

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Thank Thee

An easy thing, O power Divine,
To thank Thee for these gifts of Thine!
For summer's sunshine, winter's snow,
For hearts that kindle, thoughts that glow;
But when shall I attain to this:
To thank Thee for the things I miss?

For all young fancy's early gleams,
The dreamed-of joys that still are dreams,
Hopes unfulfilled, and pleasures known
Through others' fortunes, not my own,
And blessings seen that are not given,
And ne'er will be—this side of heaven.

Had I, too, shared the joys I see,
Would there have been a heaven for me?
Could I have felt Thy presence near
Had I possessed what I held dear?
My deepest fortune, highest bliss,
Have grown, perchance, from things I miss.

Sometimes there comes an hour of calm;
Grief turns to blessing, pain to balm;
A Power that works above my will
Still leads me onward, upward
still;
And then my heart attains to
this:
To thank Thee for the things I
miss.

—Thomas Higginson



The Contentment of Thanksgiving

By Wayne Murphey

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah." Psa. 68:19. November holds the day in which we commemorate the blessings of God as a nation. Often we view Thanksgiving as the day which puts the abundance of the pantry to the test. Yet if our observance goes no deeper than that, we lose a blessing. Our hearts can be turned to the Creator and Supplier of the good things in life which we enjoy. God abundantly blesses us the year round, and it certainly doesn't seem excessive to set aside a special day to offer thanksgiving.

In the fall of the Pilgrim's first year in America, Miles Standish led an expedition of men from Plymouth, north to Boston Harbor for the purpose of engaging and making peace with the Massachusetts Indians. Governor William Bradford had heard rumors that the Massachusetts Indians were a warlike people and he wanted to dispel any fears that they might have about the colonists. Though the Indians first ran from the white men, Captain Standish was able to show them he meant no harm. After eating with them and doing some trading for beaver skins, Captain Standish returned to Plymouth with a positive report.

In addition, he waxed poetic about Boston Harbor, suggesting that possibly it was a better site than Plymouth. But Governor Bradford was not receptive

to the idea of moving, reminding Miles Standish of the blessings they had where they were; not the least of which was 20 acres of corn nearly ready to harvest.

"The Lord assigns all men the bounds of their habitation," the young governor said, and he was thankful for the place he believed God had assigned them. Thus, the thought of moving north was put aside and a short time later the colonists celebrated their first Thanksgiving, not at Boston Harbor, but at Plymouth.

On Thanksgiving we should acknowledge what we have. Technologies and inventions have reached an all-time high, and there is always something else held out to us, but we should simply find contentment in those

things that God has blessed us with. There are always greener pastures, better callings and higher positions, but God has placed us where He sees it is best for us, and we should be contented with that knowledge. There may be merit in more, bigger and better things, and it may be in God's future for us, but on Thanksgiving we should pause to give thanks for the blessings God has sent us where we are. It could be that the things of this life will decrease for us in time to come, and that is certainly reason to be thankful for what we enjoy now. God is able to put contentment and thanksgiving in our hearts no matter what the conditions of life may be. On that we depend and bow our hearts in gratitude.

Memorials

By Sis. Fern Stubblefield



"And these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel forever." Memorials are important and serve as a reminder of important events in people's lives. In the third and fourth chapters of Joshua we read of how God stopped the Jordan river as the priests bearing the ark stepped into the waters, and the children of Israel passed over on dry land. He commanded Joshua to select twelve men. Each of them were to take up a stone where the priest's feet stood firm in the midst of Jordan and to carry them over with them. They were to leave them in the lodging place where they would lodge that night. "That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones? Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever." Josh. 4:6-7.

In this we see the wisdom of God to have something to remind His people of what He had done for them. He didn't want them to forget what He had done for them. He didn't want them to forget this important event. Verse 24 says, "That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the Lord, that it is

mighty: that ye might fear the Lord your God for ever."

Do we have memorials in our lives today; remembrances of how God answered prayer in different matters? David said, "I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live." Psa. 116:1-2. David's heart was going up in thanksgiving and praise to God as he wrote those words. His love had been increased. We, too, are encouraged to give thanks and praise to God as we recall how God has worked in our behalf in times past. Sometimes affliction came our way and God healed our body in answer to prayer. There have been times that a temporal need existed and we earnestly asked for God's help, and He filled the need. There have also been other needs in our life, both temporally and spiritually, that were brought to God. He heard and answered prayer. "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good." Psa. 118:1a.

Let us remember the memorials that God has given us in answering prayer, in supplying needs, and visiting us in times of trouble to comfort and sustain our hearts. We can profit by them ourselves, and as we share those memorials with others they can become a double blessing in helping others, too.

The Riches of His Grace

By Sis. Carol Cole

When we consider creation and the wonderful world God made after He had "founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods," our mind and soul recognizes the power and greatness of God. Not only did God create all forms of life, but He gave it the capability to reproduce others of its own kind. All this God made with a purpose in mind—for the enjoyment and use of mankind. What a marvelous plan! A beautiful and wonderful world, and man created in God's own image to behold and partake of its benefits. Only one thing could mar this paradise—disobedience. "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." Genesis 2:17.

We are not to take God's commandments lightly and deceive ourselves into thinking we can please our flesh and get by. Adam and Eve learned this to their own great sorrow after they had eaten of the forbidden fruit. When God came to visit them, they could not bear to face Him with their guilt. Nevertheless, they could not hide from their Creator. God knew where they were and He pronounced judgment upon them. They were sent forth from the garden of Eden and were to know hard toil and sorrow. Later, they would die and return to the dust of the earth.

However, God has conceived in His great heart of love a glorious plan whereby we can spiritually reign over sin while living in this mortal body. God's only beloved Son received the death penalty in our place. The precious blood of Jesus atones for every need. A truly repentant heart can have all its sins washed away and then be given power to reign over sin. "That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 5:21. Truly God granted grace unto man when He gave His dearly beloved Son for our sins. Grace is defined "the unmerited love and favor of God toward man; divine influence acting in man to make him pure and morally strong."

