Lord healed in such a complete way. It still amazes me. Today I suffer no ill effects; not even a single scar. We appreciate the many prayers that

ascended on our behalf. The love and care of God's people is very precious.

I also want to thank the Lord for healing me of a digestive disorder. I am not sure what the affliction was, but the Lord knew and took care of it completely.

We love the Lord and want to serve Him with our whole hearts. Our home is blessed with two fine sons which we desire to rear in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. We covet your prayers.

Love, —The Michael Adams family

AR—Dear ones at the Faith and Victory print shop: Greetings of love to all in Jesus' name; the one who gives us even the breath we breathe. It has been so long since I have sent in my testimony. I still love the Lord and am pressing on day by day. I thank God for all the dear saints who stand with us in all our disappointments and failures.

I had my 82nd birthday on December 29. Pray for both my husband and me. How I thank the dear Lord for our 66 years of marriage. We both are feeble, but still able to get around some....

Love and prayers, —Sis. Nellie West

TX—Dear ones: Greetings of eternal love and friendship to all of you dear ones in the Print Shop. I trust all of you are well and uplifted in spirit. I am encouraged and determined to press on. I am still counting my many blessings and the goodness and mercy of God is very clear to me. I just pray that those who are lost in sin will clearly see it before it is forever too late. It is the goodness of God that leads sinners to repentance. (Rom. 2:4)

May God continue to bless you all there. I love each one of God's people so dearly, and my prayers are with you always.

Lovingly in Christ, —Sister Jan Wood

Philippines—Dear Brother Wayne Murphey and dear saints: Greeting with love and the spirit of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

It is only seven more years to go before we reach the year 2,000. Time is so rapid that the coming of Christ is near. Praise God! It will be wonderful if we have taken part in the first resurrection. "Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world." I John 4:17.

As we read the scriptures, and tell also others about the gospel, we feel that God's spirit is within us. Job said, "All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils." Job 27:3.

We are waiting for Christ's second coming,
—Bro. Leonardo Salvania and family

IL—Dear Ones: We trust you are still encouraged to press on to victory; fighting the fight of faith with Jesus as our captain. The battles will be won! He has promised it to His children.

We are trusting Him and thanking Him for so many blessings. Our health problems weigh on our minds, as well as our bodies. Remember us in prayer.

May the Lord bless you and your labors for Him.

Christian regards,

—Andrew and Thelma Reineking

LETTERS FROM THE MISSION FIELDS



From India...

Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear brothers and sisters in America: We thank God for His many benefits toward us in 1992. What were his benefits? he forgave all our iniquities. He healed all our diseases. He redeemed our life from destruction. He crowned us with loving kindness and tender mercies. And finally, he satisfied our mouth with good things. Praise the Lord! May God bless us richly in 1993, also, to lead a victorious life.

Our 28th General Convention came to an end with many spiritual blessings and victories. The attendance was good and the participants were richly blessed with inspiring messages. Many got saved, sanctified and baptized. Bible studies, young people's meeting, women's meeting, minister's meeting, etc., were all profitable for the edification of the Church. Saints from north and south, east and west, gathered together in the pandal (temporary tabernacle) at Bethel ground at Karikkom. We thank God for His faithfulness to open the way to meet the expenses of the meetings.

Please continue to remember in your prayers our local conventions which last until April in different congregations. Our country is in the midst of some serious problems. Please pray for India. May God bless America and the new president of the U.S.A.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

From Rivers State, Nigeria...

December 22—Dear Bro. Murphey: I send greetings to you this morning in the name of our Lord, who is the Christ, the Saviour of the whole world. I thank the heavenly Father that He counted me fit to be one of the recipients of the precious gift He gave out to the world. If it had been gained with human strength, wealth or wisdom, then I couldn't have been close to it, even in the least. I praise God for saving me and putting me in his ministry of salvation, that through my unworthy self, others too should come to know Christ and His love. I remain saved, even today. Glory be to God!

I thank God in the way He has helped us throughout the year till now. It gladdens my heart that we too, in spite of the prevailing circumstance, have laboured in the vineyard this year with encouraging results. We had revival meetings three times and each was fruitful and rewarding. We witnessed some who went to the watery grave to be buried along with Christ as a mark of their crucifixion of the body of sin....

