

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Our Homing Instinct

By Mary Murphey

While nosing around in a second-hand store the other day, I came across an old brittle scrapbook that had been compiled in 1933 by a patient in a Wichita, Kansas hospital. I bought it with pleasure, attracted by its strong nostalgic appeal.

Why this fascination with the past that so many of us share? The dictionary defines nostalgia as "a wistful, sentimental yearning for something past or irrecoverable." It is derived from the Greek word, "nostos," meaning "return home."

A nostalgic trip can be triggered by something as simple as a strain of music, a distant train whistle, or a particular smell. The hum of a window fan at twilight is a "nostos," a return home to me, because I remember that sound from my childhood, on those sleepy summer evenings when the day was winding down and the mystery of night was unfolding.

In our town of Guthrie, much effort and many dollars have been spent to return turn-of-the-century buildings to their original appearance. Tourists are a common sight as they wander the pavement in search of a thread which will weave them into the fabric of the past. Antique stores, museums, a trolley car and horse and buggy all provide a tangible link to former days.

I wish to offer an explanation for this

groping attempt to seek out one's origin. I call it "OUR HOMING INSTINCT," that powerful pull to the past; our nostos,—the desire to return.

Every now and then I like to return, to make a nostalgic journey back to the place of my childhood. I like to wander around and just remember. Sometimes I take my children along and point out the places that are meaningful to me. However, it is difficult to recapture the magic of past moments. Indeed, we are searching for something elusive. Nostalgia's powerful pull is a SOUL SEARCH; one which lies beyond even the days of our childhood. I believe it is a search that can only be completely satisfied when the spirit within each of us finds peace and "Home Again," within the loving heart of God.

I may make many more nostalgic journeys to the place of my childhood, search for those elusive memories and muse over the past, but I am convinced that I will not be

"I am convinced that I will not be HOME, truly home, until my soul returns into the presence of the One who loved and created me."

HOME, truly home, until my soul returns into the presence of the One who loved and created me.

A verse from the Bible, in the book of Ecclesiastes, (12:7) supports such a conclusion when it says, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." To me, that is HOME!

Attitudes for Service

By James Huskey

There are seasons in our lives when our hearts are tender toward the Lord's will. Camp meetings and revival meetings are such seasons, especially for our young people. Also a good time for the movement of God on our lives is just after successes or failures. Have you just graduated from school or just had a business failure? Has God just given your health back to you or were you in harm's way and you were spared? Are you about to retire and contemplating the rocking chair? Don't you think that it's a good time to answer God's call for a life of service in the Army of the Lord?

Peter understood about spiritual warfare. "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." I Peter 4:1, 11, 13. As Christ's flesh suffered reproach, so must we suffer or diminish in the fleshly body that we may increase in our spiritual body.

If we are to shine in the evening time of this dispensation like the saints did in the morning time of the Church, we must be armed with the same attitude of mind. What attitudes are needed for ministering to the world today? It's time we looked inward. Is there within me the right ingredients to make a good spiritual soldier? Do I have the right attitude about serving the Lord? What are some of the attitudes that are necessary if more young and old alike are to answer the call to lifetime ministry?

COMMITMENT

The lack of commitment is seen everywhere. In the family, marriages, in the work place and also in Christian leadership. Paul refers to Onesiphorus in II Timothy 1:16-18. He commends this little known saint for being committed to him and, in doing so, points out three qualities necessary in true commitment. See if you can identify the qualities of consistency,

initiative and determination in the scriptures given. The Church today needs men like Onesiphorus, not men like Demas. (II Timothy 4:10.)

COMPASSION

The Gospels are filled with examples of Jesus' compassion for those around him. "...He beheld the city, and wept over it." Luke 19:41. It's that attitude of compassion that creates a burden for the lost. (Psalms 126:6.)

PLIABILITY

The teaching of God's Word about the potter and his clay can be summarized in five truths: God Is the Potter; We Are the Clay. The Potter Molds the Clay as He Wills. The Clay Must Not Question the Potter's Plan. The Potter Remolds the Clay as He Wills. Only When the Clay Hardens Is It Breakable.

A moldable heart is a reverent heart. (Jeremiah 18:1-6, Isaiah 30:14, I Cor. 9:27.)

EXPENDABILITY

Expendability is the quality of being used up; of being consumed. It means we are willing to lay aside our self-interests. The apostle Paul was expendable, and liked it that way. (II Cor. 12:14-15.) Those five brave missionaries killed by the Auca Indians in 1956 are not best characterized by bravery. It was expendability! Remember Jim Elliot's words; "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

SERVITUDE

This quality is God's way to greatness. A devoted bond servant works to make someone else successful. If we are truly a servant of the Lord, we know who we belong to. (I Cor. 6:19-20, Matthew 20:28, John 13:14, Acts 16:16-18, Romans 8:14.)

QUIETNESS

"Be STILL, and KNOW that I am GOD: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalms 46:10. It is knowing who God is and who we are. It is seeing values even in failures, because God is in control. (II Cor. 6:16, Proverbs 1:33, Isaiah 32:17, I Thes. 4:11, I Peter 3:4.)

GRATEFULNESS

Gratefulness is a quality expressed in praise and prayer. It is trusting God for all our expectations. There is POWER in PRAISE. (Psalms 62:5, Eph. 5:20, James 1:17, Hebrews 13:15.) The lack of this attitude is the first step toward unrighteousness. (Romans 1:21.)

It is a war in the spiritual realm that we saints must fight. The spiritual realm is just as real as the physical realm of material matter. In a flesh and blood war the recruits are armed first with a mind to identify and kill the enemy, and then they are given the armaments and munitions and sent in tanks and planes to penetrate into enemy territory with these objectives: find the enemy, destroy or take them captive, take back the land, release their P.O.W.s, proclaim victory and set up their king.

This is how the Christian army should fight in the spiritual war. Fighting defensively should only be the last resort. It is time now to be on the offensive as there are many souls being held captive by sin, habits, religious cults, and idolatry that would welcome freedom and truth, if we PRAY and GO.

Let me here quote from two great warriors who have been an inspiration to me for many years:

Bro. Pat Huskey, at 86 years old, in Feb. 1986, preached his last sermon, saying, there are three things that God's saints should be doing.

1. "CONTEND for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3b.)

2. "PRAY ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2b.)

3. SEEK that the GLORY of God abides in our midst. "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of GLORY and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified." I Peter 4:14. (I Sam. 4:21, I Peter 1:11.)