There are times God will permit the enemy to "come in like a flood," but God is very faithful. "The spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." Isaiah 59:19.

Not long ago, the enemy seemed to overwhelm me with thoughts that were torturing my

mind. I couldn't go to sleep and felt full of anguish. I cried out to God in my distress. "Oh God! Please help me face this trial as you would have me to, and please give me grace." Immediately, the Lord brought to my mind a verse of a familiar song.

All his grace is free as the air we breathe,
We may each have a full supply;
If we will obey and his word believe,
He'll prepare us to dwell on high.

Then the **Lord** came in like a flood and filled my soul with grace and glory! The riches of His grace unfolded to me, and I saw how priceless and precious God's grace is to us. Even though God may not remove the trial, God can pour in the oil of His rich graces and lift you up from your despair. Some verses in James 4:7-10 explain how God can shower His graces upon you. Anything less than following these instructions will fail to lift up your soul. "**Submit yourselves** therefore to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.... **Humble yourselves** in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

These scriptures should challenge our hearts to prove God's Word is true. How glorious it is to be lifted up to "the riches of His grace!"



King Doubt

In II Chronicles, chapter 32, we read of how Sennacherib, a foreign King, encamped in Judah, thinking to win it for himself. But Hezekiah stopped the water of the fountain outside the city of Jerusalem; he strengthened himself; built the wall that was broken and raised towers, and even built another wall. He also made darts and shields in abundance.

Then he gathered the people together and spake comfortably to them. (Verse seven.) "Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed,... With him is an arm of flesh but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles."

As we go on and read about King Sennacherib he makes me think of old King Doubt that would like to become entrenched in our thoughts and come against the city of faith in our lives. He points to all the others he has conquered and in essence says, "They trusted and lost the battle and what makes you think you can win this battle? You are no better than they."

(Continued on page 16)

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Editorials

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. In a world which has exploded with ideas, thoughts and religions, this is a verse of scripture that we must consider and cleave to. The enemy of souls has manufactured so many seemingly right ways that it is a challenge to us to know what is the right way and to have the commitment to stand in it.

There is an Aesop fable which tells of a fox boasting to a cat one day about how clever he was. "Why, I have a whole bag of tricks," he bragged. "For instance, I know of at least a hundred different ways of escaping my enemies, the dogs."

"How remarkable," said the cat. "As for me, I have only one trick, though I usually make it work. I wish you could teach me some of yours."

"Well, sometime when I have nothing else to do," said the fox, "I might teach you one or two of my easier ones."

Just at that moment they heard the yelping of a pack of hounds. They were coming straight toward the spot where the cat and the fox stood. Like a flash the cat scampered up a tree and disappeared in the foliage. "This is the trick I told you about," she called down to the fox. "It's my only one. Which trick are you going to use?"

The fox sat there trying to decide which of his many tricks he was going to employ. Nearer and nearer came the hounds. When it was quite too late, the fox decided to run for it. But even before he started, the dogs were upon him, and that was the end of the fox.

There are many religions that a person can try, or as most everyone knows, there are many groups that will actively recruit you to be a part of them. There is only one way, which is Christ, and the true Church of God will be more interested in you following God than in you being a member of their organization. As a person follows God primarily, they will then be brought into a fellowship with God's people. It is a very simple plan that God has for mankind; one that is open to the free will of man and not high pressured.

Every erroneous religion will trick a person into a false sense of security. The delusive way of its mandates may soothe the conscience for a while, but they won't withstand the power in the second coming of Christ.

One way to identify many delusive doctrines is by the fact that they will lull a person into a feeling of no urgency. How often many teach, in one manner or another, that there is a second chance after death or after the return of Christ. The scriptures plainly teach that now is the day of salvation, (II Cor. 6:2) not in a millennium or a purgatory.

We must put to use now the means God has given us to be saved, and not simply use our time in the discussing of fine doctrines, hoping we can put something to use sometime. The day of reckoning will catch us unaware if we do.

Bro. Max Dean, a long-time member of the Guthrie congregation, went to be with the Lord on October 14. He had been ill for several weeks, but bravely faced all that God allowed to befall him, and left this world with a good testimony.

If you would like to send a card of condolence to his wife, Sis. Hattie Dean, her address is: 405 N. First St., Guthrie, OK 73044.

We have received an announcement which reads in part, "Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie West of Newport, AR, will celebrate their 67th wedding anniversary. They have six living children who all share the joy of a wonderful mother and dad." It isn't often that this many years of married life are enjoyed by a couple, and we offer our congratulations and pray God's continued blessings upon them. I am sure they would be appreciative of anyone who would like to send a card for this special occasion which will be on Nov. 9. Their address is: 7708 Center Dr., Newport, AR 72112.

As this paper goes to press, Bro. James Bell, pastor of the Springfield, MO congregation, is holding a revival meeting here in Guthrie. It began on Oct. 25, and is to continue through Oct. 31.

Bro. Charles Elwell, the pastor here, has been called away to Oregon due to the death of his niece, Patricia (Shirrell) Martin, of Clackamas, OR. Patricia had experienced physical problems for some time, and expressed a desire to go on and be with the Lord. Her wish was granted on Oct. 25. Sis. Patricia's parents, Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn, and her husband, Richard, are certainly deserving of our prayers at this time.

We hope to soon have in stock and ready for sale, 1994 calendars for the price of \$3.00 each.

This includes handling and shipping. Each month on the calendar features a colorful nature scene and Bible verse. Those ordering promptly should receive the calendars in plenty of time to give as Christmas presents. If you prefer, send us the names and addresses of those you wish to receive a calendar, and we will mail them, stating who is having it sent.

With the Lord's provision of workers and material, we are getting many books and tracts printed. Our productivity is higher now than it has been for quite some time. Even at this pace, it will still be some time before we are able to meet the demand we have for books. We are encouraged to press forward with confidence that God will in some manner provide the finances that will be needed. If He should lay it on your heart to assist His cause, we would be so grateful for your shared interest in the work of helping souls.