Bro. Alalibo of Tombia and myself were at Umuolu in Delta State where the congregations in the Ndokwa area were holding a four-day convention from November 26-29. It was aimed at establishing them in the Bible truths. For this, Bro. Okwosha invited us. It was a very profitable meeting. Apart from the sound teaching that went out freely, some found solutions to their problems from the Lord. We witnessed the Lord's healing work on some at the camp. Others began to amend but had not fully recovered until we parted. In fact, there were many requests, and it was a restless period for us from morning till late in the night each day. Besides morning prayers, we had three services, 9:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. It was satisfying and difficult to part. Please remember these brethren in prayer....

Yours for the love of Christ,

—F. Naths Igbanibo

From Delta State, Nigeria...

January 20—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and all of the holy city: Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus. We wish the saints all the

good things that the year 1993 holds in store. All through the entire year of 1992, our heart was never a home of sorrow, nor did we look upon life with sad eyes. Praise God. Our hearts were knit together in a bond that nothing could break. We were glad indeed to find the saints with a remarkable display of sacrifice: to not call what they possess as entirely their own. Faithfulness, industry and courage are winning the day here. It is rare to find these three qualities in combination. Yet this trinity of goodwill is occupying the thinking of all of this holy community who are freed from the fetters of prejudice. Our chapel of worship was taxed to capacity when the saints assembled on December 13, 1992, for the annual thanksgiving service which our God in every respect deserved.

The congregation at Kwale is twenty years old this January. It was founded of the Lord on January 14, 1973. A jubilant celebration awaits this 20th anniversary of the church within the year. We have immense thanks unto Him for flowing His words out of us to water the arid wilderness around. We are saying Amen to His will.

Yours in His service, —Titus U. E. Enu

INMEMORIAM

Orie William Young, of Sapulpa, OK, passed away February 14, 1993, at the age of seventy-eight years, six months and twenty days. Bro. Orie was born July 24, 1924 in Sapulpa, OK, and lived there all of his life. Bro. Orie had been a barber and a pastor in the Church of God, having been the assistant pastor in Shawnee, OK, and the pastor in Coffeyville, KS. He was a member of the Church of God on Frankoma Road in Sapulpa, OK.

He was married to Dorothy McGuire on May 15, 1937. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, of the home; one son, Charles Young, Sapulpa, OK; one grandson, Craig Young, Sapulpa, OK; two brothers, Vernon Young, Rogers, AR, and Dick Young, Anderson, IN; three sisters, Cleo Cope, LasVegas, NV, Joyce Henzie, LasVegas, NV and Norma Lee Welch, CA.

Bros. Richard Madden and Don McIntosh conducted funeral services in the Frankoma Road Church of God chapel in Sapulpa, OK.

A Tribute to Bro. Young

Our brother that all of us loved so well Has gone to a place only heaven can tell. We loved him so dearly,...his kind, smiling face. We're happy for vict'ry in his Christian race.

We think how he spoke that salvation's so great! The angels have welcomed him through pearly gates.

For him all's completed and now let us do As our brother before us, be faithful and true.

-Bro. Richard Madden

Ophelia Jones Bonton was born in 1913 in Silver City, OK, to Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Jones. She was the oldest of thirteen children. She received her education in Silver City. Growing up she was a precious child, never gave her parents any trouble. She helped her mother with the small children. Her mother died when several of the children were small and she partly raised some of them. She moved to Tulsa, OK, in 1931. There she met and married Jack Bonton. He passed away in November 1969. That same year, she moved to Fresno, CA, to care for her ill sister, Arceal Johnson, Soon after her sister's death, she sought the Lord. She was faithful to let her light shine wherever she went. Although she was confined to a wheelchair, she let nothing hinder her from attending services and camp meetings. She was encouraging and inspiring to all who knew her.

"Aunt Fee," as her nieces and nephews called her, was loved dearly and she loved them. She will be greatly missed. She departed this life early November 19, 1992, at home. Her parents, six brothers, and three sisters all preceded her in death.

She leaves to mourn: two brothers, Melvin, San Bernardino, CA, and Charmas, Phoenix, AZ; one sister, Roxie Mitchell, Phoenix, AZ; one uncle, Granvill Deadwayler, Berkeley, CA; several nieces and nephews; one special niece, Sylvia Tooks, Fresno, CA; and one special friend, Mori, (they stood by her bed caringly) several cousins; one special cousin, Litia; many saints and friends.

Bro. Charles Taylor and Sis. Louise Pierro conducted funeral services, and burial was in the Belmont Memorial Park, Fresno, CA.