Bro. Fredarico Gonzales, of Sonora State, Mexico, (who died in 1984) had this testimony. "I was a prosperous farmer with a growing family. One day God spoke to me in the field and said, 'There are more than enough farmers to sow, cultivate and harvest this wheat and sesame, but only a very few to sow the Word of God and harvest the souls for me.' I heard the call and obeyed. I dismissed the hired hands, and also, one by one, the four house servants

had to go, which was so hard on my dear wife. I preached for many years, trusting the Lord by faith. I took the Word to jails and remote villages all over Sonora. The Lord worked many miracles for us and healed the children. At times we had very little to eat. At times, as each child scraped the bottom of the bowl, the food seemed to grow in the bowl, so that there was enough for all nine of them. God has been so good to us since I obeyed His call to give my life to His work. We praise Him for His goodness to us, His unworthy servants."



Imitation Gold

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

As an Italian astronomer and mathematician during the years of 1585 to 1642, Galileo perfected the telescope so that he discovered the roundness of the moon and how it reflects the sun's light. He observed the peculiar form of Saturn and learned many new things about the Milky Way Galaxy. He detected the moveable spots on the sun and its rotation on its axis. Galileo saw that the earth rotated around the sun instead of the sun around the earth as the accepted belief was at that time.

Enjoying popularity as a great scholar and professor of philosophy, Galileo eagerly shared his new found knowledge in a published book entitled *A Dialogue Concerning the Two Great Systems of the World*. In this work, Galileo explained the order of the universe as he saw it through his telescope.

However, the Holy Office of the Roman Catholic church disapproved of Galileo's bold statements that the earth moves around the sun. In 1632, he was summoned before the Inquisition where his writings and discoveries were scrutinized. After a long and bitter review, the Pope and the Roman Catholic officials condemned Galileo's discoveries as errors. They brought him before them and stated, "That you, Galileo, have upon account of those things which you have written and confessed, subjected yourself to a strong suspicion of heresy in this Holy Office, by believing, and holding to be true, a doctrine which is false, and contrary to the sacred and divine Scripture—that the sun is the center of the orb of the earth, and does not move from the east to the west; and that the earth moves, and is not the center of the world."

In order to save his life, Galileo admitted

(Continued on page 14.)

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).

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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



Single copy, one year\$1.00
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 Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ-the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House. All donations are tax deductible.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

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Editorials

As most of our readers are aware, the August issue of the *Faith and Victory* was omitted, causing an elapse of two months since an edition was mailed. Quite a few activities have taken place in this time span, but things are once again settling into a routine here at the office, and work is proceeding on needed projects.

We would like to say "thanks" to our readers and correspondents who have helped our Gospel endeavors through the summer months. Your prayers, offerings and orders for literature are what has allowed us to continue with the printing.



Much progress has been made on reprinting the "Evening Light Songs." Over three-fourths of the book is off the press. After the remaining sections are printed, the book will be collated and sent to the bindery in Dallas, TX to have the cover put on. We will make another announcement in this column when the process is completed and they are ready for sale.



Our paper supply is almost gone, necessitating another order be made. We have been in contact with the company we regularly order paper from, and have been told there have been several increases in the cost of paper in the last few weeks. There will probably be another one before a factory order for 5000 pounds can be processed. We are expecting the cost to run anywhere from \$2500 to \$3000. If the Lord should impress you to help with this expense, we would be very grateful.



We were once again privileged to attend the annual Ensenada, Mexico Camp Meeting the first part of August. Although there is a language barrier, it was a privilege to see the ones who have remained faithful over the years, and to share with them the living word of the Gospel.

Progress on their new chapel has been slow due to the scarcity of funds. The concrete block walls have been completed for a first floor, and some metal beams placed to support a ceiling for the first story and to provide flooring for further expansion. It was also a great advantage this year for the grounds to be connected to city electricity.



"Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as

being yourselves also in the body." Hebrews 13:3.

There are many opportunities which God gives us to do good, and one of them is to help those who are suffering from adversity. We will do best in helping others when we consider it as an opportunity, but this scripture adds a degree of obligation. Any command which God gives to His people has a rich return, this one notwithstanding. Involving ourselves in helping the downtrodden has a way of enriching our own lives. Yet we glean from this verse that there is a proper way of helping others, so that our involvement is not resented and does not cause confusion and hurt more than help.

The apostle Paul exhorted the Hebrews to, "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them;..." In simple words, this means that when we attempt to help someone we should put ourselves in their place. It is much easier, and doesn't take near as much humility, to put the downtrodden in our place, rather than ourselves in their place. When we see someone in trouble, it is a temptation of the flesh to say, "If I were them I never would have gotten into that mess," or "I'm not going to help them. They just keep getting into trouble." That is putting that person in our place. What we don't realize many times is that the reason people may have difficulty dealing with a particular situation is because they don't have the tools with which to work. It is a blessing if you have been raised in a godly home, been taught the Bible and how to get along with others. But many people haven't had that privilege, and must first have the advantage of being taught these things before we can expect them to operate at the level we might. These are principles that true godly compassion should teach us.

The same mode of operation should cross over into how we treat our brothers in the Lord. The apostle Paul instructed the Galatian church to, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. When we have a burden for someone else, we should put ourselves in their place and not them in ours. Help will turn into hindrance if we attach a critical and judgmental criteria to our involvement by declaring how we would proceed if we were in the situation in question. To bear our brother's burden in the true spirit of Christ's law, we should support the person in how they feel God is leading them. This does not mean we bid God-speed to something that is sin, but in

those matters in which we don't know or understand the facts, we should have enough confidence in our brother that we can stand behind him, pray for him and encourage him in his endeavors to be victorious.

It takes little to encourage or discourage. Rather than investigating a troublesome situation and offering His critique, our Savior often simply said to discouraged ones, "Be of good cheer."

It is like the woman who met a minister on the street and said, "God bless you."

"May I ask your name?" the minister said.

The woman replied, "Never mind my name. If you could only know how you have made me feel hundreds of times and what a happy home you have given me! God bless you!"

A dark thread of depression had been running through the minister's life for weeks. Later he said of the unknown woman, "She seemed to take the dark cloud with her! The mist broke; the sunlight came. I breathed the free air of the mountain of God!" —Wayne Murphey

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WV—"Please pray for my arthritis and nerves. I live alone and am partly handicapped."

—Christine Butters

OK—Sis. Avis Tinsley has requested prayer for dizziness.

WA—"I am still having trouble with an ulcer."

—Sis. Violet Thomas

NC—"Pray for many requests I have."

—Anna Hypes

MO—"Pray for me and my family."