—Wayne Murphey

Prayer Requests

OK—"Please pray for my daughter, Christine Phillips. She has bone cancer and it's in her skull."

—Florence Wally

LA—"I am in much pain. Remember me in your prayers."

—Ivey Brooks

WA—"Continue to pray for my family, and for my healing if God sees fit, and for endurance."

—Sis. Violet Thomas

FL—"We would like for all the saints to pray for Sis. Mattie McIntyre. She is very sick. We know the Lord is able and willing to hear our prayers."

—Sis. Lydia Bennett

WV—"I have an earnest prayer request for my daughter, Ann Walker, who has a severe case of rheumatoid arthritis."

—Bro. Ira Jones

AR—"Pray for my sister. She is very sick."

—Mae Foust

CA—"I am feeling poorly and need your prayers."

—Sis. Helen Carson

AL—"Please remember my eyes when you pray."

—Sis. Pearlene Gerald

LA—"Arthritis is crippling my limbs very seriously. Please remember me in prayer."

—Gladys Cashio

LA—"We want you all to pray for Robert Snowden."

—Bro. N. P. Futch

OK—"Remember the new-born baby of Bro. Pat and Sis. Jane Sallee who was born with a life threatening health problem."

REPORT OF PELHAM, GA, YOUTH RETREAT

We are greatly thankful to the Lord for His presence and blessings in this summer's youth retreat. We appreciate all the young people who came, and for the adults who were there to help, allowing God to use them as He saw fit. We would like to thank all the saints for their prayers and support.

We had morning devotionals and nightly services, with group discussions, and Biblical games. At the close of this retreat we had a song and testimony service, where people could sing, and tell what they had learned at the retreat. Some souls were saved, strengthened, and encouraged to press the battle on. Please pray that this blessing stays with them, for the Lord is so good.

—Twillia McDonald

What Retreat Should Mean

"To assemble together for action true,—"
I think that's what retreat should mean;
Not merely to plan but to see it through,—
Thus purpose sincere is seen;
Assemble we must with prayer and with praise
That souls be in tune with God's plan;
Then together we'll work through the coming
days
To serve Christ as best we can.

O this is the meaning of retreat sincere,—
'Tis prayer, praise and promising to serve;
Together for action we gather here,
From duty we must not swerve;
With Jesus the Lord as our Counsel and Guide,
O forward we'll go from this hour,
Determined to serve Him whatever betide,
Endued with our Savior's power.



MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

MISSOURI STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

It is with much gratefulness of heart that we return to give God thanks for the precious Assembly Meeting He gave us at Myrtle, MO, September 29-October 3. Although attendance was less than usual, the services were so precious and richly anointed of the Holy Spirit. Our souls were inspired and drawn closer to our loving Lord. On Friday afternoon, October 1, about 31 saints partook of the ordinance of foot-washing and the Lord's supper. The blessings of

the Lord came down upon our souls like gentle showers from heaven. On Saturday afternoon, Bro. Milton Hazelrigg, from our local congregation, followed the Lord in the ordinance of baptism. We are very thankful for him and his wife, Sis. Evelyn, whom the Lord has saved and brought out into the light.

Our annual business meeting of the Missouri State campground was held Saturday morning, October 2. Several items of business were discussed, some of which we need to report. The west stairway leading to the upper cabin units is in need of replacement and the walkway in front of the upper units is in need of repair. An estimate of what this will cost has not yet been obtained, but it was decided to go ahead and start a fund for this project. This primarily concerns those who own cabins and those who benefit from use of the cabins during the meetings. You should send your contributions to Sis. Carol Sorrell, Rt. 1, Box 117, Myrtle, MO 65778, and specify that it is for the cabin repair project. If sufficient funds come in, plans are to complete this project during the Christian School Assembly which will follow the Myrtle Camp Meeting next May, 1994. This project will be a part of the educational activities for the young men.

Also, the roof on the ladies' dormitory needs to be reshingled. This project is urgent, and a work day has been scheduled for Saturday, November 6, 1993. The trustees and local congregation will oversee the project, but we need able-bodied men to help.

Gospel Singing

A singing has been scheduled for Saturday night, November 6, following the work day. So, all who can, come and work for the Lord and also enjoy a time of spiritual refreshing.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

LORANGER, LA 1993 ASSEMBLY MEETING

Lord willing, the Assembly Meeting at Loranger, LA. will begin Sunday, November 21st, continuing through the 28th. You are invited. Come praying and expecting God to bless the meeting.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Power and water hookups are provided for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings. From Loranger, go two miles south and about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those travelling I-55, the grounds are

about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40).

For more information, write Nelson Doolittle, Rt. 1, Box 192, Loranger, LA 70446. The chapel phone is (504) 878-2788.

JEFFERSON, OR REVIVAL

The congregation at Jefferson, OR, has decided not to have their regular Assembly Meeting in November this year, but feels a revival meeting would be beneficial instead.

Plans are to have the revival meeting in November, but the exact date has not yet been set. If you wish further information, you may contact Bro. Clifford Smith, phone, (503) 581-4575.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly meeting will convene, Lord willing, December 24, 1993 through January 2, 1994, on the campground at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA. We are praying for and expecting a blessed meeting. All are invited and welcome.

There will be all day services throughout the meeting. Lodging and meals are provided. Please come praying and expecting to labor and receive a blessing. We are confident that all who come expecting a blessing and are in humble readiness for it, will not be disappointed. We urge every saint of God to make a special effort to support the meeting in attendance and particularly in prayer. For further information call the Sunset Guest Home, (818) 899-2022. The chapel phone number is: (818) 899-9021.

—Bro. Robert Sherman

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 87th annual Oklahoma State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Guthrie, OK, on December 24, 1993 to January 2, 1994, inclusive, during the Christmas holidays. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of the U.S.A.

