

FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant

Unto Him shall the
gathering of the
people be.

God Is
LOVE

YE SHINE AS
LIGHTS IN
THE WORLD.

JESUS
SAVES

The night cometh,
when no man
can work.

Volume 72, No. 10

72nd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$1.00 Per Year

Jan., 1995

HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR - FROM THE PRINT SHOP FAMILY

Recipe for a Happy New Year

I WILL:

Like Paul - forget those things which are behind and press forward.

Like David - lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help.

Like Abraham - trust implicitly in my God.

Like Enoch - walk in daily fellowship with my heavenly Father.

Like Jehoshaphat - prepare my heart to seek the Lord.

Like Moses - choose rather to suffer than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.

Like Daniel - commune with God at all times and in all places.

Like Job - be patient under all circumstances.

Like Gideon - advance, even though my friends are few.

Like Caleb and Joshua - refuse to be discouraged because of superior numbers.

Like Andrew - strive to lead my brother to Christ.

Like Stephen - manifest a forgiving spirit toward all who seek my hurt.

Like Jesus - go about doing good.

—Selected

Our Goal—His Glory

By Mary Murphey

By the time I pulled into the drive, the words of the song playing on my car radio were having an effect. I had resolved to be a more thoughtful and considerate wife.

"There are so many reasons a man and a woman can say to each other, 'I need you.' "The Christian lyrics, with their wholesome flavor, had awakened a renewed appreciation in my heart for God's grand design in forming male and female to complement and support each other. The music had softened and bettered me. I felt uplifted. I wanted to be a kinder person and a better spouse. The positive use of someone's talent had blessed me and I was grateful.

Yes, the music had reached my heart. **And that is God's intended purpose for the use of all talents, to reach hearts, change lives, better the human condition, and ultimately, glorify Himself.**

Whenever I view a series of paintings by Thomas Cole entitled, "The Voyage of Life," I am deeply moved. His talented and forceful depiction of our journey through childhood, youth, adulthood and old age causes me to think deeply and soberly. Perhaps the reason is best explained in his own words.

"Every great artist works to God forgetful of the caprices, the prejudices, and even the desires of men. **He labours to gratify his soul's devotion to the beautiful and true which are centered in God.** When artists descend to

labour merely as a means of obtaining reputation,... they abandon the path that leads to the highest excellence, and are found forever grovelling with the sordid spirits of this world."

Thomas Cole's work is powerful because it contains the essence of truth and beauty. It exalts the source of those elements, and that is God.

We have the opportunity to reveal some of God to the world when we use our creative gifts to His glory. Art, literature, and music can all be a means to mirror His image. This is the purpose for which talent is given. One writer stated, that "If God gives . . . gifts, they are not to be despised. They are to be used to convey deep religious truths—to celebrate the knowledge of God and the beauty of His creation."

I know of a public speaker who has garnered many awards. Once she presented a thoughtful speech but failed to win the honors of the day.

A friend remarked, "This is the first time she has lost." The speaker, however, seemed completely satisfied. She had caused the audience to think. "Your message really hit home," one listener wrote. Another commented, "You made me think about how to treat others." That response was reward enough, for her words produced a positive result. She had reached hearts.

Are you gifted with some special ability? What a privilege you possess! Using your skill to exalt your heavenly Father and bless others provides a wonderful opportunity to lay up treasure in heaven. Imagine the joy of getting there, only to discover that through the dedicated use of your talent, the hearts and lives of many people have been enriched, and you've accumulated a great return on your investment. It can be a rewarding reality for those who focus on doing all to the glory of the Giver of gifts.

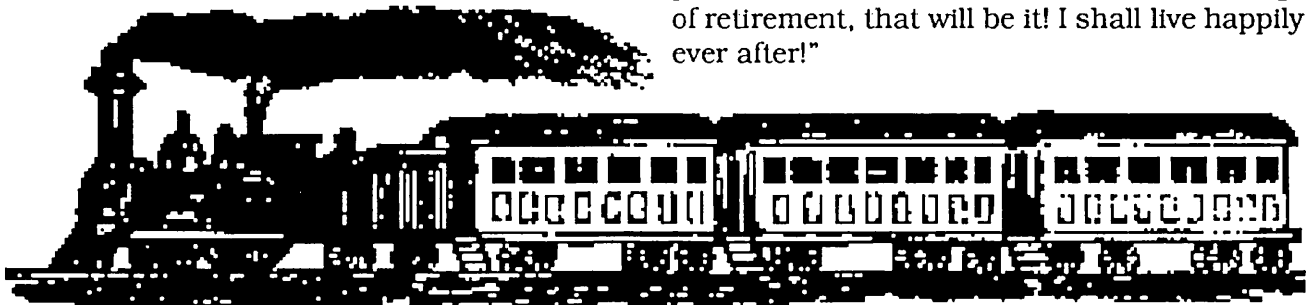
The Station

By Robert J. Hastings

Tucked away in our subconscious minds is an idyllic vision. We see ourselves on a long, long trip that almost spans the continent. We're traveling by passenger train, and out the windows we drink in the passing scene of cars on nearby highways, of children waving at a crossing, of cattle grazing on a distant hillside, of smoke pouring from a power plant, of row upon row of corn and wheat, of flatlands and valleys,

of our lives finally will be neatly fitted together like a completed jigsaw puzzle. How restlessly we pace the aisles,...waiting, waiting, waiting for the station.

"When we reach the station, that will be it!" we cry. Translated it means, "When I'm 18, that will be it! When I buy a new 450 SL Mercedes-Benz, that will be it! When I put the last child through college, that will be it! When I win a promotion, that will be it! When I reach the age of retirement, that will be it! I shall live happily ever after!"