—Marie Christian

OH—"Please pray for my sister, Essie Abbot. Her daughter also needs prayer. Pray for my sons and grandchildren. I appreciate all the prayers you have prayed for us all."

—Tressie Adkins

MO—"Please remember me physically and my unsaved children."

—Nelva Stanley

MD—"Please pray for our friend, Ed Ries, who has a bad knee."

—Mrs. Roy Clements

Mexico—Remember Bro. Mayarino Escobar for health problems.

Other saints who are standing in need of prayer for their bodies include: Bro. Bob Forbes, Sis. Margaret Eck, Bro. Richard Madden and Sis. Marcia White.

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Subscribe to this paper—\$1.00 per year.

MONARK SPRINGS CAMP MEETING TAPES AVAILABLE

Dear Saints: I have two 90-minute tapes of stereo recorded congregational singing available from the Monark Springs Camp Meeting, July 1994, and one 90-minute tape of the special singing. Also available are cassette tapes of the messages. You may obtain a listing of the sermon titles by writing to the address below. If you want something that will inspire and encourage your heart through the months to come, I would highly recommend that you order the two tapes of the special service, Thursday 7:30 p.m. This was a service everyone would have loved to have been in. If you are an isolated saint, this one will truly bless your soul! All the tapes are priced at \$2.00 each, postpaid. **Order from:** Songs of the Evening Light, c/o Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1 Box 118A, Myrtle, MO 65778.



Meeting Notices

WICHITA, KS FALL MEETING

The Wichita congregation has set the date of their meeting for September 16-25. We will be looking to God to supply all of our needs and to send workers and ministers with the burdens to help fill these needs. All are welcome to come and get whatever God has for them.

Both Sundays we will have three services, and during the week, Monday through Friday, we will have 11:00 day services and 7:30 night services.

For further information contact Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at (316) 778-1848, or Bro. Paul Phillips at (316) 721-9557. The chapel is located at 16th and Ash streets, and the phone number is (316) 267-9582. —Shirley Knight

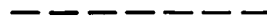


MISSOURI STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

We would like to extend a special invitation to all to attend the Missouri State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God at Myrtle, MO, which is scheduled for September 28-October 2, Lord willing. Last year's Assembly Meeting, though not so well attended, was richly blessed by the Lord, and we are praying for another special outpouring of God's Spirit on this year's meeting and hoping for better attendance. So please come and help us in this battle for the Lord, if you can. If you cannot be here, please pray for the meeting.

There will be morning services at 10:30 and evening services at 7:30; also afternoon services when announced. On Saturday night, Oct. 1, we plan to have a special service of singing. We hope to see you here.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell, for the Myrtle Congregation.



HOLLY HILL, SC REVIVAL

Revival services are planned, if the Lord wills, for October 7-16, 1994, at the Church of God of Holly Hill, SC. We are located approximately one mile off Hwy. 310 on Bayview Street.

Accommodations are limited, but we welcome all who wish to attend. Services will be at 7:30 every evening.

The Lord's blessings and your prayers are much desired for the meeting.

In Christ, —Bro. Alvoid Pratt, (803) 492-3366; Bro. Utson Platt, (803) 496-5759.



OUTREACH MEETING AT JUNCTION CITY, KY

The congregation at Junction City, KY is planning a special outreach meeting, Lord willing, October 16-23. We invite everyone to come and help us reach out to souls in this area. We plan to hold services nightly at 7:00 p.m. Prayer services, street services and young people's services will be scheduled during the day. Here is a great opportunity for young people—and older ones, too—who are burdened to work for the Lord! Come help us sing, preach and pass out gospel literature. We are praying the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing. Lodging will be provided. Come praying and come to work. Souls will be our reward. We are looking forward to something special from the Lord.

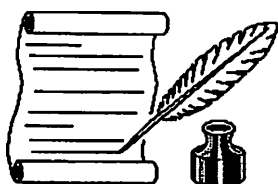
The chapel is located about 2 miles south of Danville in Junction City, near the intersection of Main Street (Hwy. 300) and the new Hwy. 127. For more information call Bro. and Sis. Dan Gellenbeck, (606) 792-6749 or Bro. and Sis. Ed Johnston, (606) 332-4244.



"If you have trouble with doing something, don't pray for more faith, pray for more love. Love is the motivating power behind the Christian's life. 'But the greatest of these is charity.'"

—Bro. Clifford Wilson

Letters and Testimonies



LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: May great and many blessings from the big hand of our God rest daily on each of you there at the Print Shop as you labor together in putting out the pure Gospel, which tells the wonderful story of God's great love in sending His precious Son to die for a lost world. He made the way that "whosoever will" can be saved. The choice is up to us. I thank the Lord for all who have accepted His wonderful Gift, which makes us brothers and sisters in the Lord.

I was thankful to once more have the privilege to be in the Print Shop office, which brought back memories of many years ago. My first time of being there was in August of 1933. I was there at the passing of Bro. C. E. Orr, having gone with him and Sis. Orr to attend the Oklahoma City camp meeting, and assist him in driving.

As I stepped on the front porch of the old Pruitt home, oh, the memories and thoughts that came to my mind. I was there for weeks and learned to look on Bro. and Sis. Pruitt as my second father and mother. Dear Bro. Pruitt, I'm sure, fought many battles with the devil while in much prayer in the office alone. Much of the time he was there from early to late. His whole heart was there in the work of the Lord. I have just today been reading in his book, *God's Gracious Dealings*.

Then as Lawrence and Marie stepped in to fill their father's place, also Sis. Maybelle, and other helpers, the Lord blessed in keeping the work clean and straight....

Today, one day before my 83rd birthday, I became great-grandmother for the second time. Ronnie and Charlene became parents of a little baby girl. As you may know, Charlene is a multiple sclerosis patient. The Lord was so good to bring her through. We are trusting all to go well now. It looked like there would be trouble in her giving birth. Bro. Ed, Sis. Roberta and Sis. Karen LaCroix went to the hospital. My son, Randall, also went after getting off of his job. Earnest prayer went up and oh, how the Lord did work. In a very short time, it was all over. God is so good. We are thankful Charlene is blessed with a good husband.

In Christian love, —Sis. Alta Flynn

VA—Dear Saints: I have been thinking of you workers, and how you prayed for us while my husband was sick. Three years have passed since he went on to live in heaven. I still miss him....

I need prayer for blood pressure problems.

I still love the *Faith and Victory* paper. God bless all there.

Love in Christ, —Mrs. Lena Dunman

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NC—Dear Bro. Murphey: Thank you for the prayers. I know that God has blessed both my mother and me. We are both feeling better now.