The chapel is located on the corner of 6th Street and West Warner Avenue. The dining hall and dormitories are located in the same block for your convenience. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met as usual by freewill offering.

Saints, come praying with a burden for the

unsaved and for all who need help in soul and body. These are perilous times, and we need to be about our Father's business, doing what we can for lost souls.

Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sister Brenda Wilkins, Rt. 6, Box 797, Guthrie, OK 73044. For more information concerning the meeting, contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Elwell, 5308 Meadow Lake Dr., Guthrie, OK 73044. Phone: (405) 282-0743.

DAVENPORT, FL REVIVAL

Bro. Louis Kimble, Sis. Mary Hargrave, myself and others involved with the work in Davenport, Florida, have been praying about a meeting there for quite some time. We have discussed with Bro. Mart Samons about having a tent meeting, but it was decided that we would have a meeting in the little chapel instead. There has been a revival meeting planned at Goulds, FL, to begin on Friday, December, 10th through Tuesday, December 14th, and then going up to Davenport, FL, for a meeting starting on Wednesday, December 15th through Sunday, December 19th.

Anyone desiring to attend either or both of these meetings, or needing more information concerning the meetings, may contact Sis. Mary Hargrave, 22345 S.W. 117th Place, Goulds, FL 33170. Phone: (305) 258-4102.

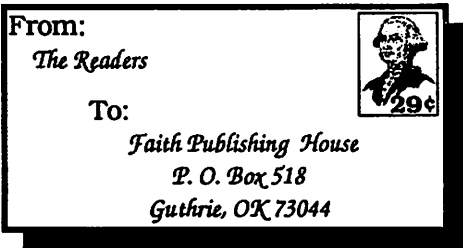
Please pray for these meetings, that the Lord will be able to work in the hearts of the people in both areas, and that there could be a work established in Davenport, FL.

—Bro. Bob Forbes

There is a doctrine, that is very popular today, which says, "We are all sinners saved by grace." In the Bible the reference to sin and Christians always puts sin in the past tense.

Christ said in Matt. 6:24, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other...." In Acts 10:15, God told Peter not to call anything impure that God has made clean. But again this doctrine says, "We are all impure, but God has cleansed us." This line of thinking gives an excuse to go ahead with a sinful life and still claim to be on the way to heaven. **This is what the world wants, good insurance without paying the premium.**

—Ira Jones



OR—Dear Bro. Wayne: I send Christian greetings. I also ask for your prayers. I am very weak in body, but the Lord is helping me and I feel your prayers.

Our dear Bro. Verl Kleaver has gone to be with Jesus. I knew him for many years, and heard him preach some good messages. He had been ill for quite a few years. We are having memorial services for him October 3, at the church in Jefferson, OR. Bro. Verl had a stroke and lived a couple of weeks or so. He was always at church when he was able to get there. We shall all miss him....

My son and his wife were in the earthquake at Klamath Falls, OR. It scared them but they received no injury. It did some damage to their house.... —Sis. Grace Jones

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: Greetings of love to all on this beautiful afternoon. We are sure having nice fall weather.

I feel I have much to thank the dear Lord for. He is precious to my soul.

I feel rather blank this afternoon but I know I love the Lord and want to please Him in everything I do.

One of my favorite scriptures is John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you, Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." I thank God for peace.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Emma Dilley

CA—Saints and loved ones: Having a testimony of faith has inspired me to share it. About two weeks ago two knots appeared on my body. As the days passed the pain grew very intense, sometimes to the point where the only comfort I received was to pace the floor and pray.... I searched and searched in my praying if my life pleased the Lord. He assured me all was well....

After six days of suffering, the Lord gave me immediate relief.

Despite all the pain and suffering every promise in the Bible is still true. The victory is

mine. I thank all the saints and friends who prayed for me.

Christian love and fellowship,

—Loyce Davenport

NC—Bro. Murphey and workers: I appreciate the paper and your prayers. Every time I request prayer something good happens. So I ask for prayer for my sister-in-law, who has been operated on for a brain tumor. Please pray that God will show her His healing power.

May God bless you and yours, and the work and labor there.

Faithfully, —Sis. Anna Hypes

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear workers: Greetings in the dear Lord's name. I want to thank all of you for your good prayers which helped me so very much. I know the dear Lord touched me. I feel so much better....

I sure felt the Lord's nearness. He was so close to me and He gave me comfort that I needed at that time. I thank Him and praise Him for His help, and for His dear ones that stood by me at this hard time. What a wonderful and great God we have. I can never repay Him for all He has done for me.

All my love and prayers,

—Sis. Olive Getterson

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love in the name of our blessed Lord, Jesus, who gave of Himself a sacrifice for our sins. Praise His holy name! Surely He is worthy to be praised.

I hope this little note finds you, your wife and family, well and encouraged to press on the upward way; also, the entire staff there at the Print Shop.

The Lord has been so good to me since the problem I had back in the summer. I am getting along well, able to be on the go, keeping our schedule of appointments in the work of the Lord; for which I am very thankful. We owe our life and all we are or hope to be to the Lord and His service, for the souls of man.

—Bro. Bob Forbes

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: I will try to get this sent to you today. I hope this finds every one there well and encouraged.

I surely do enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory*. I appreciate the work you are doing there.

Things are so bad all over. I believe God is trying to wake people up. I have been burdened about the awful earthquake in India. I don't know if it's anywhere near Bro. John Varghese's place. My prayers go out to them.

Remember my family in your prayers. I also have a special request for my daughter, Brenda, and her family. I need your prayers always that I will continue to be what the Lord would want me to be.

Love and prayers, —Doris Pihaylic
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OK—Dear Bro. Wayne, Sis. Mary and all the co-workers: Greetings of Christian love. I trust everything is going well with you and all are encouraged.

I would love to praise the dear Lord in print for His blessings to me. The last day of July I fell and hurt my right hip and back. Since I wasn't x-rayed I don't really know how badly I was injured, but for two weeks I couldn't get into bed, or out of bed, without help. When it was necessary for me to be moved the pain was almost more than I could bear.