A Message of Thanks

The family of Sis. Ophelia Bonton would like to thank Bro. E. J. Trotter, Bro. and Sis. Charles

Taylor, Sis. Gladys Foster, Sis. Naomi Jennings, Sis. Wilma and Bro. Charles Parrish, Sis. Palestine Phillips, and other saints that traveled to stand especially close to Sis. Ophelia Bonton in her last days.

We would like also to acknowledge the saints in the many cities; Stockton, Sacramento, Bakersfield, Pacoima, San Bernadino, etc., in which Sis. Ophelia Bonton visited during her Christian life.

The family appreciates Sis. Ophelia Bonton for that listening ear, inspiration and the genuine concern for others that she shared for all of us, family and saints alike. The family sends love, and requests that the saints continue to remember us in prayer. Amen.

Sincerely, —Sis. Ophelia Bonton's family

McArthur Lee Buzzard, age 75, of Frost, WV, died Thursday morning, February 4, 1993, at home, after a long illness.

He was born in Stony Bottom, WV, October 23, 1917, the son of the late George Lee and Quinty Dilley Buzzard.

Mr. Buzzard retired with the rank of M/SGT in 1956 from the U.S. Army with 20 years service, which included WWII and the Korean conflict.

Bro. Mack gave his heart to the Lord in 1971 and remained true to God until He called him home. He faithfully attended service at the Church of God in Green Bank, WV. Bro. Mack loved the Lord and exemplified that through the life he lived, and his faith was an inspiration to all.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Cameron, Albert, Harvey and Harry, and one sister, Leva Russell.

Surviving him are his wife of 47 years, Justine Blanchard Buzzard; a son, Jerry Buzzard of Hillsboro, WV; two daughters, Diane Clement, New Orleans, LA, and Wanda McLaughlin, Nicholasville, KY; one sister, Juanita Buzzard Bowers, Stony Bottom, WV; and eight grandchildren.

Services were held at 11:00 a.m., Sunday, February 7, 1993 at the Church of God chapel at Green Bank, WV, by Bros. Mart Samons and Toney Samons. Burial was in the Arbovale Cemetery.

Note of Thanks

Prior to his death, Bro. Mack so enjoyed and appreciated the love, care and concern shown to

him through the prayers, cards, visits and telephone calls that he received. Due to his condition he was not able to personally acknowledge them, but they were a real blessing to him. Now we, his family, want to thank you not only for what you did for him, but what you've done for us now at this time. Your love, care and concern shown to us is also greatly appreciated. Thank you for the prayers, cards, offerings, etc. May the Lord richly bless each one.

—The Mack Buzzard family

Palestine Gay Phillips was born on March 18, 1919 and departed this life February 9, 1993 at the age of seventy-three years, eleven months and nine days. She was the fifth of six children, all of which preceded her in death.

On October 15, 1938, she was united in Holy Matrimony to Mr. Leamon Phillips. To this union six children were born. On June 21st, 1970, her husband preceded her in death.

In 1944, she was born again in the Church of God and was baptized in 1946 in Pasadena, CA. Sister Emma Holden was her pastor. She was guided to Fresno, CA, in 1946, remaining faithful to God and His service to the end.

She was a missionary within the church and her community, visiting the sick, comforting the sad and disheartened and will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two sons, Wendell Alvin and Terry Lane Phillips, both of Fresno, CA; four daughters, Linda Marie McGee, Fresno, CA, Lavada Brooks, Antioch, CA, Kathy Larraine Cheema and Carol Ann Sims, both of Fresno, CA; twelve grandchildren; two greatgrandchildren, many nieces and nephews; one aunt and a host of friends.

Funeral services were officiated by Bros. Adriel Bowman and Ronnie Hatley, with interment in the Belmont Memorial Park, Fresno, CA

Satan's Seat

(Continued from page 3.)

fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature

more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient.

How is it that Satan is able to gain possession of a precious soul? He cannot, as it was stated, just walk right up and push his way into the heart and life of an individual. Here the scripture says, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse. Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God,

became fools and changed the truth of God into a lie. Folks listen, these people began to tamper with the truth of God. They worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator and became idolatrous worshippers. We are not talking about worshipping little carved statues, but when we talk about idolatry, we speak of an idol which is anything we set up on a pedestal; anything that we place on an equal level with God, or anything we exalt above God. It can be houses, land, husband, wife, or clothes. Whatever we exalt to that position becomes an idol to us.