We are praying always for your ministry.

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Angela Taylor

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KY—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: I want to thank each and every one there that prayed for me and my family. God surely hears and answers prayer.... I want everyone who reads this to know that God is still on His throne and is still our Father in heaven. Don't ever get discouraged, just keep praying and trusting. The answer may not always be as we want, but it will always be in God's will.

Continue to remember me and my family in your prayers, and I'll be praying for you all as well.

A sister in Christ, —Wilma Horsley

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OK—Dear Saints: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I thank God for being saved, sanctified and satisfied in the Lord.

We want to thank the Lord for His goodness and mercy to us. For the past year we have been having one affliction after the other. The Lord has blessed us and brought us through each one. Thank God for His saving, keeping and healing power. We want to take this opportunity to thank all the saints for their prayers and encouragement.

We were in an accident a few days ago. The Lord blessed us and took care that we didn't get any serious injuries. Praise the Lord, there isn't anything too hard for Him.

Continue to pray for me soul, body and mind, and pray for my unsaved loved ones.

May the Lord bless each of the saints.

Yours in Christ, —Gustavia Anderson

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CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in that name which is above all names, the mighty and wonderful name of Jesus, the Lion of Judah, the Bright and Morning Star.

The labors of you and the staff at the Publishing House do not go unnoticed, but are appreciated by all who read the *Faith and Victory*, *Bible Lessons*, etc.

The Lord is ever faithful. Although the road seems strewn with rocks sometimes, His joy and hope is ever present to help us along.

Your brother, —Bob Mickelson
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WA—Dear servants of Christ: I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed your *Faith and Victory* publication. It has been a source of strength for me since I have been receiving it the past few months.

I am a single mother of two daughters, and have faced some difficult trials lately. But the Lord is generous and good, supplying all our needs and being a husband and father to us. He has blessed me by allowing me to do several jobs at home so I can minister to my own children and homeschool them. My greatest desire in this life is to see others know the Lord and to raise my daughters to be godly women. Often I have shared things with my girls from your publication that has inspired them as they have me. It is so exciting to watch my children growing in the Lord and making new commitments to Him. Recently my oldest daughter, age 11, made a commitment to be a doer of the Word, not just a hearer. My youngest daughter, age 7, after being baptized, threw her arms around my neck and declared, "Oh mommy, I'm so thankful to be raised in a Christian home!" Yes, God is good and He is faithful.

I also want to tell you how much my girls and I enjoy your book, *Touching Incidents and Remarkable Answers to Prayer*. We didn't want to stop reading each evening. Whenever I stopped, the girls pleaded, "Just one more story!" I believe this book encouraged them to have a more meaningful prayer life with our Lord. In fact, I am ordering another copy so when my girls are grown they will each have a copy to share with their own families. I think every family with children (and even those without) should have a copy of this book.

Money seems to get tighter every month, so please pray that the Lord will continue to make a way for me to be home with my children while still meeting our financial needs. And pray that I will not be tempted by the sin of worrying what tomorrow will bring, but that I will trust in the Lord.

In the love of Christ, —Sherine Schoeneman

IN—Dear ones in Christ: Enclosed is a little offering to help in the publishing work. Much needs to be done to rescue lost souls and to encourage those who are saved; especially the isolated and the new ones recently added to the family of God, as happened in the recent camp meeting at Green Bank, WV. I thank the Lord and His concerned children for the good meeting there and trust that much good will result from the Monark, MO meeting.

Please keep up the good work in Guthrie, and stand strong for the Bible truth, its purity, power and holiness.

Christian love and best wishes,

—Bro. Charles B. Williams
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NC—Dear Brother Wayne, all the good folks there at the Print Shop and elsewhere: Greetings in Christian love. I would like to testify to everyone that our God has not changed, and never will. I praise His name today because He said, "...I have chosen you,..." John 15:16. Our requirement, which has not changed either, is to accept Jesus by faith and follow Him. That was His invitation, or command, in the beginning of His ministry and, even in this fast-changing world His commands are not grievous. His yoke is easy and His burden is light. New translations of the Holy Bible in no way change our God either. He still saves, sanctifies and fills with the Holy Ghost anyone who becomes humble enough to meet Bible requirements.

I praise God today, that I am living in this generation. In any event, it cannot be long before Jesus' return. We do not see many getting ready. We see the scripture, in II Timothy 3:3-4, being fulfilled right before our eyes, as well as just about all other end-of-time prophecies. We who are ready can look up, and hold on, knowing our redemption draweth nigh. In our patience lies our salvation.

My vision is still failing and I am still in a rest home, but I believe "Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All," and "Heaven's Sounding Sweeter All The Time."

May God bless everyone there and elsewhere.
—Leila Lewis
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OR—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' name. We did so enjoy your presence and all those you brought with you to the Jefferson, OR, camp meeting. That was one of the biggest camp meetings we have had for some time.

Everyone in our congregation was so encouraged. I am still rejoicing over it and from meeting so many of the young folks. I was unable to attend any of the meetings in other states. I wanted to, but I was too crippled with arthritis to go about, and no one else was going that I could go with.

I sure enjoy the *Faith and Victory*. I always give mine away after I read it. I never destroy any of them....

We lost our dear Hilda Nielson. We will surely miss her. I would pick her up every Wednesday and Sunday night for church and on Sunday mornings she drove her own car. She had her driver's license at the age of 91 years. I'm glad she was here when you folks came as she enjoyed you all so much....

Please remember me that the Lord will touch this arthritis condition I suffer with.

Christian love and prayers,

—Sis. Grace Jones

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MI—Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: We send you greetings in Jesus' name, the Saviour of all mankind. Only through Him can we find eternal life. It is written in the Bible that "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." I John 5:12.

Thank you for being faithful to send the *Faith and Victory* paper to us. The timely articles and testimonies greatly help us to be encouraged to press toward the goal of eternal life. May God bless you all there in the work of the Lord.

My wife, Dorothy, had a very severe stomach problem for about five months. Most of the time she didn't get much sleep as it was worse at nighttime when she lay down to sleep. The Lord was very good to us though. In the bad times we would pray and she would get relief. Then one night it seemed like the Lord impressed upon us it was time to ask for complete healing of this matter. She was anointed and we agreed in prayer, and thank the Lord, she has been doing very good ever since. She can sleep nights and eat most anything she likes.