At present I am not quite back to normal, but able to care for myself and do the necessary things in my home, for which I want to give praise where praise is due.

I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers, get well cards, telephone calls and visits. Your love and kindness helped me to endure the pain.

There are so many good benefits in righteous living. I can't understand why more people don't want to live righteous.

Christian love, —Sis. Margie Wall
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CA—Good morning to God's people: I thank the Lord to be saved another day and hour. He keeps me minute by minute....

This morning I read those familiar words, to both Christians and sinners, "And God said, Let there be light...." The page of meditation I was reading, was a testimony of someone stumbling around in the dark, and then she remembered "the Light" of something she had read or heard. It reminded me of when I was unsaved, and the whole world seemed dark.

I continued to read Genesis 1:3-5, "And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night...." This thought swelled into a real realization for me. I had always thought of these commands

from God as just day and night. When it mentioned that He divided the light from the darkness, I thought of how true spiritually that is. Light and dark must be divided. Day and night rang that same reference to me, how that in the day people are less afraid and when night comes, so does fear. A lot more evil happens in the night, or darkness. I am very blessed to have been drawn in from the night into the light of day. I thank God for creating "light," and for sending the light that would save us from our sins....

I want to put in a request for my family and my husband's family. Thank you all in advance for praying for us. —Sis. Brenda White
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CA—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psa. 118:24.

California is having hot weather; around 100°. I keep busy with watering trees and plants around the house.

The Lord is blessing me in so many ways. He is my Saviour, Lord and God, and is so precious to me. He gave His life for me, why shouldn't I give mine to Him?

If I live until October 31, 1993, I will be 90. I have passed my driver's license test for another four years.

I am not afraid to live alone and take care of everything. Jesus has promised to never leave me nor forsake me. I have an open line to God who never sleeps.

Please keep me in your prayers,

—Sis. Lucille S. Allen
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KY—Dear workers at the Print Shop: I want to say I thank you all for your prayers in my behalf, and in my great-grandson's behalf. We are both much better.... My age and circulation is my problem and I know God can take care of my circulation problems. He has blessed me with a long life, for which I'm thankful to Him. Keep me in your prayers, and also pray for my great-grandson's health and for an unspoken request.

God bless you everyone, —Wilma Horsley
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OH—Dear Bro. Murphey: Just a few lines now. I don't write very much, but I am doing okay. I miss being in church, but I just don't get away from home much. Wilma has requested prayer for herself. I also need your prayers.

—Sis. Mary Vice

OK—Dear friends of *Faith and Victory*: God is so real in my life. It is my choice to follow wherever He leads, because I know that God will bring true happiness. I enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory*.

Much love and prayers, —Vera Kenner
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Turkey—Brother Murphey: Greetings in the name of our soon coming King. We would like to take this time to thank you for your support. The Lord is blessing here in Turkey, but your prayers, as well as the other saints, are needed very much. We are encouraged to keep the battle going and not to yield to the enemy. So please remember us in your prayers. We send our love to the saints, and our appreciation.

—Bro. Paul, Sis. Merlene Scott and family
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TN—Dear Sir and friends: I could not help but to write you and thank you for two of the greatest little books I have ever read.... I had never heard such a message by George Harmon like you publish. I have also preached for the last nine years that the devil was in heaven, but the book, *Was the Devil Ever in Heaven?* by Ostis B. Wilson changed that. It is clear he was not. I am now reading *Emma Bailey Seeks Truth*. Now I have more truth....

Yours truly, —Rosco Pride
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MO—Dear ones at the Faith Publishing House: Greetings in Jesus' dear name.... I trust you are all well and enjoying the blessings of the Lord. I am doing pretty well. I am able to do all my own work, for which I thank the Lord.

The flooding of the Missouri River did not affect me personally, but many around here lost almost everything. We have had so much rain it has run my six inch rain gauge over several times.

I really enjoy the *Faith and Victory* and the *Beautiful Way* papers.

Christian love, —Mamie Butcher
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OK—Dear saints at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. This finds me saved and sanctified and living for the Lord. I have been ill, but the Lord has blessed me and I am glad I can put my trust in the Lord. I have a grandson I am raising. Pray for him that the Lord will save him. I also have a niece I desire prayer for. Also pray for me and my daughter, that the Lord will continue to bless us.

Yours in Christ, —Mary Mustin

AR—We want to thank the Lord for a miracle which He performed for us. Earlier this year when Alvin was examined for new glasses he was told that his eye pressure was exceedingly high and there was a roughness of the optic nerve. (His eye pressure was 27. Anything above 21 is counted as glaucoma.) A complete vision test showed that he still had full sight, but we were informed about how the glaucoma would progress, resulting in blindness. We began praying for his eyes and putting in requests at the campmeetings this summer. Since the meetings another exam was performed and his eye pressure had dropped to well within normal. (It is now 19.)

The men of this world are amazed and confounded since this was not supposed to have happened. We are thankful that we are serving a God who is greater than the "rules of men." He has all power to take care of His children in whatever circumstances they are in.

—Alvin and Kathleen McMurrin
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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of love in Jesus' name; the name above all names. This letter finds us encouraged and determined to make heaven our final resting place.

The Lord has given us a safe and enjoyable trip back to our home in Myrtle, MO. Circumstances beyond our control brought us back. We left good memories in Jefferson, OR, as we enjoyed the saints there and our children and grandchildren. It was hard to leave.

We enjoyed stopping along the way and visiting my wife's kinfolks in northwest MO. We then stopped in Kansas City and saw the saints there, and visited other isolated saints in surrounding areas.

We were tired from the trip, but the Lord gave strength to unload, and set our little home in order.

The saints here are encouraged, but some need help in their bodies.

Pray for us as we work in His vineyard, that we'll be led of Him.

In Christian love,

—Bro. and Sis. Donald Sharp
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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' name. This finds me still pressing on for the Lord. There isn't anything in this world as important as living for God.