Here these people began to pursue and follow a course of idolatry, turning away from God, away from the knowledge, light and understanding that God had revealed to them. Do you know what happened? God drew back his umbrella of protection. He just stepped back from those precious souls, and those vile spirits which were lurking around and watching them came right in and took over. I'm persuaded tonight that if God would pull back the curtain

"God stepped back and took away His umbrella of protection and let vile spirits come in, and they began to take these souls over."

neither were thankful..." There are many precious souls, children of the saints, loved ones of the saints, who have been brought up around a family altar. They have been taught the right ways of God even though some may not be saved. Do you know that there are some things, even if you are not saved, that God is requiring you to abstain from; to stay away from? God has given you knowledge, light and understanding, and He is requiring you to use that understanding. But here are these people who were not thankful when they knew God. They did not glorify Him; they had no respect, no reverence for the great God of Heaven. When they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were they thankful. They were not thankful for the mercy of God, and were not thankful for the goodness of God. They were not thankful to have saved parents who channeled them on the right way. But they rebelled against it. They began to push it off. Folks, that's a dangerous thing to do. Oh, may God help us. They became vain in their imagination, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they and let us see what we have in our midst, it would stir our eternal souls. May God help us. God stepped back and took away His umbrella of protection and let vile spirits come in, and they began to take these souls over.

It said, "God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one to one another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet." Folks, do you know that there are spirits connected with this thing? The Scripture says, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient." Sometimes the saints' children and loved ones get a spirit about them such that they will let you know, "I don't want you to talk to me about God." They don't like to retain God in their knowledge. That is an extremely dangerous thing to do.

When we begin to take that kind of attitude we open ourselves up, and rest assured, Satan is going to take advantage of us. When these people took that attitude, God just backed off. It says that He just turned them over to a reprobate mind. The word reprobate means unprincipled. There is nothing to govern the mind to say, "This is wrong, don't do it." Those individuals can go out and do whatever their hearts desire to do. They can indulge with no remorse of conscience, or condemnation, or conviction. There are spirits that deal with these things; reprobate spirits. There's no principle to them at all. They will just come right in and take your soul and you will find yourself doing things you never dreamed you would do. "I know where Satan's seat is." Satan has been successful in gaining a seat. How is it that the devil got this advantage? It's not that he just walked right in and took over, but folks opened themselves up. They set themselves up.

"And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach." Isaiah 4:1. There are not only lustful, unclean, murdering spirits, there are religious spirits. There are people who are religious. They have no desire to be saved, but they are religious, and Satan has religious spirits to deal with those kind of people. Here the Scripture said, "In that day seven women shall take hold of one man. saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach." Listen folks, Isaiah is termed as being a gospel-day prophet because he prophesied so much of the things which would come to pass in the time of Jesus. He prophesied about the Church of God, and the Church of God in the scriptures is described as a woman. Here the scripture said, "In that day seven women shall take hold of one man." The church world and the religious world in general are taking hold of the name of Jesus, but they say, "We will eat of our own bread. We won't abide by your doctrine. We will wear our own apparel." Here the scriptures say, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." The scripture instructs and teaches us that we are to be clothed with the robe of righteousness and have on the garments of humility. But they said, "We'll eat our own bread. We will wear our own apparel. We'll clothe ourselves like we want to clothe ourselves. All we want is your name to take away our reproach." Satan has religious spirits to deal with those kinds of people; people who want to be religious. They want the name of a Christian, but they don't want to pay the price. Do you know that those spirits will get power, will get knowledge, will get understanding? Those spirits will get visions and revelations and sometimes those things will come true. But it is all to deceive that individual's soul. It is so Satan can get in, take advantage, get possession, and destroy that eternal soul.

Satan has spirits which feign themselves to be the Holy Ghost. He has false religious spirits; demoniac spirits that will pretend to be the Holy Ghost. "I know where Satan's seat is." Folks, this is real. This is not a fairy tale. There are demoniac spirits Satan has commissioned and dispatched to deal with people in every area.

I want to go back to Revelations, the 2nd chapter, beginning at the 12th verse. The writer said here, (Jesus speaking), "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate. Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth." Do you know that Satan had somehow been successful in gaining a seat right in the congregation of the righteous? Not in the church, but in the congregation.