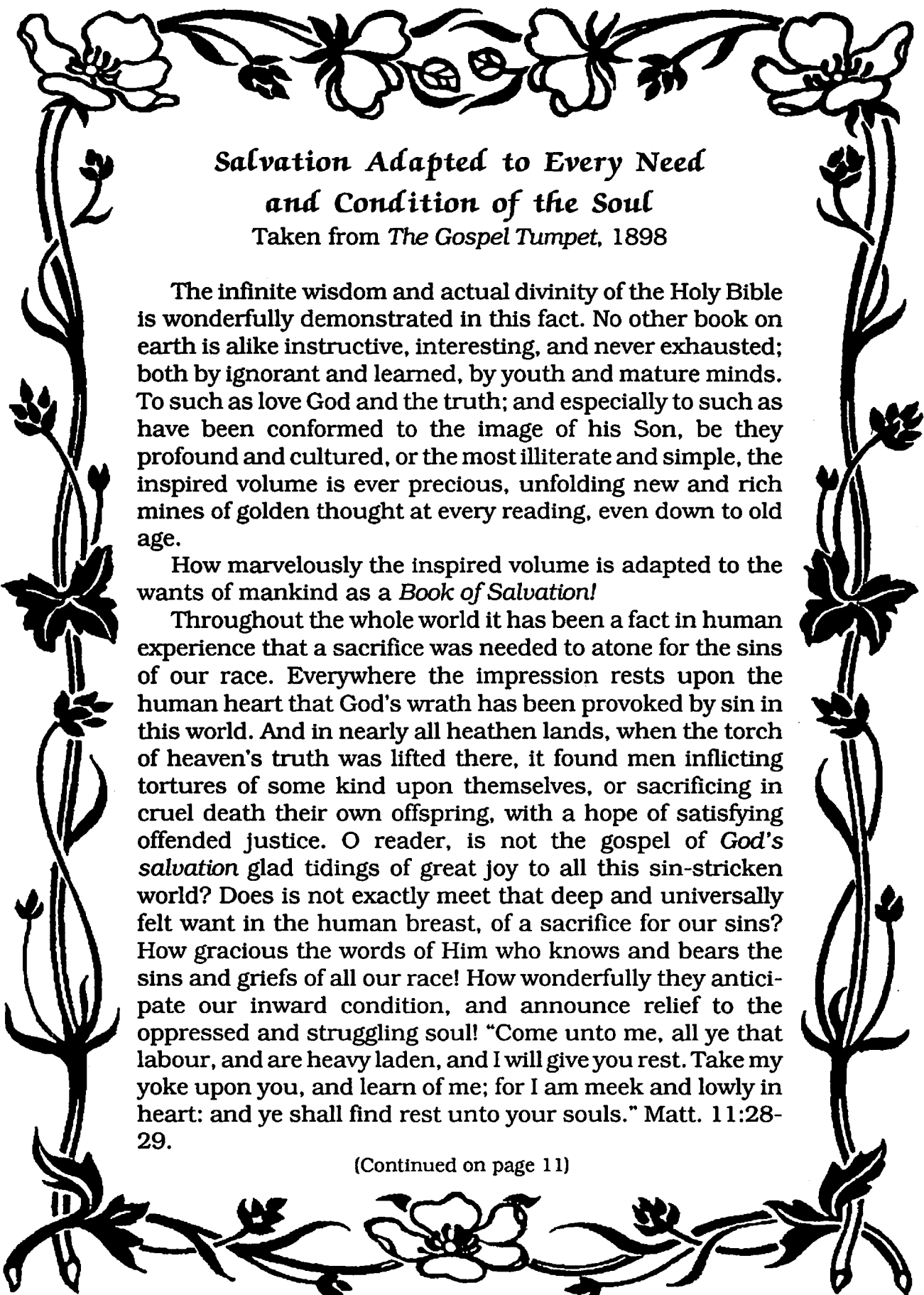


of mountains and rolling hillsides, of city skylines and village halls, of biting winter and blazing summer and cavorting spring and docile fall.

But uppermost in our minds is the final destination. On a certain day, at a certain hour, we will pull into the station. There will be bands playing and flags waving. And once we get there so many wonderful dreams will come true. So many wishes will be fulfilled and so many pieces

Unfortunately, once we get "it," then "it" disappears. The station somehow hides itself at the end of an endless track.

"Relish the moment" is a good motto, especially when coupled with Psalm 118:24: "**This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.**" It isn't the burdens of today that drive men mad. Rather, it is regret over yesterday or fear of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who would rob us of **today**.

A decorative border of stylized flowers and vines surrounds the text. The border features large, five-petaled flowers at the top and bottom, with smaller flowers and leaves along the sides. The vines are thin and elegant, with small leaves and buds.

Salvation Adapted to Every Need and Condition of the Soul

Taken from *The Gospel Tumpet*, 1898

The infinite wisdom and actual divinity of the Holy Bible is wonderfully demonstrated in this fact. No other book on earth is alike instructive, interesting, and never exhausted; both by ignorant and learned, by youth and mature minds. To such as love God and the truth; and especially to such as have been conformed to the image of his Son, be they profound and cultured, or the most illiterate and simple, the inspired volume is ever precious, unfolding new and rich mines of golden thought at every reading, even down to old age.

How marvelously the inspired volume is adapted to the wants of mankind as a *Book of Salvation*!

Throughout the whole world it has been a fact in human experience that a sacrifice was needed to atone for the sins of our race. Everywhere the impression rests upon the human heart that God's wrath has been provoked by sin in this world. And in nearly all heathen lands, when the torch of heaven's truth was lifted there, it found men inflicting tortures of some kind upon themselves, or sacrificing in cruel death their own offspring, with a hope of satisfying offended justice. O reader, is not the gospel of God's *salvation* glad tidings of great joy to all this sin-stricken world? Does it not exactly meet that deep and universally felt want in the human breast, of a sacrifice for our sins? How gracious the words of Him who knows and bears the sins and griefs of all our race! How wonderfully they anticipate our inward condition, and announce relief to the oppressed and struggling soul! "Come unto me, all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matt. 11:28-29.

(Continued on page 11)

FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year \$1.00
Package of 4 papers to one address, one year \$3.00
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.

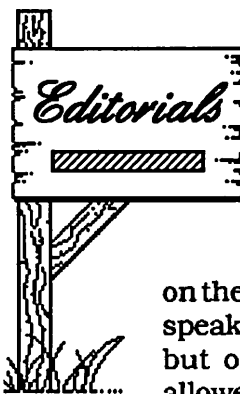
A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

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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We are all poised on the very precipice of change. This month has ushered in the year of 1995, and in it we can foresee changes of many kinds; personal, political, societal and universal.

There are winds of change on the Church front as well. I am not speaking of a diversion of beliefs, but of the things which God has allowed to come to pass. This was brought forcibly to mind with the passing of Bro. Richard Madden on December 7, 1994. Bro. Madden was a dedicated minister who took seriously the words of Christ in Matt. 25:37-40. "Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Bro. Madden was one to do these very things because of the love and interest he had for others, and concern for their souls.

Isaiah 32:20 says, "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters,..." There have been those among us who have done this, but their pilgrimage of duty has ended, and they have left a void that others must fill. To sow beside all waters means to have a vision that goes beyond the small circle of our acquaintances and to search out those who are in need. It means seizing the opportunities the Lord sends us to minister to whomever He sends our way.

I was recently told that beginning with the passing of Bro. Ostis Wilson, Jr., there have been eight ministers to die within the last two years. These changes can be a force of depression and lethargy to us, or they can provide a stimulant to spur us on in filling the gaps in the work of the Lord.