May God bless you all is our prayer,

—Bro. Milford and Sis. Dorothy Parsons

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in the precious name of our loving and gracious Lord. I am glad for the great price that was paid for my salvation. That makes me know that we are precious in His sight. Since He paid such a great price for our souls it makes us happy that we

can yield ourselves to Him as we know He will take care of His purchased possession.

Well, our national camp meeting has come and gone. I have been privileged to attend part of every camp meeting here since 1942. I believe I heard more good preaching in this meeting than I have ever heard. I was able to attend all three services throughout this meeting. The preaching was very good and was with power. I thank the Lord for the good meeting.

Trust the Lord to bless you and all the workers there.

Your saved brother, —T. V. McMillian

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MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear ones: I greet you in the blessed and holy name of Jesus, the lover of our souls. I pray all is going well with all of you and that you are all well and happy in the Lord's work.

I am now having an affliction on my right shoulder, which at times pains and burns like fire. I almost can't stand the pain, but I call upon Jesus and it stops, and I thank the Lord.

I sure thank the Lord that He got me out of a trial that I had most of the winter. I had my house sprayed and they used too strong of a spray. I couldn't stay in my home because it bothered me. It was too toxic and made me feel very badly. I had to have the drapes, rugs, couch, chairs, furnace, air ducts and basement cleaned. I thank God for all your prayers. I lost 20 lbs, down to 110. I had to stay with some of my friends, but the Lord surely took care of me through it all....

All my love and prayers.

Yours sister in Christ, —Sis. Olive Getterson

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CA—To whom it may concern: Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ; by Whose name we must be saved. Dear saints, my name is Anthony Hamilton. I am incarcerated for a sin I committed against God before I was born again. I am happy, redeemed and free, and very much encouraged to press the battle on, but I sincerely need the saint's prayers.

I was reared in the Truth. My mother was Margaret Gaines....

Please give my love to the saints.

Sincerely, —Bro. Anthony Hamilton

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UT—Greetings: I thank the Lord for this beautiful morning. It has been over 100 degrees for over two weeks, but it cools off at nights, for which we are so thankful.

I am still living for my Lord. There is no other way. Without Him I am nothing.

May God bless the labors put forth there by each one.

Love, —Sis. Martha East



MISSIONARY REPORTS

From India...

July 25, 1994—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints in America: Greetings to you all dear ones again in the glorious name of Jesus Christ.

We thank God for blessing the camp meetings in America this year. I have been praying for each camp meeting, and am glad to know of the good results.

We had a wonderful all-day service at Karikkom the week before last, and seven people were baptized, including five Hindus who got saved. They are happy now. May God keep them under His wings as they fear persecution from other Hindus.

Special meetings are planned to be arranged at Kothamangalam in the first week of August. I will participate in those meetings.

There were floods and storms in different parts of India which resulted in big calamities. Many lost their homes, animals, farms, etc. Relief activities are going on in these areas.

All of the congregations in the north and south are moving on. Please give special attention to India missions.

Our prayers are for the saints in America,
—John Varghese



July 26, 1994—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and the dear saints in America: Christian greetings from India in the love of Christ, who died on the cross as a ransom for us.

As I write these few words as an expression of fellowship, a scripture portion comes to my mind as a reality in our lives which Bro. Paul, the greatest missionary, experienced in his missionary work. "Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses.... By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich: as having nothing, yet possessing all things." II Cor. 6:3-4, 8-10.

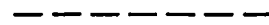
I am very happy to announce that we have been enabled to start a new missionary work in Malabar, which is, spiritually, the darkest area in our state. Our main vision is to plant churches in the pattern of the early churches. We have already started churches in 14 stations, but since we don't have any church buildings we hold our worship services in rented rooms or in the residences of the saints....

The devil is not keeping quiet. He, as in the form of Sanballat and Tobiah, is very active in making conspiracy against us and creating confusion to destroy our work. But we are looking to the Lord who is the Controller and Commander of the work.

On August 15, 1994, we are planning to have another fellowship meeting at Sultan's Battery. We have rented a YMCA hall for this purpose.

We need your earnest prayers.

Yours for His service, —P. D. Mathunni



From the Philippines...

August 2, 1994—Dear Brother and Sister Murphey: Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I hope you are all happy and healthy.

I am sorry I am so late to write you, but I got sick and even yet I have not fully recovered.

Although I did not feel healthy, I went to Palistina last Sunday to attend their worship service because they do not have a pastor. I am happy to say that they have a good attendance. The church was full because of many visitors. Sister Veronica Iglesia, who is an elementary teacher in Pinili, (a neighboring barrio of Palistina) invited her sixth grade class to attend our worship service. We had a very good discussion and participation in our Sunday school class. Our subject matter was about the new birth in John 3:1-15. I admired their intelligent questions, such as, "How can a person be born in water and in the Spirit? How can we identify a born again person?" And one boy asked this question, "In natural births there are abnormal babies who are born. Do we have the same in spiritual births? Are there also abnormal born-again Christians?" We all enjoyed the Sunday school. They said this was their first time to attend Sunday school class. They were very encouraged and said they wished they could have Bibles for themselves. They said they want to be born-again.

I was also very happy to see brother Moses Madriaga, our eldest brother in Palistina. He is

now 89 years old. He is blind and deaf. In spite of his condition that he cannot see or hear, he is very active in attending worship services. They said that the only time he is not in the service is when he is sick and cannot get out of bed. He was always the first to arrive in their church services. Although his physical body is getting weak his mind is strong and clear. He donated the ground for the church in Palistina. His faithfulness is a good example to all the saints, especially to the youth....

We are standing together as we advance the precious gospel to the lost.

Your brother in Christ,

—Matias S. Tangunan

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IN MEMORIAM

Eva (Eck) Penner was born at Meno, OK, August 30, 1905, to Dan A. and Ida Becker Eck. She passed from this life on July 27, 1994, at the age of 88 years, 10 months, and 27 days.

She married Abraham A. Penner at Meno, OK, on November 14, 1926. They lived in the Fairview, OK, area for many years before moving to Shawnee, OK, in 1989.

To this union were born 14 children. Survivors include three sons, Ruben and wife, Clarice Jeanene Penner, Jefferson, TX, Earnest and wife, Donna Penner, Lahoma, OK, Ervin and wife, Regena Penner, El Reno, OK; seven daughters, Rosa and Jack Harp, Enid, OK, Minnie "Penny" Penner, Margaretha and Larry Mondragon and Susanna Penner, all of Shawnee, OK, Elizabeth and Tom Goodrich, Redmond, WA, Esther and Jim Thomas and Ida and James Hubbard, both of Oklahoma City, OK; three brothers, Albert Eck, Bluejacket, OK, Edwin Eck, Goltry, OK, and Paul Eck, Meno, OK; five sisters, Carolina Chrisman and Clara Wahl, both of Enid, OK, Inez Beisly, Coffeyville, KS, Ruey Tucker, Henryetta, OK, and Ella Mae Jarvis, Hodgen, OK; 17 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by 4 daughters, 5 brothers, 3 sisters and her husband.