Pray for Sister Averett. From all indications she has broken her hip in a fall. Her children are

helping to take care of her. My brother, Herbert, needs your prayers. It seems he has the same affliction my Dad had before he passed away.

May the Lord bless all there. Please continue to pray for me.

Yours in Him, —Kenneth Flynn

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CA—Dear saints: Greetings in Jesus' name. I thank the Lord for being saved and encouraged in the Lord.

Integrity means: honesty; sincerity; uprightness; wholeness; completeness; perfect condition; and soundness. I thank the Lord Jesus Christ for helping me to hold on to my integrity. By the grace of God, I have held on to the Lord through the very worst of times. Sometimes it has been more than I could bear, and I could not hold on, but Jesus held me then. Though I had no strength, I had my integrity.

My integrity in living for the Lord is stronger than ever. All I want in this life is Jesus, my Savior, and the joy of His salvation.... The suffering we have here is nothing in comparison to the joy of knowing Jesus has a place prepared for us. I mean to hold on to my integrity and serve the Lord with all my heart. Please pray for me.

Your sister in Christ, —Geneva K. Norling

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OH—Dear Bro. Wayne and all the dear saints of God: Praise God for His mercy and love to all of His dear children. He surely has been precious to me, especially these last few years!

I feel that I must testify to the glory of God, for what He has done for my daughter, Laura Noonan. On September 12th she was taken to the hospital by her husband, Mike, to deliver her first baby. They called right away and wanted my wife and me to come immediately. She seemed to be having some difficulties with her delivery.

By the time we arrived she was in hard labor and was connected to monitors for her and the baby. As the labor proceeded the baby began to have problems with his heartbeat and breathing. The monitor showed his heartbeat dip below ten a minute, from the normal 130 to 140 beats per minute. Everyone in the room became very concerned. We began to look to God in prayer. Praise His holy name, it wasn't long before it was back to normal! Laura started having severe leg cramps and the labor was

taking its toll on her. We went to prayer again and God heard us!

After about 6 1/2 hours there were more complications. Back to prayer we went again. Soon our first grandson came into this world! Oh, how wonderful God is to answer prayer!

Later, Laura was told by the nurse that she has heard screaming, yelling and cursing in the delivery room, but it was her first time to hear prayer. It is so wonderful to be able to call on God when we are in need. He is so good to us.

Laura had more problems, but every time there was a need, God met it graciously. Laura and the baby are now doing wonderfully, and we praise God for it.

I know we are living in a time when the enemy is fighting so hard, but praise God, we can have the victory through Jesus if we count it so. Let us all remember what Paul told Timothy, "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." II Tim. 2:1.

We are still pressing on here in Dayton, and the congregation seems to be very encouraged. Praise the Lord! We mean to press the battle to the gate until that final victory is won. Pray for us.

Your brother in Christ, —Larry Abbot

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FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From Nigeria...

September 4, 1993—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings once again in Jesus' victorious name. He remains our help and comfort. Praise be to His holy name.

I am filled with gladness as I report the Lord's wondrous doings for the church, and it is my desire for you, the saints there, to share in the joy with us.

At last we got a letter from the state authority informing us of the Governor's approval to allocate the land, which we have occupied for nearly 13 years on a temporary basis, to the church on a permanent basis. For more than 10 years we have applied and prayed for this, and at a time when we were not expecting anything to happen, the Lord acted. Praise God! Survey work will soon commence. On payment of the



necessary fees, the certificate of occupancy will be issued to the church. This to us is a great battle the Lord has won for us, and we were full of praises unto God the following Sunday.

We were also glad for the package of tracts along with the *Faith and Victory* volumes you posted to us sometime in the year. The tracts coincided with our revival meeting and were distributed freely during the occasion. The four days event ended victoriously on August 28, 1993. This was followed with the observance of the Lord's ordinances on Sunday night. A good number of the saints turned up for the feet washing and the Lord's supper.

The Lord is still blessing our souls though some of the brethren are still suffering several bodily afflictions.

Our building project has reached a certain stage and remained so for some months due to a lack of funds, as we are going through severe hardships. We will continue to look unto the Lord and the saints for help in this matter.

Remember us in prayer.

Yours in Him, —F. Naths Igbanibo

Russian Missionary Report

We send you greetings and a report on the progress of the Russian work since February. Because of the problems in Russia, our communication has been very sketchy until this month, when we received an encouraging letter from Bro. Reiberg. Some souls have been added to the church. Praise the Lord! They seem to have had a renewed interest in evangelizing their people since we visited them. They desire us to visit them again and to help them print a gospel book and tract by D. S. Warner.

They did receive the song books we sent them, and are looking for more. Through the labors of Bro. Nelson Doolittle and the Faith Publishing House we have 400 song books in Russian ready to send.

Since our last report, we have had \$245.00 added to the Russian fund. Our expenditures were \$275.00 for printing, \$33.84 for postage, \$20.00 for offerings to Russia, \$4.00 in translation fees and \$10.49 for Spanish Bible study helps for the Cuban brother. This brings the fund to \$2,442.29. The total expense on the printing work is not yet known.

I have been encouraged by the Apostle Paul's consistency in visiting the brethren. He didn't just visit them once and forget about them, but he went back two and three times to encourage

them. Saints, the only way we can be effective in any missionary work is to have a continued relationship so they can be accountable to someone. There has to be a close working relation to our brethren in other countries if we are to see our funds handled properly and they need to feel our love for them by our bodily presence with them. We would have liked to make another trip to Russia before winter, but due to not being able to get an invitation for entry, and the crime that is being perpetrated on foreigners in Russia, we do not feel it is safe to travel there at this time.

We also desire your continued prayer for Bro. Orlando Rizo who has returned to Cuba from Moscow. We have not heard from him since. We are concerned about his protection, because he faces much opposition in that country.

Yours sincerely for the work of Christ,

—Bro. James and Sis. Patricia Bell

From the Philippines...