There are several other Christians in the annals of my memory, ministers, as well as lay persons, whom I consider to be in the same category to which Hebrews 11:38 refers, "of whom the world was not worthy." They loved life upon this earth, found pleasure in their families and the simple joys of laughing and caring, and yet with a burden they stood in

defiance of the sin that held other souls captive. They labored to bring a ray of light to those who were tormented by Satan. Their works live on, just as permanent as the eternal crown that they have gained.

Humility was a trademark of each of these stalwart saints. They were willing to converse, counsel and receive counsel of those from all stages of the Christian experience. Most of you can probably think of people in your life who fit such a description. Recalling their example should spur us on to a similar walk and work for the Lord.

May the year of 1995 see a forward push in Gospel labors. Much seed needs to be sown, and it will be at a substantial cost, but let us not be discouraged in the harvest. Just a few souls plucked from the burning will be worth the effort and earn a feeling of great reward.

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We still have in stock a supply of 1995 wall calendars. Measuring 7 1/4" X 13 1/2", they have a colorful nature scene with a Bible verse for each month. The cost is \$3.00 each, which includes the postage and handling charge.

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We also have ready for sale, bound volumes of the 11 issues of the Faith and Victory paper for the year of 1994. The price is \$1.00 per book, plus \$1.25 for postage and handling. Also in stock are 1994 Beautiful Way year-books for Juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, plus 90¢ for postage and handling. There is a limited supply of these books and they will be sold on a first-come basis.

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This January edition is going to press while the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting is in progress. So far, attendance is good, and a number of people have sought for spiritual help. At this writing, more ministers are arriving to be in the meeting.

We have shut down the printing process to a degree, so that our workers can attend some of the services. However, we continue to fill and mail orders for literature and also to print and send out this January Faith and Victory.

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Thanks to each of you who have supported this phase of the work of the Lord throughout 1994. May God bless you to be in His will, and to rejoice in His goodness in the year ahead.

—Wayne Murphey

Prayer Requests

CA—"I haven't been well. Please remember me in prayer."
—Helen Carson

MI—"I still need a healing touch."

—Olive Gettersson

MO—"I need prayer for my eyes. Also pray for my unsaved children, that God would deal mightily with their hearts."
—Laura Jarvis

CA—"Please pray for Daniel Davis, Jr. He is 26 years old and has been seriously ill for approximately three years. We need complete healing and more faith."
—Name Withheld

LA—"Herschel Greenway needs help in soul and body. Pray for my family, friends and loved ones."
—Catherine Bhramayana

CA—Sis. Doris Pihaylic has several unspoken requests.

OH—"I ask an interest in your prayers."

—Sis. Mary Vice

IN—"I would like to request prayer for my ministry and my family."
—C. A. Rothbauer

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PREACHING TAPES WANTED

Sis. Estellene Cramer is looking for tape recordings of her husband's preaching, Bro. Edward Cramer. If you have any, please contact her at: 2101 W. Washington, Guthrie, OK, 73044.

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LETTERS FROM THE READERS



KS—Dear Ones at Faith Publishing House: Greetings in the love of Jesus, our great Redeemer. We are so glad to know Him, and that He loves us and cares. The enemy tries his best to accuse and point out things to discourage, but our heart's desire is to bring honor and glory to the great God of heaven, and His Son, Jesus.

Since I haven't been able to be on my feet, I have been doing a lot of reading. My soul has been blessed and inspired for healing of my body. Last week, as I didn't know what the mind of the Lord was concerning me, I first committed myself to Him who does all things well. Along the latter part of the week a lady came to see me and told of her condition at one time. She was concerned about me and began to make sugges-

tions. I told her I desired the Lord to get glory out of healing me. It seemed from that time I have been inspired to be healed for God's glory.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has called and sent cards and letters. I appreciate the love and concern at this time.

I would like to order the books, *A Religious Controversy* and *The Great Physician*. I want to encourage everyone to read these good books. Bro. C. E. Orr's book, *Food for Lambs* is also very good for young and old alike. This has been a time of refreshing for me.

I desire your prayers for my healing. The Lord has blessed me greatly with my left arm and hand. I am expecting a perfect job of healing. I desire the present generation to see what God can do. I thank the Lord for many past blessings in my life and the lives of others.

May the Lord bless each of you as you labor for Him.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Inez Beisly

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FL—To Bro. Wayne Murphey and all the saints at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. I hope everyone is well. I am not very well, but I am thankful to God for life. My eyes are some better. I also have liver trouble and I desire prayer for it. Jesus said, "If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you." Luke 17:6.

Please keep me in prayer before the Lord.

—Kathleen Williams

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LA—Dear loved ones and workers for Jesus: Thank you for your efforts in putting out the *Faith and Victory*. The story, "Christmas in Tin Can Valley," touched my inner core. Oh, how important it is for us to tell others about Jesus and to live for Jesus.

Life in Shreveport, LA, has taken some drastic turns. However, Jesus is with me still. How true the song is, "...In the sunshine or the shadow, He is with me still."

The following are some of my blessings received this past year. The Lord worked in a miraculous way in providing a home for the children and me. A healthy grandson has been added to our family. Our needs are being supplied, with more time at home. God is so good! Last but not least, we have been comforted during the recent loss of our loved ones, Uncle

Bob Forbes and my father, Salvatore DiDio. Their passings were two months apart.

August 22, 1994, I spent by the side of my dear Uncle Bob. I appreciate the memory of songs and prayers said that day. Uncle's life for Jesus was a TREASURE.

Uncle Bob and Aunt May opened their Kentwood home to me when I was a teenager in need. Memories of worshipping in the church on the hill, working in the garden by Uncle's side and riding the school bus with my cousins are cherished memories indeed.

In 1987 the children and I had the privilege of being in the "Way of Life" school for three years; working by Uncle's side learning the songs and lessons together. We sang a theme song at school which says "Living for Jesus wherever I go, trying to please Him in all that I do." I'm thankful Uncle Bob's life was lived for Jesus and that I shared in that life.

On November 20th the Lord worked in a special way. Western Sizzlin' allowed me to take my vacation to be in the Loranger Assembly Meeting and to be with my dad in his last days. The Lord's traveling mercy kept me safe as I traveled back and forth between the church services and my visits with Dad and family. Dad was even able to get his soul fed from "hot-off-the-press" message tapes.

I praise God for our wonderful family who nursed and cared for Dad until his passing on November 27, a beautiful, peaceful Sunday morning. Dad's favorite sayings while in pain were: "I serve a living God." "You are a merciful God." "I love you, Jesus."

I am so thankful for the promise of eternal life, and I need your prayers that I will remain faithful.

Your sister, —Catherine Bhramayana

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OK—Greetings of love to the dear workers at the Print Shop: I appreciate your labors of love in the Lord's work. May God continue to bless you. I enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper, as well as other material from the Print Shop.