Eva gave her heart to the Lord early in life. She lived a good consistent life and devoted much time in prayer and reading her Bible. Her deep abiding faith and love for people enabled

her to reach out to her community to share the love of God. She would often pray for the sick, and encourage those who were experiencing difficulties. She was known as a caring, compassionate and faithful Christian. Her great love for music kept her active in providing joy to the elderly through her piano playing. Even up to her early eighties she was still doing personal evangelism and desiring that all people understand the meaning of John 3:16.

Funeral services were held at Shawnee, OK, conducted by Brother Leslie Busbee. Interment was at Resthaven Memorial Park, Shawnee.

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Lois Ann Chrisman was born April 29, 1933, in Covington, OK, to William Lois and Erma Ann Hawkins Ferguson.

She was united in marriage to L. D. Chrisman on February 5, 1955 in Enid, OK, where they lived until 1982 when they moved to Delaware, OK. To this union were born two sons, Curtis Lee, and Alan Wayne. Alan Wayne was taken from this life on March 12, 1973 at the age of 22 months. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

Sister Lois Chrisman from childhood was a moral, clean and conscientious person. But after she beheld the wonderful change in her husband's life when he found the Lord as His Saviour, she was made aware of her need of a real born-again experience with God. At the Monark Springs, MO camp meeting, in July of 1966, she made her way to an altar of prayer and sought the Lord with all her heart. There she found the Bible salvation that satisfied her soul. In this way she became a living member of the Church of God. From then on until her passing she lived a steady, consistent life for the Lord. It was her decision to trust God in her final affliction and she was triumphant in her faith to the end.

She passed from this life early Tuesday morning, June 28, 1994, in the Golden Rule Nursing Home near Shawnee, OK, at the age of 61 years and 2 months. She is survived by her husband, L. D. Chrisman, of the home in Delaware, OK; one son, Curtis Lee Chrisman, also of the home; 3 sisters, Delores Nehring, of Enid, OK, Earlene Coffey, of California, and Liz Butts of Oklahoma City, OK; 2 brothers, Earl Ferguson and Donald Ferguson, both of Wyoming.

Funeral services were conducted at Enid, OK, on Saturday, July 2, with Bros. Leslie Busbee and Stanley Dickson officiating. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery of Enid, OK.

The family of Sister Lois Chrisman wishes to extend their thanks and appreciation to everyone who helped them bear the difficult time of the sickness and passing of their dear loved one. We appreciate all the support you gave in helping to care for Lois in her need, for all the food and services rendered, and for all the financial help of love-offerings and gifts to help us with expenses. It was all gratefully received and much appreciated. We solicit the prayers of the saints that God will help us each day to be strong and faithful to the end, that we might meet our loved one some blessed day.

—Brother L. D. Chrisman

TRIBUTE TO SISTER LOIS ANN CHRISMAN

How sweet the mem'ries of her grace
Who's gone and left a vacant place.
Where once was heard her word of cheer
Are ling'ring echoes sweet and clear.

The consolation that we feel
For her in Christ is, oh, so real—
For she in life made Him her choice
And sought to heed His gracious voice.

Her life was warm and beautiful
With love and faith in upward pull
Toward eternal treasures bright
Laid up beyond this mortal sight.

Adorned with meekness and with love
She lived as one born from above;
To think of her is holy joy,
And happiness without alloy.

Much rather would we have her here
To live, to bless, to help, to cheer;
But this we know: God loved her, too,
And wanted her beyond the blue.

In those fair mansions near His side;
Her spirit pure and sanctified
Now basks in love before the throne
Where joys eternal are made known.

She chose to drink that bitter cup
With Christ and for His honour sup
The sorrow of His death and shame
Because she loved His worthy name.

She walked the long dark vale of tears
And triumphed o'er the pain and fears;
He held her hand in love so true,
And walked with her that valley through.

She came out on the other side,
A member of His holy Bride
To shine in glory evermore
With Jesus whom she did adore.

Her presence painfully we miss:
Her voice, her smiles of happiness;
But yet, in spirit she is near,
And hope fills now our hearts with cheer.

Yes, HOPE points forward to that day
When earth and time have passed away
And we will see her face once more
With all the saints on that blest shore.

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On December 18, 1993 God was pleased to send us a son who was lovingly named **Austin Thomas Ligons**. Unknown to us, our Lord's plan was to lend him for a very brief period. Austin "left this world and moved to a better place" on March 4, 1994. He leaves to cherish his memory a sister, Aietra D. Ligons, a brother, Dallas M. Ligons; grandfather, Paul Phillips, Sr., all of Wichita, KS, and a host of other relatives and friends who will miss him.

Many thanks to each one for your prayers, words of encouragement and acts of kindness and love. May God's blessings and favor be upon you all. —Donald and Letha Ligons

God sent little Austin by
To lead us to our home on high
He can't come back to be with us
But go to him we surely must.

He couldn't talk, he didn't pray
But he had such a winning way
Such a sweet little bundle of joy
Austin was such a sweet little boy.

He didn't stay here with us long
A few short days and he was gone
But, oh, the love he left behind
He touched the hearts of yours and mine.

He is now with Christ our loving Lord
We must follow on to that reward
For he has gone to lead the way
Let us follow little Austin that we may
See him again some day.

—Sonya House

Donald Ray Cook was born March 20, 1957 in Oklahoma City, OK. He attended school at Dunbar Elementary, Kennedy Jr. High, and Star-Spencer High School. He was employed at Choctaw Sanitation Department. He was a lovely person who won many friends by his beautiful personality.

Donald Ray was reared in the Church of God and never forgot his childhood training. On Saturday August 6, 1994 about 1:00 p.m., he accepted his mother and grandmother's God as his personal Savior. Oh, how happy he was! The first song he requested was "Amazing Grace." He spent the rest of that day with his pastor, family and friends by his side. He requested scripture readings, prayers and singing. What a time of rejoicing that was. It was a day that those who were present will never forget. Donald was happy and praising God until the end.

Donald departed this life Sunday, August 7, 1994. His father Wilber, and sister, Curry, preceeded him in death.