The Church is the body of men, women, boys and girls who are clean, blameless, holy, spotless, undefiled, and free from sin. Somehow the devil had been successful in getting among the congregation of the righteous, anchoring and establishing himself. He promoted false doctrine right among God's people. The Lord said, "I have somewhat against you, because you have those that have the doctrine of Balaam, that taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. You have also those that

carry the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate." Listen, the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes was a corrupt, wicked and ungodly doctrine. It endorsed community wives. No man's wife was just his wife, but everybody else's wife. How could such a doctrine ever enter in among the people of God? Somehow Satan had gotten an advantage. Somehow he had gotten right among God's people and established and promoted false doctrine. Some of the leaders had been under the influence of this spirit. The reason God said to repent is not because they were partakers of this influence, but because there was fear to deal with the situation, although they saw what was happening. There also were some who were not in a place of authority, who saw the problem, yet did nothing because they did not feel capable. God was not pleased with this either because they didn't take a firm stand in their heart. There were possibly some in that congregation who had been saved

He will recruit someone. He will bring someone in from somewhere else so that he can keep that spirit alive; so that he can keep the power, the seat, the authority that he had. Listen folks, Satan is a cunning and shrewd worker, but I'm persuaded that God's people can gain victory over the powers of hell.

Do you know that Satan will also follow a family line? Maybe the Lord will find an individual with abilities, and God will deal with that heart and they'll submit and yield to God. God will take those abilities and give gifts according to them. Maybe this individual becomes a preacher. The great-grandfather is a preacher. Coming down the line, God deals with the grandfather as a preacher. The son is a preacher; the grandson is a preacher. God will follow a family line you see, and wherever people will submit, surrender and yield to Him, God will make use of those souls. Satan will also follow a family line. The devil will deal with an indi-

"You go to bed at night and all is well. You fall off to sleep and awake in the morning, and the devil is right there to whisper in your ear and tell you, 'You are not saved.' "

for years, but were not in a spiritual condition to discern the enemy working. The Apostle Paul said when at the time you ought to be teachers you have need of someone teaching you. They were drinking milk when they should have been eating meat. There were possibly some who had a sympathetic spirit. There is danger in sympathizing with the enemy. The Lord said, "repent."

Once spirits get established in a congregation, they are a difficult thing to deal with. But I'm persuaded that God's people, through prayer, through fasting, through taking a stand against those spirits, can actually repel the powers of the enemy and root those things out of the congregation of the righteous.

I'm thinking a little farther here. People die, but spirits don't. Once a spirit gets established in a congregation, the people whom he has influenced in that congregation may die and pass off the scene. But that spirit can still work and influence other people. When that spirit sees that he is losing ground in the congregation because maybe no one else is surrendering and submitting to him, do you know what he will do?

vidual, and if he can get that individual to submit to him, he will take possesion of him, work with him, and influence him. He will go right down the line of that family.

I would like for us to turn to Revelations 12:10, 11. "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death." I'm thinking about a spirit of accusation, and how it works. Sometimes a saved person is going along through the day and everything is fine. You are happy, satisfied and blessed in your soul. You go to bed at night and all is well. You fall off to sleep, and awake in the morning, and the devil is right there to whisper in your ear and tell you, "You are not saved." You begin to wonder. You think, "I haven't done anything." But you don't feel saved. Folks, there are accusing spirits that work like this. Listen, that spirit will work with you and work on you. You battle that spirit and gain the victory over it. "I know I'm saved. I haven't done anything wrong." Then the next few days the devil will tell you, "You are not sanctified." "If I wasn't saved, I most certainly am not sanctified." Folks, the devil has spirits of accusation and he will move from one place to another. When you uncover him along one line, then he will simply move somewhere else.

The Devil will accuse you of not reading enough. You have already read five or six chapters in one day, and the devil will say, "You are not reading enough. You need to read more. You are not praying enough." That is an accusing spirit. What the Devil is trying to do is bind things so tight and make salvation so miserable that you'll just give it up. The devil will accuse God to us. "The Lord is not fair to you. God didn't deal justly with you. God has respect of persons. Look how the Lord blessed Bro. so and so, or Sis. so and so, and He didn't bless you that way." The devil will not only accuse us, but he will accuse God to us to try to turn us against God. The enemy is cunning and shrewd in the way that he deals.

Do you know that the Devil has commissioned and dispatched compromise spirits? It's one way the enemy works. Maybe he can't get an individual to go back to drugs, drink, the nightclubs, and all of those things, but he sometimes commissions a compromise spirit to deal with that individual. The word compromise, in one sense, means to surrender or to give up. He commissions a spirit to cause people to surrender and give up righteous principles. He will cause them to back off of the standard. The standard of righteousness and holiness is what I'm talking about. As they surrender, and back off of the blessings that God has given to them, they begin to drift away, and eventually the grace of God leaks right out of their souls and they are left with empty professions. They end up just like the five foolish virgins and go out into eternity unprepared to meet God.