I wanted to send in my testimony of how God has blessed me and others that were here with me. I was having trouble with my garage door and Bro. and Sis. Cleophas Jordan came home with my sister and me to assist us. While working on the door the smoke detector went off and the alarm system director reported fire. The firemen came out and discovered severe trouble with the furnace, which had to be cut off until we

could get it repaired. It took half of a day for the workmen to fix it the next day. Thanks be to God for His abundant mercy. Had we not been home, or had we been asleep, it could have been tragic. As Samuel of old said, "...hitherto hath the Lord helped us." I Sam. 7:12.

I have many Ebenezer stones put down when God has come to my rescue. I want to praise His holy name for His goodness and mercy to me. Our trials come to make us strong.

Please pray for us as we do for you workers there. You young people have been a blessing to us. My sister, Eva Hardman, has moved in with me. We are thankful for this. Her children desire to move her to Texas with them in the spring.

Pray for us and may God bless each of you.

—Sister Theresa Gaines

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WA—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: May God bless you all. I am glad God has spared me to see the nearing of this holiday season. Above all I am thankful that I have a right through God's Son to serve Him. It keeps me pressing, knowing my time in this world may not be long. My Bible tells me to watch and pray that Satan won't overtake me in my striving to make Heaven my home. Please pray for me that I won't fail God.

I am praying for your success, that souls may be blessed.

—Naomi Jones

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TN—Dear friends at the Publishing House: I trust all are well and pressing on in the Lord's work. It is so much needed in these times of evil doings.

Many of our Church of God friends (some old-timers) have been passing on from this earthly life. Are we working diligently to replace them? May the Lord help us to do all we can....

Christian love and best wishes,

—Charles B. Williams

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OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' name. I wanted to tell what the Lord has done for me. I had a terrible dizzy condition which lasted about a week. I called for prayer and the Lord came to my rescue. I also had a very bad hurting in my back which went on for several months. The pain is gone now, but I still have a tender spot where it hurt so badly. I am now having trouble with my legs. They hurt and feel weak.

Pray for my family. We have some special requests we desire the saints to be agreed in prayer with us about.

—Ruby Bell

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: ...We certainly are thankful to be privileged to worship with the Neosho congregation. We have also enjoyed the second summer here on the campgrounds at Monark Springs. We have gotten to know our neighbors this year. Surely God had been merciful to us in all the events of this past year, and we thank God for all the good and pleasant joys of life!

Christian love and prayers to all,

—Bro. Leslie and Sis. Eula Adams

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MO—Dear saints: Greetings in Jesus' lovely name. As this year is just about to come to a close, many people are lost and on their way to a place of torment. What can we as Christians do? The Bible says, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Psalms 11:3. How true. The foundation of godliness is just about completely destroyed. All we can do is pray, and let the Lord have control. I need prayer for my eyes, also for my unsaved children.

I do love the *Faith and Victory* magazine. May God bless each one of you there.

A sister in Christ, —Laura Jarvis

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OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love.

I was sorry to hear of Bro. Richard Madden's passing. We are going down the valley one by one. It makes us wonder who will be next. The main thing is to be ready. Then it won't make any difference when we are called, first or last. I want to be one of the wise virgins and always have plenty of oil on hand.

Love and prayers, —Sister Emma Dilley

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OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. Thank God for salvation! I trust that all is well with you, and that the good Lord is blessing your labors.

I am feeling much better, thank God, and have gained back about 12 of the 50 pounds I lost.

My brother, Herman, is very ill and in a nursing home. I am leaving in just a short time to see him. He is the one Doris and I stayed with before she became too ill to do things.

I pray God to bless everyone there, and make all of the material you send out a blessing to those that receive it.

With Christian love, —Bro. Bill Busch

CANADA—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in our Lord Jesus Christ. May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you all.

Wife and I came back from Germany on the last day of October. We had a good trip and we handed out many books and tracts in the German language. May the Lord our God give the increase. We are still endeavoring to bring forth spiritual fruit as we get older.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless you and all the workers at the Print Shop. Please pray for us as we are isolated.

In the love of Jesus, —Bro. and Sis. Schroeder



IN MEMORIAM

Salvatore George DiDio went to be with the Lord, Sunday, November 27, 1994. He was 79. He was born to Luigi and Carmela DiDio, and raised in Sicily through age 10. He was a former resident of Hammond, LA, and most recently a resident of New Sarpy, LA.

Brother Salvatore was joined in holy matrimony with his pearl, Wanita Pearl Stice DiDio, on March 24, 1949. To this union five children were born; Nigel, Carmelina, Cathy, Olene and Alford.

Brother Salvatore followed the Lord since early childhood when his mother (whom he lost at age 15) showed him pictures of the Virgin Mary and saints, and also took him to church in Sicily. He truly turned his heart over to Jesus as a young man, serving in the United States Army as a medic, which he chose rather than to handle a gun.

Brother Salvatore met the saints of God in Hammond, LA, not long before marrying his Wanita. At the time he had been faithfully taking care of little crippled Teddy and knew Wanita would be supportive of this work if he married her. Brother Salvatore nursed Teddy for 21 years from age 12 to 33 years. He even made Teddy a special bed with wheels and pushed him around the streets of Hammond, LA, and to the Hammond Church of God. Brother Teddy was one of many who Brother Salvatore ministered to and cared for through the years.

Salvatore DiDio is survived by three daughters, Carmelina Waite, New Sarpy, LA, Catherine

Bhramayana, Shreveport, LA, Olene Whiddon, LaCombe, LA; one son, Alford DiDio, Hammond, LA; two sisters, Gloria Stoliker, Denham Springs, LA, Victoria McMahan, Charlotte, NC; one brother, Anthony DiDio, Sr., Stratford, CT; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren as well as many nieces, nephews, family and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Wanita Pearl Stice DiDio; one daughter, Nigel DiDio and a grandson, Dan Waite.

Brother Salvatore will be missed. However, we are rejoicing that he is at peace in heaven after enduring much suffering.

Brother Lewis Kimble, whom Brother Salvatore befriended when he was a child, gave the eulogy, with Brother John Clement assisting. Services were held at the Oak Grove Church of God in Loranger, LA.



Newton Perry "Doc" Futch, son of Wade and Eunice Futch, was born October 5, 1910, in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana.

Brother Futch slipped away from us and passed from time into eternity on October 22, 1994, at the age of 84 years and 17 days.

Brother Futch had been "born again" into the kingdom of God in 1949.

Brother Futch was 25 years of age when he was married to Ora Arrant on September 28, 1935. Together they were blessed with two sons; Jewell Futch and his wife, Gloria, with their one son, Rylan Futch; and Algie Futch and his wife, JoAnn, with their one son, Roger Futch.