He leaves to cherish his memory five sons, Kevin, Donald Ray Jr., Jermel, Wilbert, Quinton; two daughters, La Quinsha and Karling, all of the home; his loving and devoted mother, Mrs. Authorine Watson, Spencer, OK; three brothers, Clyde, of Oklahoma City, OK, Author and Anthony of Spencer, OK; five sisters, Vanessa, Theresa, Kathy and Wilma of Spencer, OK and Janet of Midwest City, OK; a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held in the Spencer, OK Church of God chapel with Bro. Charles Chandler officiating.

We acknowledge with sincere appreciation your many expressions of love during the hours of bereavement of our loved one. Your cards, flowers, prayers and other acts of kindness will be remembered always. —The Family

Eunice Cole, Granby, MO, died at her home on July 29, after an eight-month illness.

Mother Cole was born April 11, 1915 at Purdy, MO. She resided most of her life in the Granby, MO area. She was a homemaker and a member of the Freeman Road Church of God, Neosho, MO. Mother Cole leaves a beautiful life for us to cherish and pattern after. Truly, as we sift through the memories and keepsakes of her life, we find much to inspire us to believe in

a faithful Father, and a desire to follow in those footprints of devotion.

She married Orin "Pat" Cole on July 13, 1935, at Purdy. He died on August 23, 1976. Two sons preceded her in death; Robert Orin in infancy, and Paul Cole, formerly of Neosho, MO.

Survivors include two sons, David Cole and Jim Cole, both of Granby, MO; five daughters, Edith Lara, Thermal, CA, Alice Beisly and Fannie Ruth Rodriguez, both of Lake Elsinore, CA, Naomi Campbell, Granby, MO and Norene Harmon, Pea Ridge, AR; one brother, Louie DeCocq, Wheaton, MO; two sisters, Faye Herrel, Claremore, OK and Tressia Leonard, Purdy, MO; 48 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held August 1 at Clark Funeral Home in Neosho, MO. Bros. Bob Huskey and Austin McMillian officiated at that service, with Bro. Vada McMillian officiating the burial in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Purdy, MO.

Pallbearers were grandsons Timothy Cole, Brent Cole, Eugene Cole, Doug Cole, Ronald Cole, Darran Campbell, Lindell Campbell, Robson Harmon, Roy Harmon and Randon Harmon.

We wish to express our deep appreciation to all of you for your many prayers, visits and phone calls, and for the cards of encouragement which Mother received and enjoyed so much. She expressed how she would love to answer them but just didn't feel like it. She loved her "Family of God." Every time she had a struggle, in answer to prayer, she would get relief. God, in His wisdom and mercy, took her to Himself without a struggle, for which we are so grateful. Your love and prayers meant so much after her passing, and if we have failed to thank anyone for your love and concern, flowers, food and love offerings, we express our thankfulness to you now. —The Cole Family

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" 'And unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation,' Behold Him in all His fullness and beauty, until you will be changed into the same image from glory to glory."

—Emil Kreutz

Imitation Gold

(Continued from page 3.)

that he was wrong in thinking that the earth revolved around the sun, and swore that—"For the future, I will never more say, or assert, either by word or writing, anything that shall give occasion for a like suspicion." But immediately after taking this forced oath he is said to have whispered to a friend standing near, "The earth moves, for all that." Though Galileo had knowledge of the matter partly from what he had seen with his own eyes, yet he did not have the conviction to die for it.

Confidence in institutions will always prove disappointing for the followers. Why? For example, briefly look into scientific knowledge. Correct scientific theories only explain natural causes and effects in the astronomical, physical, medical and other fields of systematized knowledge. By compound studies and experiments, scientists may be able to prevent effects or learn to benefit from causes or satisfy curiosity but they cannot create from nothing. Even evolutionists must have the molecules to begin the revised monkeys they claim their ancestors to be. In scientific fields, a person can be ever learning, but never come to the knowledge of the truth that will give peace with the Creator.

Likewise, in man-made "churches" where Jesus Christ is not the head (Eph. 5:23) and the Holy Spirit is not the guide, (John 16:13) there may be a form of godliness but no power to save and keep the soul from sin. This is fruit of perilous times ushering in the last days. (II Tim. 3:5.) Down through the generations of time, self-righteous men have tried to imitate and duplicate the true Church of God. Millions of souls have sunk and are sinking into the lake of fire prepared for the devil because they have told and believed his lies. (Rev. 20:10; 21:8.)

This not only holds true for the forms in the so-called Christian society, but also for the religions of the world. Let's summarize four religions as explained in neutral, informative terms in *Eerdman's Handbook to The World's Religions*, compiled by more than 50 specialist authors from many different countries.

The Muslims who study the Koran and worship Allah may have satisfaction in that

they obey the laws of the Koran, but they have no saviour who has cleansing power from sin. Muhammad, their prophet, who wrote the Koran, does not freely offer grace, mercy and love, but rituals must be dutifully performed for acceptance. Even then sin is not cleansed from the heart but it is only atoned. Obedience to the rituals is required but sin and corruption continue in the lives of the Muslims in all fractions of this religion. This religion, stemming from Abraham, is a close imitation of Judaism without the prophetic truth of a saviour to come. Men are encouraged to die for their beliefs but they meet God without born-again salvation.

Buddha, the enlightened one, left an Eight-fold Path for his followers to relieve suffering, which is part of life itself. This includes the right knowledge, attitude, speech, action, occupation, mindfulness (awareness), and composure. Buddhism offers self-redemption without acknowledgement of a past god. Strict meditation is taught and practiced and a good Buddhist expects to be reincarnated into a better position in his or her next life on earth. However, The Four Noble Truths, the core of all Buddha divisions, plainly teaches that all life is suffering. What hope is this?

The Hindu religion is a wide-spreading umbrella over many varieties of belief. Hindu is a Persian word for "indian," pointing to the fact that India is where this religion originated. Hindus may worship many gods, or only one of them, but the general belief is that gods are reincarnates of each other. It includes Bud-

dhism, though most Buddhists do not claim to be Hindus. Spiritual guides called gurus teach their followers yoga and tran-

scendental meditation. This leads to a life of detachment and mind over matter. The Hindu hope is for release from life's chain of consequences. What is the reward for such hope? It is reincarnation into a better form of life, perhaps as a sacred cow. This may be a fairly decent return if you are a cow in India, but is life worth living just for this?

Though gurus don't offer solutions to world

(Continued on page 16.)

"Confidence in institutions will always prove disappointing for the followers."