There are spirits that Satan has commissioned and dispatched that are fanatical spirits. They go beyond. They go overboard. One definition for the word fanatical is to be overly zealous. People who are overly zealous come to the place, "Now let's get this thing right. Let's just really get it right." As a result, the devil begins to work with them and they go beyond God's word. They go beyond God's will. They go beyond the lead-

ing of the Holy Ghost. They establish their own standard. Oh, may God help us as we journey along the path of life.

Dear ones, the scripture says; "I know where Satan's seat is." I know how the enemy has been successful in getting into the hearts of men, women, boys and girls. I know how the enemy has been successful in influencing God's people in one way or another. We want to encourage you, that if Satan has gotten advantage of you in some way, the Lord can grant deliverance to your soul. The Lord is able to grant whatever your needs are.

Love Not The World

By Sis. Fern Stubblefield

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." I Jn. 2:15, 16. Again, in James 4:4 we read, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

In the beginning, God created Adam and Eve in His own image and put them in the garden of Eden. (Gen. 1:27, 2:7.) Their hearts were pure and full of God's love. As the Lord God came down from time to time, and they would hear his voice "walking in the garden," no doubt they welcomed Him as He, their Creator, talked with them. He had "Commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Gen. 2:16, 17.

Eve understood this commandment and when the serpent said unto her, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?," she boldly told him God's word. "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." Then the serpent lied to her, opposing God's holy commandment saying, "Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day that ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Gen. 3:1-5.

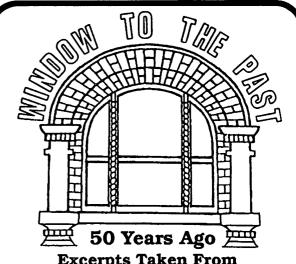
This thought appealed to Eve, even though her heart was pure, and she looked and "saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of both of them were opened ..." Gen. 3:6,7. In this temptation we can see all three of the elements of the world; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. James 1:14,15 reads, "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

What an awful change had taken place in Adam and Eve's hearts. Instead of humbly acknowledging their sin and facing God just as they were, they began acting according to the knowledge imparted to them. "And they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." When they heard the voice of God they hid themselves.

Thus sin entered into the world because both the man and the woman disobeyed God's commandment. First, God placed a curse upon the serpent saying, "Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field." The next step was "And I will put enmity between thy seed and her seed..." Enmity is defined as "mutual antagonism, hatred, ill will on one side or on both." In this step we see a definite division expressed. James spoke of this separation clearly and also expressed how very serious it is saying, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?"

The devil knows how serious it is, too, and he is walking about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. We are cautioned by Peter to be vigilant, also to "resist him stedfast in the faith." I Pet. 5:8,9. Satan is very subtle in how he attacks the children of God. He may not come to us templing us in what we might consider great sins, but in little things and often under cover. Solomon spoke of "the little foxes that spoil the vines."

Satan has many little ways for both women and men, to ensnare our souls and to lead us gradually away from the simplicity of the gospel of Christ. We need the Lord's help, through His Word and the enlightening of His Spirit, to detect every subtle way in which Satan seeks to hinder us.



Excerpts Taken From March, 1943 Faith and Victory

"The last time I put my testimony in the Faith and Victory I was isolated from the saints. But not long after I sent my testimony in for the paper before, I was privileged to attend the Hammond, La. camp meeting where I met the dear saints of God.

"From the way things are looking now Bro. Clifford Wilson, Bro. Roy Jennings and myself will be called to the C. P. S. Camps before long. We are ready and willing to go, or do whatever God wants us to. Several of the saint boys have already been called to various camps. So please continue to pray for all of us, that we might sink down deeper into God that we will be able to stand the storms of life and be real true soldiers for Christ."

—Thomas V. McMillan

"Sister Geneva Ray has gone to visit her husband, Bro. Hyrum Ray, who is in camp at Downey, Idaho. We pray the Lord's blessings upon them. She expects to return to the office within a few weeks." —L. D. Pruitt

"Just recently at a Christmas program the small children were giving, the leader announced that the program was over and that she very much hoped that the wonderful love of God would dwell in our hearts through the year of '43 and ended by saying, 'Praise the Lord,' and a young fellow behind me said, 'And pass the ammunition.' My feelings at that moment were inexpressible. Such lightness of God's Word and a disgrace to God...."

—Orpha Mapes