Of his family one sister, Alma Sims, of West Monroe, LA, remains, and three brothers, E. W. Futch of Pineland, TX, Richard Futch of Bull Shoals, AR, and Jack Futch of Louisville, KY.

Brother and Sister Futch lived many years in West Monroe, LA, where he worked 30 years at the Riverwood Paper Mill.

Interment was at the Liberty Grove Cemetery in West Monroe, LA.

Brother Futch left all the world to follow the Lord Jesus, and because of his dedicated life and sweet spirit, was held in deep respect by those of us who were privileged to fellowship with him, especially we of the Shreveport and Jena, Louisiana congregations.

A eulogy was held honoring this Christian man at the Kilpatrick Funeral home at West Monroe, LA, conducted by Genevieve Carver.



Mabel Stubblefield Melot was born September 13, 1914 in Shawnee, OK, to Eric and

Zola Dove (Edmon) Stubblefield, and passed from this life December 2, 1994 in Shawnee, OK, after having attained the age of 80 years, 2 months and 18 days.

Sis. Melot was reared in Shawnee. She attended Earlsboro High School and Drawin College. On January 14, 1933, she married Marion Melot in Shawnee. She lived in Guthrie for 40 years and returned to Shawnee in 1992. She enjoyed gardening and crocheting. She was the bookkeeper for the Intimate Image Boutique in Edmond for her daughter, Wilma Meek, for eight years. She was a member of the Church of God.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Zola Stubblefield; her stepmother, Tommie (Winthrop) Stubblefield; one son, Vernon Melot; one daughter, Sharon Fields; one granddaughter, Colleen Meek; two brothers, Raymond and Alton Stubblefield.

Survivors include: her husband, Marion Melot of Eufaula, OK; four daughters and three sons-in-law; Wilma Meek of Edmond, OK, Roberta and Ed Wilson of Loranger, LA, Sue and Louis Morgan of Edmond, OK, Reba and Walter Wittenborn of Portland, OR; four sons and three daughters-in-law; Tom and Sandra Melot of Shawnee, OK, M. X. Melot, Jr. of Shawnee, OK, Jerry and Lenette Melot of Shreveport, LA, Robert and Catherine Melot of Edmond, OK; her father, Eric Stubblefield of Earlsboro, OK; one sister, Louise Lindsey of Mountain Home, CA; two brothers, Willard and Fred Stubblefield of Earlsboro, OK; 24 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and a host of relatives.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Charles Elwell and Wayne Murphey.

A Tribute To Mother—Sis. Mabel Melot

By Sis. Wilma Meek

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28. This was Mother's often quoted scripture. She believed and acted upon these living words.

I was with Mother when her first heart attack occurred, November 15, 1994. As I helped her into bed for the night, we talked of the goodness of God in our lives from answers to prayer. I knelt by her bedside and prayed with her, read some scriptures and left the room. Within the hour Mother called my name. When I reached her side she was struggling for breath

as fluid was filling her lungs. I felt death was close. I prayed as I called others for prayer. One of my brothers arrived, Karen Luehring, a registered nurse from the Golden Rule Home, Bro. and Sis. Vada McMillian, etc. Prayer reached the Great Physician quickly. The fluid evaporated, as our praying nurse said, "Where did it go? I have witnessed a miracle!"

For the next 17 nights there was always one or more of five of Mother's children by her side: Roberta, Tommy, Sue, Jerry and I. The companionship of each was very supportive. The saints brought meals everyday, or came when called for prayer during her increasingly frequent heart attacks. There were grandchildren visiting their precious grandmother one last time, including a granddaughter from Germany, as well as some from the east and west coasts. Mother was a gentle person and made each one feel special, loved and peaceful. Her 99 1/2 year old father, Eric Stubblefield, also visited her.

The Lord answered prayer for relief from suffering many times. Mother said, "I want to be at home, not in a hospital." Karen was a faithful nurse to come day or night to encourage us how to better care for Mother. Bro. Darrill Smith, Administrator of the Golden Rule Home was extremely helpful.

Mother had a loving and gentle nature that touched lives everywhere she went. One of her business acquaintances cried as she spoke to me over the phone, saying, "She was an angel that passed by." This was an apt description.

Mother requested that her testimony be written for the *Faith and Victory*. Even in her severest suffering, Mother counted her blessings. Her favorite song, which was sung to her often, was "He will not fail me now." Her last desire was to go home to Jesus. At 3:30 p.m., December 2, 1994, as we stood around Mother's bed, she quietly slipped away and the suffering was erased from her face, leaving a glow that turned back the hands of time.

On Wednesday, November 30, Bro. Charles Elwell was visiting Mother as she sat propped upright in her chair. Preceding his visit I was with her when she said, "What was that noise?" When I replied that there wasn't any special sound, I asked her to describe it as she had a bright look of unseen things in her eyes. She was startled, listening, "Don't you hear it?"

I said, "No, Mother, maybe God is blowing a trumpet for you to come home."

"He is? Oh, thank You, Lord!"

As Bro. Charles visited, my sister, Sue, who had been sitting at Mother's feet, ran to get me, saying, "Quick, Mother hears the trumpet blowing!" As I entered she asked us, "Don't you hear it? It's a trumpet and it keeps blowing loudly." We assured her we couldn't hear it. She couldn't understand why, since it was real to her, lasting for awhile and recurring. This was a living testimony. She felt very happy and anxious to go.

Many times in a large and scattered family a final illness and funeral is a major task; Mother's prayers were always for love and peace for her children and family. Mother's final illness and funeral was surrounded by peace. Our heavenly Father blessed it.



HOME LIFE



Our Children

By Atticus Haygood
(Written in 1876)

We must make our homes happy. Fine, or luxurious, they may not, need not be, but happy they must be, at whatever cost. Nor gold, nor power, nor fame, can buy or command a substitute for this. If home-happiness could be bought like estates, the gold of all the Rothschilds would be a poor price to pay for this inestimable blessing. The lack of it is sorrow upon sorrow, and woe upon woe. The lack of it makes aching hearts, that all the pleasures and riches and honors in the world cannot soothe. Oh, it is mockery, delusion, shame, and madness when husbands and fathers turn from their homes to seek satisfaction in the glitter of gold, the charms of power, the fascinations of strange and unhalloved pleasures; when wives and mothers, ignorant of the true glory and blessedness of their lives, forgetful of the holiest of all the holy duties of womanhood, and recreant to the most sacred trusts God ever committed to human hands, leave the pure delights that make every true home a "Paradise Regained," and seek content-

ment in the whirl of capricious living; when sons and daughters find, in the revelry of the outside world, attractions that outbid the endearments of home.

Passing through the streets of a Southern city one day we saw a poor laboring man lift up his little girl, as he passed out of the gate, and kiss her a kind good-bye. That was the best thing in his whole day's work, although he knew it not.