September 30, 1993—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey: Greetings to you and all the saints of God in the U.S.A. I hope you are all happy in the loving arms of our heavenly Father, fighting the good fight of faith which was once delivered unto the saints. I am sorry I was not able to write you earlier. My schedules were so hectic that I did not find time for other important activities. We had water baptism last Sunday afternoon for two precious souls. Six others in the barrio of Culaaylay expressed their desire to be baptized. This is a new station of worship that we have opened. This baptism has been scheduled for this coming Sunday, and we are continuing our Bible studies.

While we were opening new places for the gospel, our existing congregations needed my attention also. Our concern is how to take care of these congregations so that they will grow to maturity. Three congregations of a certain sect want to be affiliated with us. They do not understand about true salvation. This sect was founded by a Philippino in 1946. They named their church, "Church of God," but they do not understand what the church of God is. I told them that if they are saved, there is no need to affiliate because salvation automatically makes them members of the church of God, but we must not be divided into sects because that is against the will of God. This is a good opportunity for me to teach them. They are willing to

learn and I am now preaching in their congregations. Two are in Nueva Ecija, and one is in the province of Tarlac. They were so happy and thankful that they have found the true church of God that Jesus built.

May we say again "thank you" so much for your untiring love to us in the Philippines. Please give our love and best regards to your family and to all the dedicated workers at the Lord's Print Shop. We covet your prayers as we do for you.

Your brother in Christ,

—Matias S. Tanguan

From India...

September 24, 1993—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear brothers and sisters in America: Greetings to all you dear ones in the glorious name of Jesus Christ.

Last week we passed through a slight earthquake for three seconds in our area. By the grace of God, there were no calamities, and we all escaped. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." II Chron. 16:9.

Tomorrow is our all-day fasting and prayer meeting day in the south. About eight congregations will gather together for this service. There is victory in mass prayer. The devil can be defeated through fasting and praying.

Last week, one Hindu brother invited us to his home and requested us to preach the gospel. We took advantage of that good opportunity. About 50 saints assembled in that Hindu home one night, and sang Christian songs and preached Christ and salvation through the blood of Jesus. Several Hindus attended the service. We are waiting for a good response and result. We continue to contact them.

The more the devil works, the more victory we get. By the grace of God, all our congregations are marching on fine. We remember each congregation in America also in our prayers. Our Lord is at the gate now.

Yours in His service, —John Varghese

It will not hurt us to look at ourselves as others see us, and often when we think others are wrong in their judgments toward us, they are right, and it is to our interest that we find it out, and how can we find it out if someone does not tell us?

IN MEMORIAM

Max Carl Dean was born February 11, 1915, in Scotland, Arkansas, to Luster and Rosie Dean. He departed this life on October 14, 1993, at his home in Guthrie, OK.

He moved to Gracemont, Oklahoma with his parents when he was about 12 years old.

He met Hattie B. Davis in Guthrie, and was married on January 8, 1944, at Perry, Oklahoma.

He is survived by his wife, Hattie, of the home in Guthrie; one son, Bobby L. and Gerry Dean, of Guthrie, OK; four daughters, Dorothy and J. D. Wilson, of Riverside, CA, Wanda Harris of Crescent, OK, Juanita and George Montgomery, of Guthrie, OK, Maxine and Loren Busbee, of Edmond, OK; two brothers, Harold Dean of Mustang, OK, Lee Dean, of Albuquerque, NM; three sisters, Lilah Jones, Scotland, AR, Dixie Bozarth, Midwest City, OK, Dimple Anderson, Chula Vista, CA, 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, two brothers and three grandchildren.

Bro. Max was a member of the Church of God in Guthrie, OK. He owned and operated his own farm implement tire service for many years, retiring in 1983.

Bros. Charles Elwell and Wayne Murphey officiated at the funeral services, with burial in the Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie, OK.

HOME LIFE



The Home—A Miniature of The Kingdom of God

The family is the most ancient of all human institutions. Before there was a church or a school, or a society or a state, there was the family. And with just as little contradiction, it can be further said that the family at its best is the loveliest of all human institutions. And being the loveliest it is open to some of the ugliest enemies.

Being tremendously potent for good, it can become tremendously potent for evil. Its maintenance and proper functioning are so vital to society that its failure to function is one of society's major tragedies.

John Ruskin, speaking of the downfall of Venice, said, "the decline of her political prosperity was exactly coincident with that of domestic and individual religion."

Let us consider it in some of its unique aspects: First of all, as a social unit. Men and women, boys and girls, young and old, all living pretty constantly and intimately together. That particular combination is not found anywhere else. In other institutions—the church, the school, business—we departmentalize them. But in the home they are all together, and that has possibilities of mutual education and understanding that are simply immeasurable.

And they are together there on a basis unknown elsewhere—a basis of natural instinctive loyalty and love. They have not chosen each other. They are a part of each other. Impatient social minds may leap to rash conclusions about the enforced relationships of the family. As one of them has said, "Why should I love, or be kind to, or even suffer someone simply because, by the accident of birth, he happens to be my brother?"

That is the very beauty of it. You choose your outside relationships and they may be very selfish and unchristian. You must make the best of your family relationships and they may be beautifully unselfish and Christian. Family devotion and service transcend mere attraction or admiration or passion.

And so the social circle of the home becomes the ideal symbol of an ideal society. The home at its best is the economic model of a just social order in its equitable, yes, more than equitable, its generous, distribution of life's opportunities and comforts and treasures.

Did you ever go into a home—a real home—and find the strongest boy in the family occupying the biggest room, with a sun porch and a lovely view, simply because he was the

strongest and got there first and took possession?

Did you ever go into a real home and find the prettiest girl in the family wearing the loveliest clothes just because she was the prettiest? No! Well, why do we do that, or allow that, in the larger house of the human family?