Satan's Subtlety

By Bro. Stanley Dickson

When we expose the devil in his attempt to subvert holiness in our lives, that is not an automatic guarantee that he will not try another approach to introduce the same wrong again. When we set out to accomplish something in life, anytime one avenue is shut to us, then we begin to look for another way to attain the desired results. This is something we learned early in life and put into practice many times. In fact, it is one of our basic problem-solving tools.

The Bible teaches that the serpent (Satan) was more subtle than all the other creatures. How long and how often he tempted Eve to eat of the fruit that was forbidden, we do not know. In my mind, since he had to reason with her, "you will not die," she may have resisted Satan many times before she succumbed to his subtlety. He may have tried many approaches, but when the woman observed the fruit was good for food and pleasant to the eye, she took it and did eat. We know the results of her and Adam's action. Oh, the sin, pain, tears, sickness and death that was ushered onto the scene of life because of that one act of succumbing to the subtle and varied approaches of Satan. 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." Anytime we submit to Satan we lose, regardless of the area. Satan is coated within and without with the stench of death and all that he touches reeks with that sickening odor.

There is a saying that "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again." This could well be the motto of Satan, especially when he sets out to defile and pollute the minds of people. The Church of God over the years has taught against the immorality promoted by the motion picture industry, and its never-ending downward spiral of moral decadence. The advent of television made available this same pollution to most every home in America. The resulting pain and moral sickness of television's influence is readily seen not only by the Christian community, but by the secular community as well. What Satan could not accomplish through the theater he has attempted through television. It is quite a victory when you stop and think about it. I am thankful that there have been some sincere Christians who have held a resistance against evil, no matter how it was presented.

So now, has Satan stopped his evil intent of polluting the holiness of the hearts and minds of Christians, and violating the sanctity of the home and family? No, he has not. He has only forged ahead on another front in order to advance the same pall of death on the conscience of man.

People enjoy taking pictures. They like to mark birthdays, first steps and weddings. They want to remember vacations and the faces of family members as they pass through life. Most people enjoy going to the family album and reminiscing of events and people of the past. To laugh, cry and be amazed at the stories brought back to the memory by the old photo album and its contents, is an event that draws people back time and time again. This innocent desire most of us have to record memories of special times, can be used by Satan to reintroduce an old evil into man's heart.

Mankind's technology and ability has given the world a method in which one can record with motion and sound those very special moments and then replay them instantly. That vehicle is known as the video cassette recorder, and has the same potential to pollute the mind, if not used wisely. It has the ability to present evils that oppose holy living. Add to the fact that movies showing moral corruptness can be rented for just a few dollars each, and the ready availability of the same, causes this writer concern.

The devil can present the enticement in one's mind that since no one will know or see, then maybe, just once it won't hurt to succumb to his suggestion. Please do not be offended by this idea of our susceptibility to temptation. We are all human. Satan can tempt and he does, but the grace and discernment of the love of God and the Holy Spirit can keep us from yielding the flesh to the wiles of the devil.

One of the facts of sin and Satan is that they are never satisfied with just one bite. Adam and Eve, "did eat." How Satan must laugh his sinister laugh at the person who is tempted and eats of his death-producing evil, only wrapped up in another package. Remember, anytime we submit to Satan's subtle ways, WE LOSE!

Dear reader, please do not succumb to that which will supplant the stench of death where the sweet fragrance of a holy heart should be. God has called us to holiness and that must be our standard. God said to us, "neither give place to the devil." Do not leave the door of your heart unguarded for a moment. Satan is just lying in wait to bring an old evil into your home and heart.

Imitation Gold

(Continued from page 14.)

problems nor eternal hope, their teachings have been in demand since the 1960's in the USA. Their meditation technique has been adopted by the New Age Religion. This movement claims it is not a religion so that it can function in schools, influence media, and operate in large corporation seminars. However, it is the Humanistic Religion. The New Age Movement has many faces but its one goal is to some day govern the world. It may claim there is no God to entice sophisticated minds or it may claim all religions are one with many paths to the same goal. Whatever tactic fits the situation of the time, the New Age Religion is quickly spreading venom into the world around us.

Certainly, there is no future for the souls of men in any of these man-made institutions. God created man to serve Him with a pure heart and this only comes through repentance, redemption, and honesty with the Holy Spirit.

In order for sincere souls to come out of these institutions, they need to hunger after pure righteousness and yield to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. They need to see themselves as reflected by God's Holy Word, repent and then sin no more as they understand God's will. Once an honest soul tastes that the Lord is good, there soon builds up a relationship of love and trust—a love so deep that tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, death or life, powers, things present or things to come, height nor depth can separate that soul from the Lord. (Rom. 8:35-39.) It is trust so complete that perfect peace reigns in the heart when the mind is stayed on the Lord. (Isa. 26:3.) This is a friendship with God, our Creator, and Jesus Christ, our Saviour. It is not governed by forced rules nor controlled by inflicting fear, nor detached by independent things, but it is a bond of trusting love coupled with eternal hope.

Love, trust, hope and wisdom—aren't these universal treasures that people search for in life? The devil fabricates imitations for these in hundreds of different ways, but all lead to disallusion and unhappiness. These imitations are not worth dying for, yet many are dying because of them. Pure gold is found when God's people come through a trial of faith with joy unspeakable and full of glory. (I Pet. 1:6-8.)



**Excerpts Taken From
Sept., 1944 Faith and Victory**

A Soldier Poet Talks to God

(This poem was found on the body of an American soldier after battle somewhere in Italy.)

Look God, I have never spoken to You,
But now I want to say How Do You Do;
You see God, they told me You didn't exist,
And like a fool, I believed all this.

Last night from a shell hole, I saw Your sky,
I figured right then, they had told me a lie;
Had I taken time to see things You made,
I'd have known they weren't calling a spade a spade.

I wonder, God, if You'd shake my hand,
Somehow I feel that You will understand;
Funny, I had to come to this hellish place,
Before I had time to see Your face.

The Signal—well God, I'll have to go,
I like You lots, this I want You to know;
Look now, this will be a horrible fight,
Who knows—I may come to Your house tonight.

Though I wasn't friendly to You before,
I wonder God, if you'd wait at Your door;
Look, I'm crying—me, shedding tears!
I wish I had known You these many years.

Well... I have to go now God,... Good-bye.
Strange—since I met You, I'm not afraid to die!

"The marriage of Clifford W. Wilson and Dorothy Byers was an event of Sunday, July 30, at 6 p.m. The vows were solemnized in the home of and by the editor, Fred Pruitt.... Clifford worked here in the office... more than a year ago. Dorothy has worked here the past two years, and plans to continue her work for the time being."