We parents should labor and pray to make the "father's house" the last place our children wish to leave, and the place where they would like to die. Let it be to our children so happy a place that it shall haunt their latest dreams; that its sweet tones shall sound in their hearts when they are away at school, or gone out from us into the wide world beyond; that its blessed memories, following them through the smiling valleys of their prosperity and along the rough paths of their adversity, shall bring them back to us when sorrow has bowed them down, or temptation overtaken them. He whose heart is stayed in the sweet charities and holy faith of a happy Christian home may have many sorrows and disappointments, but he cannot be wholly crushed by adversity. He may be "troubled on every side," yet he will not "be distressed;" he may be "perplexed," but he will not be "in despair;" he may be "persecuted," yet he cannot be "forsaken;" he may be "cast down," yet he cannot be "destroyed."

Again, and advancing our argument to a higher place, we must make our homes *sacred*. That they are cultivated and happy is not enough; to be perfect they must be sacred. And a Christian home is sacred, for it is a dwelling place of God. If we dig among the ruins of the dead and buried cities of the ancients, we will find memorials of their household worship. Even they had their household gods—even they had some sort of religion. But we do not want such homes as these, or as any of the modern substitutes which are proposed in the place of true Christian homes. Christianity, not the rites of pagan idolatry; the knowledge of God, not the discoveries of science; religion, not the charms of poetry, or the refinements of art; the spirit of Jesus within us, and the truth of Jesus making us free from sin, and not what is called the progress of civilization, can make our homes sacred. Christianity only, but Christianity fully, meets the highest and deepest wants of our nature. All the evil that is in us, it can take away;

all the good we are capable of, it can implant and nurture. The gospel plan of life is divinely perfect, for it comprehends and provides for all the wants and exigencies of our race in this world and in the world to come. And this blessed Gospel of Christ must be the law of life to the family, as well as to the individual. Husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters, must learn from Christ the duties of their place, and receive from Him grace to discharge them.

All the truth in the world, outside the Word of God, cannot substitute one truth that is peculiar to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is not too much truth in the Gospel, as there is not too much light and heat in the sun. We can spare none of it, and yet there is enough for every duty, every relation, every condition of life. Every virtue and every grace that can establish and adorn the family life finds its root and support in the Gospel of Christ. The family that would live by another than the law of Christ robs itself of the most exalted privilege and truest blessedness possible to humanity here below. And that home, whether it be in a king's palace or in a slave's cabin, where Jesus is most truly the Lord of all hearts, and the pattern of all lives, is most like heaven—the home of the good who have entered into rest—of all places in the world.

If in making our homes happy we do also make them sacred, we will have achieved for our households the utmost that is possible to us in this world. We will make them types of heavenly homes that await the good in the world of light and perfect blessedness.

And this feeling, that heaven is home, has its roots deep in our hearts. Our Redeemer sanctions the sentiment, and makes a memorable appeal to our instinctive faith in its truthfulness: "Let not your hearts be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also."

Thrice happy is that man whose memory of a Christian home quickens his desire for a better, in "Our Father's House" in heaven! In such a case we might say, with a good old German saint when about to go hence, "Blessed are the homesick, for they shall get home!"

Salvation Adapted to Every Need and Condition of the Soul

(Continued from page 3.)

Look at all this unhappy world. Are not the hearts of the children of men like the ever restless waters of the sea? Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away our sins; the Prince of Peace who calms the sea of inward fear and guilt.

And the infinite wisdom of God has placed this *great salvation* in reach of all. The wise of heart and understanding, if only humble minded, may enter there and find, not only a perfect redemption, but also the wonderful stores of wisdom for which he thirsts. The most simple and unlearned find no difficulty in grasping and appropriating the saving grace of God as soon as they become willing to learn of Him who is meek and lowly in heart.

The wonderful fact in the plan of redemption is this: it heals the malady of sin from the inmost core of our nature. It enters and changes the whole bent of our moral being. It purifies the very fountain of thought and action. It lifts up a perfect standard of holiness, and conforms our affections to the same. It demands a life of absolute freedom from sin, and creates that life in us. "The law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did." "...The blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh"—rendered persons outwardly and legally pure. But, "How much more shall [yea, doth] the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Heb. 9:13-14. Namely, the blood of the new covenant purges our very nature, and produces an inward consciousness of purity and moral soundness.

Such a salvation was needed by our fallen race. After King David had been led by the tempter to tarnish his beautiful life with one dark spot of sin, in his humiliation he was led to deeply scrutinize the human heart, and the hidden causes of those outcroppings of sin that are so opposite to the general character and principles of righteousness. And, behold! he discovered that he "was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did his mother conceive him." By

the sin of our first parents a vein of evil nature has been transmitted down through all our race. This he felt the need of having removed. "Behold, thou desireth truth in the inward parts." To insure a pure stream the fountain must be cleansed. And he through the Spirit predicted such a thorough remedy for sin in the following prayer: "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Psa. 51:6-7, 10.

Time moves on. The Son of God appears to take away sin by the sacrifice of Himself; and in response to the heart of man that longs for inward purity we hear Him say: "*I will, be thou clean;*" and "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin," not "all unrighteousness," which includes inbred unrighteousness.

Some ancient philosophers discovered and taught some very pure and perfect ethics. But they confessed themselves unable to live up to their own standard, much less impart an ability to their pupils to do so. Jesus our Lord

and Savior so far excelled all other moral philosophers, that He taught the only perfect law ever delivered to man, exemplified it in His life, and has power to raise all His disciples to the same standard, enabling us not only to walk in a perfect way before God, but to do it easily and naturally. Outward holiness is just as spontaneous in the life, where perfect holiness reigns within, as good fruit naturally adorns a good tree. Oh, how shall we thank God for this *new creating salvation in Jesus our Lord*? Let the vilest come to Him and realize an entire revolution from sin unto holiness.

Another beautiful fact in the adaption of salvation to our needs is this: It does not only impart that grace and fortitude by which men can readily resist all temptations to evil, but its own inward happiness utterly weans the mind and heart from all sinful indulgences. The ransomed soul is so perfectly satiated with its own heavenly feast of love and holy

delight, that the allurements of this world become utterly distasteful. All evil is repelled by the surpassing delight of that which is holy and good. How can the base mud-cakes of sinful pleasure, "*the bread of wickedness,*" excite desire in a soul that is accustomed to eating "*angel's food*"? Thus did Nehemiah say to the people: "...The joy of the Lord is your strength." Neh. 8:10. The *joys of salvation* invest the soul with boldness to reject all offered pleasures of sin. Behold, the presence of God is with His people. And, "...In thy presence is *fullness of joy*; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." Psa. 16:11. "...Therefore...everlasting joy shall be unto them." Isa. 61:7. The human heart, it is true, was created for and ardently thirsts after happiness. *Salvation fills that desire, and abundantly satiates that thirst.* FULL SALVA-

"Some ancient philosophers discovered and taught some very pure and perfect ethics. But they confessed themselves unable to live up to their own standard, much less impart an ability to their pupils to do so."