But it is not as a social unit that the family is at its best; but as a spiritual fellowship. It is not while they are sitting around their common table, sharing generously the good gifts of Providence and exercising those graces and courtesies that would transform society as a whole; it is not even when the conversation around the table reaches fine heights of cultural quality; but when they sit around the word of God, and lift their voices in the universal prayer—"Our Father"—that the family circle becomes a microcosm of the Human Family.

An American minister who had found an outstanding ministry, especially to the home, tells this delightful experience of his own family life. It is their custom

to have morning devotions around the breakfast table. One morning with the New Testament open between them, the father turned to the sixth chapter of Ephesians. Everything seemed propitious that morning for the reinforcement of his parental authority, for he read the familiar verse, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord." His son, about sixteen, was sitting opposite him, and thinking the opportunity was too precious to lose, the father paused and said, "My boy, that is a good text. Let me read it again: Children, obey your parents in the Lord." He was scarcely prepared for the next move in the drama, for just down the page he came on this: "Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath." Suddenly the boy said, "That's a good text, Dad, read it again." That is a positively beautiful scene—a father and his son, with the New Testament open before them, and exercising an equal right to challenge each other over its challenging pages. —Taken from *Faith for These Times*,

"(The home) being tremendously potent for good, can become tremendously potent for evil. Its maintenance and proper functioning are so vital to society that its failure to function is one of society's major tragedies."

The price paid for our redemption means that hell is a fearful place.

There is no limit to the good a man can do if he doesn't care who gets the credit.

It is impossible to live without exerting an influence. We will either lead souls toward God, or away from Him; toward heaven, or toward perdition.

If you want to be happy,
I'll tell you the way;
Don't live tomorrow
Until you've lived today.

Every ray of heaven's pure light that we reflect falls not only upon men but goes back to God; every act of love we perform unto men returns to the bosom of the Father from whence it came and will be held there as our treasure. Oh, let us labor on.

Lost yesterday, somewhere between sunrise and sunset two golden hours, each set with sixty diamond minutes, no reward is offered for they are gone forever.

**God's
mill
grinds
slow, but
sure.**

Concerning the hardness of the heart—and its littleness—Let me read with open eyes the book my days are writing—and learn.

Prayer is the gateway to heaven,
but faith unlocks the door.

It is very dangerous and next to impossible to try to save a drowning man as long as he is struggling, but when he ceases his struggling he is easily rescued. So when we get to the end of self, God is at that end.

Where there is room
in the heart there is
always room in the
house.

A smile is a gentle curved line that sets a lot of things straight.

**Forgiveness can't
change
the past,
but does
change
the
future.**

God warms His hands at
man's heart when he prays

It isn't your position
that makes you happy or un-
happy. It's your disposition.

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

Which of these sayings especially stand out in your mind? Write to us and tell us why, and perhaps we will have room to print some of your comments in next month's *Faith and Victory*.

King Doubt

(Continued from page 3)

Sennacherib even sent those to speak in the Jew's language to affright them and to trouble them. Doesn't the enemy do that to us? He even comes at us sounding like the Lord, quoting scriptures and doing all to weaken our courage; talking in the language of our own thoughts.

But Hezekiah prayed and the Lord sent an angel and Sennacherib had to return with shame of face to his own land. Praise our God!

May God help us to cut off the source of life (water supply, [our thoughts]) to King Doubt, repair any broken places in the wall of our city of faith and raise some towers so that we can watch for Doubt coming a long way off. Make darts and shields in abundance (lay up in our hearts the "it is written" darts and the "promise" shields) and build another wall of complete submission to God's will.

Then when King Doubt comes trying to speak in the language of Canaan we will be able to recognize it for what it is and he will have to return to his country with shame of face.

—Selected



A Good Thanksgiving



Said old gentleman Gay on a Thanksgiving Day:
 "If you want a good time, then give something away."
 So he sent a fat turkey to shoemaker Price,
 And the shoemaker said: "What a big bird! How nice!
 With such a good dinner before me I ought
 To give Widow Lee the small chicken I bought."
 "This fine chicken, oh, see!" said the sweet Widow Lee,
 "And the kindness that sent it how precious to me!
 I'll give my washwoman Biddy my big pumpkin pie."
 "And, oh, sure," Biddy said, "'tis the queen o' all pies!
 Just to look at its yellow face gladdens my eyes!"

Now, it's my turn, I think, a sweet ginger cake
 For the motherless Finnigan children I'll bake."
 Cried the Finnigan children, Rose, Denny and Hugh:
 "It smells sweet of spice, and we'll carry a slice
 To little lame Jake, who has nothing that's nice."
 "Oh, I thank you and thank you!" said little lame Jake;
 "What a bootiful, bootiful, bootiful cake!
 And oh, such a big slice! I'll save all the crumbs,
 And give them to each little sparrow that comes."
 And the sparrows, they twittered, as if they would say,
 Like old gentleman Gay: "On a Thanksgiving Day,
 If you want a good time, then give something away."

—Author Unknown



Excerpts Taken From Nov., 1943 Faith and Victory

"Bro. Hyrum Ray of the Guthrie congregation under C. P. S. authority was recently transferred from the hospital work at Ypsilanti, MI to a camp at Denison, Iowa. A letter just received from him says he is gaining ground in the Lord and desires to ever submit to the Lord's way. If he is not released soon, he expects to apply for work in another hospital. Pray the Lord to direct him.

"Clark Porter, Jr., another young man of the Guthrie congregation, was assigned this past summer to a C. P. S. camp at Colorado Springs, CO. Just recently while at the camp he accidentally fractured a bone in his leg. Since he was unable to work, the authorities permitted him to return home for a period of seven weeks while his leg was getting well. He felt that his getting to come home on a visit was an answer to prayer. His leg is healing nicely.

—L. D. Pruitt

"Conscience is like a watch—it may look right, and you may go by it on the assumption that it is right, and find that you have missed your train because it was all wrong, after all. The watch must be set by the sure time, and regulated from time to time as comparison with the chronometer shows it needs."

—Maltbie D. Babcock