TION, and nothing else will do it. "And in this mountain [of his holiness] shall the Lord of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well re-

finied." "For in this mountain shall the hand of the Lord rest..." Isa. 25:6, 10.

Oh, if poor sinners but knew that the love of God imparts a perfect delight in all the will of God; and raises us above all relish for the miserable pleasures they are acquainted with in the life of sin, then would they gladly exchange sin for salvation, and the drudgery of Satan for the peaceful service of God.

Again, *salvation* is adapted to the wants of the soul in its perfect keeping power. The death of Christ atones for our transgression, His resurrection gives us victory over death, and His life is a pledge of our preservation in Him. "Because he liveth, we shall live also."

Hence the apostle Jude had the pleasure of writing a letter "to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ; and called." And Peter testifies that we "are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." I Pet. 1:5.

Many poor souls hesitate to give themselves to God for fear they will not be able to endure unto the end. Oh, cast such fears to the winds! God's salvation provides for our eternal salvation from sin, and no child of God needs to have the sad experience of a backslider. *The cure of sin is both a thorough and permanent success.*

In fact the "salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory," fully and forever provides for every want of the human soul,

creating us every whit whole, satisfying all our desires, and preserving us triumphant over sin, and blameless in the sight of God. And the great remedy is so miraculously adapted to man that the most feeble in mind can appreciate its blessings as well as the wise. All responsible men and women, of all nations, and under all circumstances, may come to Christ and be saved, and everlastingly preserved in Him, if they will hear His voice and obey.

How To Count

By H. M. Riggle

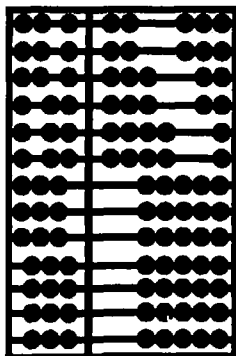
Spiritual arithmetic is an important branch of study for the Christian. He who is not able to count properly in the spiritual life may come to some very wrong conclusions. It is important, therefore, that he give his attention to learning how to count accurately. If we do not learn to do this, we may fail in some critical moment, or at least we may view things from our own standpoint and have wrong ideas concerning them. James gives us a problem in this spiritual arithmetic and tells us how to solve it. He says, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;..." James 1:2. Many people have tried to solve this problem in their lives and have found that it did not work out according to the rule here written. When they fell into divers temptations, they could not figure it out any way so as to make it come out joyful. The answer was something else always.

I have seen people in such difficulties and have heard some say to them, "Oh, count it all joy, brother; count it all joy." They tried to do so, but for some reason they could find no joy at all. It felt more like sorrow and grief and disappointment and things of that nature. I have heard others in like situations say resignedly, "Oh, I am counting it all joy," and their countenances at the same time were witnesses against them, for these showed that their owners had no joy in it at all.

When James said, "Count it all joy," he did not mean that we should simply pretend that it was joy, but

that it should really be joy. If we get the correct answer, it will be joy. There is a way in which we can work out these problems so that they will all come out joy. The reason that James could get joy for an answer is shown in the third verse: "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." He looked at the outcome, not at the thing itself. Paul expressed the idea when he said, "...If so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Rom. 8:17. The reason why he could count it joy was that he looked beyond the present and saw the glorifying together at the end. He continued, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Rom. 8:18. This is the one thing that we must learn if we are going to find real joy as the answer in working out these problems. If we leave out that which is coming as a result of them, we shall certainly miss finding any good or glorying in them. Paul said, "No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous..." He knew that the joy was not in the trial or in the chastening, but he further said, "...Afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness...." Heb. 12:11. It was the "afterward" to which he looked. It is the "afterward" to which you and I must look if we are to get the joy.

There is one more thing that we must know if we are to get the right answer, and that is that there are three things which we must add to



every trial in order to make the answer come out joy. If we fail to add any one of these, the answer will not be what we desire. They are submission, obedience, and faith. Add these to anything that comes upon you, and the result is bound to be joy. The first thing is to submit yourself to God's will in the matter. Let Him have His way fully with you. Be willing to endure whatever is His will that you shall endure. Let Him burn out the dross, if the fire must be hot. Let Him work out His pleasure, for that is always "good pleasure." In whatever comes, obey Him. If we disobey for any cause whatever; if we turn our back on His commandments and the things that we know He would have us do, we cannot "count it all joy." There will be nothing joyful in it, no matter how hard we try to count it so. Then, as we obey and submit, we must believe—believe that He will take us through it, and there will be joy indeed for our hearts. We shall not have to count it joy and feel it something else, for God will make our feelings correspond with the fact, and it will be joy to us. The joy may not come until the end of the chastening; it may not come when we are overcoming temptation; but joy will come in the end, and we shall see that the problem is worked out in a satisfactory manner, and we shall not have to count and make believe that we have the answer desired, but we shall have it in the

satisfaction of our own hearts. Let us look away from the toil to the reaping; and when at last we come with the reapers to that great harvest-home, we shall bring our sheaves with rejoicing, and we shall enter into the joy of the Lord, there to abide and to share in the pleasures that are at His right hand forevermore.

Let us think more about the glory that shall be revealed in us. When our life on earth is over we shall forget about the toils, the hardships, and the disappointments along the way; and we shall join with the ransomed in the song of rejoicing and surround God's throne and through the ages of eternity we shall thank God that He brought us by that rugged way that led upward and onward to the world eternal. We shall then never repine for the thorns that were along our way. We shall then rejoice in Him with "joy unspeakable and full of glory." Let us therefore press on. Let us not hesitate.

Let us, therefore, press on with courage to the goal of life's race, where the heavenly hosts will greet our coming with anthems sweeter than any that ever fell on mortal ear, and where our glorious Redeemer will place upon each victor's brow a glittering diadem and will welcome him to life eternal in those mansions of resplendent beauty, where he may dwell content through ages without end.

In His Law Do I Meditate

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

The children were still taking their afternoon naps when I slipped into the kitchen to prepare supper. I turned on the light and thought, "God said, 'Let there be light: and there was light.' " I often think of that third verse in the Bible when I turn on a light switch. I appreciate light even more since the last electrical storm that left us in darkness for awhile.

For supper I planned to first make bread rolls so they would be rising while I made the cherry pie. As I put the yeast in warm water to rise, I thought of the Passover supper that the children of Israel ate just before they left Egypt. God told them to kill a lamb without blemish on the 14th day of their first month

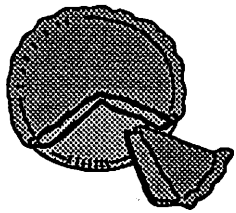
and strike blood from the lamb on the two side posts and upper door post of their houses. Then they were to roast the lamb with fire and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. The bitter herbs reminded them of their sufferings in Egypt. The flat unleavened bread recalled the haste of their departure—they had no time to wait and let it rise like I needed to do with this bread.

Bread without yeast is not puffed up with pride and airs, but is special like the heavenly manna that God sent the children of Israel during the forty years they were



in the wilderness. They did not have to prepare the manna bread but only gather it into baskets each morning except on the Sabbath Day. How simple that was for the mothers! No doubt the children liked it for it was a white wafer which tasted like honey.

Honey and bread are good together. When I think of honey, I remember the song: "Honey In The Rock" and the scripture "...With honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee." Ps. 81:16. One time Jonathan and his armourbearer had been out in battle alone against the Philistines and they had not heard King Saul give the command that no one eat until the enemy be driven away. Jonathan came into the woods where there was honey. He took his rod and dipped it into the honey and after eating, his strength returned and his eyes were enlightened. Jonathan fought mightily in the battle against the enemies and later the people rescued Jonathan when it fell his lot to die for eating of the honey. The Rock of Salvation delivered Jonathan that day.



Now the bread rolls were made out to rise and the cherry pie was next to be made. I rolled out the pie crust and flavored the cherry pie filling with almond extract. There isn't any Biblical record of cherries or cherry trees, but even as long ago as Genesis 43:11, the land of Canaan has nourished the beautiful budding almond trees. Father Israel gave his sons presents to take back to the Egyptian ruler (Joseph) in order to free Simeon and keep Benjamin. The presents were balm, honey, spices, myrrh, nuts and almonds.

And there are other fruits also: figs, grapes, and pomegranates. Round, red, shiny pomegranates with the sweet berry kernels within were given a special honor, for their image was embroidered between golden bells at the bottom of the high Priest's blue robe. Figs must be an old fruit because Adam and Eve used fig leaves to make their first aprons. The Israelites often made fig cakes like the ones that Abigail took to King David for a peace offering concerning her husband's rudeness. And grapes grow abundantly in Canaan. Remember in Numbers 13 how it took two spies to carry one cluster of grapes for Moses and the waiting Israelites to

see? Grapes can be crushed and strained for juice, but one time at a marriage feast, Jesus used just water to make the best wine. Purple grape juice will always make me think of the Lord's Supper and the blood of the Lamb who was without spot or blemish. Praise the name of Jesus!



By the time the cherry pie was made and in the oven, our children were waking up. It was time to fry the meat. I poured oil into the skillet and thought how valuable oil is. It was so valuable to one widow woman that she saved her two sons from a life of slavery by selling it. God put the oil in the many borrowed vessels Elisha had told her to gather. With the money from the miracle oil, the widow paid the debt owed to the creditor and the creditor did not take her sons. Olive oil is not only used for cooking, but for many different things of importance. Scriptures often refer to the olive tree as an emblem of prosperity, beauty and sacred privileges. Israel is even compared to an olive tree.

In my kitchen the meat was frying crispy brown and the rolls were in the oven with the pie. I put the green beans and corn each in a pan and thought about another Bible story. When Ruth came to Bethlehem with her mother-in-law, Naomi, she went into the field of Boaz to glean ears of corn. During the months that Ruth gleaned corn, then barley and wheat from the fields, she found favor in the eyes of Boaz. Later he married Ruth and they had a son named Obed who was father to Jesse, who was father to David, who was the chosen King of Israel through whose lineage the baby Jesus born in Bethlehem more than one thousand years later. Bethlehem and Jesus — all roads of time lead to and begin at Bethlehem and Jesus. Surely the Lord blessed Ruth when she chose to glean corn in the fields of Boaz near Bethlehem!



As I salted the boiling potatoes, I remembered something Jesus said in The Sermon On The Mount: "Ye are the salt of the earth." Salt is used to season our food, and animals need salt. It is used as a preservative for meats. In the Old Testament times, one custom was to rub salt on the skin of new-born children. All meat offerings unto the Lord were to be salted. Then I remembered the covenant of salt that the Lord God made with the priests concerning the parts of

meat that they could take to eat from the holy offerings. It was a perpetual or everlasting covenant just the same as the covenant of salt that the Lord God made with King David concerning the promise of the Messiah. Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of God's covenant of salt with King David. Mary was a descendant of David, and Jesus was born in the same town where David had been born. Bethlehem and Jesus—there I was thinking about them again.

Soon it was time to eat at our house. Daddy came home and the children's hands were washed and they were gathered around the table for supper. I was ready to say the prayer of thanksgiving. Psalm 128:1-4 reads like this: "Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord."

Preparing and eating food has been the way of mankind since the days of Adam and Eve, and according to the Bible it will continue thus until the end of time. Ladies of the house spend many hours each day working to please others when it is mealtime. When we meditate on the Word of God while we cook, we can feed souls as well as bodies when everyone is gathered around the supper table.

IMPRESSIONS

Impressions are made each day.

They're made by what we do and by what we say.

They're made by how we act, where we go and what we wear.

We leave impressions just everywhere.

They are made when we go out to eat.

They are made at church as we sit in our seat.

Yes, they are made to the ones we meet.

Whether in our homes or out in the street.

We need to be careful each day.

About what we do, where we go, what we say.

We need to be careful of impressions we cast.

Leave good impressions because impressions last.

—Bea Haas



Excerpts Taken From Jan., 1970 *Faith and Victory*

"Have you ever caught yourself gazing into space and half consenting to all you saw without raising a query as to the source? This is one of the devil's most fruitful fields of harvest, and he persistently labors to gain an acceptance of something which is his invention and no reasoned product of your own mind under the illumination of the Holy Spirit. It is not too far removed from spiritism proper, and many a horrible experience has been traced to seed plots sown in these passive, uncontrolled, mental musings. If you would live in victory, you will have to be most vigilant and learn quickly to say no when the foe is at the window.

"Not always are the things presented suggestive of evil. The devil assumes quite a different role with some people. Neither open sin nor small things appeal to them, so he flashes before them big religious schemes, bright ideas, sweeping campaigns, and stirring scenes in which they are to play a leading part; and they take the bait without thinking. It all looks so attractive. 'See how it will extend the work of God!' Many a man has come to grief by not knowing that the devil could inflate his imagination with big schemes and kindle false revival fire in his heart. Scrutinize the moving spirit behind great ventures for Christ. Some are born of human ambition. If the devil cannot quench your spirit, he will try to push you into going too far."

—F. J. Perryman