

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 73, No. 1

73rd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$1.00 Per Year

Mar., 1995

A Vision of Life in Death

In evil long I took delight,
Unawed by shame or fear,
Till a new object struck my sight,
And stopped my wild career;
I saw One hanging on a Tree
In agonies and blood,
Who fixed His languid eyes on me,
As near His cross I stood.

Sure never till my latest breath
Can I forget that look:
It seemed to charge me with His death,
Though not a word He spoke:
My conscience felt and owned the guilt,
And plunged me in despair;
I saw my sins His blood had spilt,
And helped to nail Him there.

Alas! I know not what I did!
But now my tears are vain:
Where shall my trembling soul be hid?
For I the Lord have slain!
A second look He gave, which said,
'I freely all forgive;
The blood is for thy ransom paid;
I die, that thou may'st live.'

Thus, while His death my sin displays
In all its blackest hue,
Such is the mystery of grace,
It seals my pardon too.
With pleasing grief and mournful joy,
My spirit now is filled
That I should such a life destroy,—
Yet live by Him I killed.

—John Newton

"My Help Cometh From The Lord"

By Carol Jantz

Let us take a long journey back to the time when the Psalmist David was a shepherd boy. This young lad had a desire for the deep things of God. While caring for his father's sheep, he was able to see God's handiwork in countless ways and felt a wonderful closeness to God. The close fellowship with God continued through David's lifetime. He was a man after God's own heart. (I Sam. 13:14.) This very close bond was maintained because David realized his help came from the Lord. David knew his own strength was very feeble and limited, but when his faith reached out to God, he was able to kill a lion and a bear while caring for his father's sheep. This built more faith and confidence in God, and he also slew the mighty giant, Goliath, with a mere stone which he had slung in "...the name of the Lord of hosts,..." I Sam 17:45.

God yearns for this very same bond and faith in Him that David exercised. We are "...the apple of his eye." Zech. 2:8. We are also joint-heirs with Christ. (Rom. 8:17.) To inherit eternal life should thrill our very soul. However, we will not gain heaven on flowery beds of ease. We will be tried, tested and proven with fire along life's way. Many times we will be on our face before God, but we must keep looking up to Him, knowing that Jesus is our intercessor. We must cast down our imaginations when the trials of life seem to overwhelm us. I heard one brother say, "The greatest nation is our imagination." We must resist and rebuke the enemy of our souls, and praise God that our name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (Rev. 21:27.)

Let us read Psalm 121:1-8. David had learned at an early age to lift his eyes upward, and reach out in faith to God.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." Psalms 121:1-4.

David felt so safe and secure in the knowledge of his Lord's keeping power. No doubt David had called mightily upon God in times of danger and was convinced of God's love and care for him. He also felt assured of God's watchfulness. He knew God's power was divine; that He never had a need to slumber or sleep.

"The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night." Psalms 121:5-6.

The more our thoughts are turned toward God, the more conscious we are of the Lord's keeping power whether it is day or night. Without God's mercy, this world would be in complete chaos. Sin has brought many burdens, sorrows, heartaches, snares and dangers to life. Without the Lord keeping us and overshadowing us, we would be completely overthrown and destroyed by the enemy of our souls.

What a blessed consolation—to be preserved from all evil. If we are a true and obedient child of God, we recognize our Shepherd's voice when He is warning us of some snare. Sometimes we can be sorely tempted, but we can call mightily upon God and ask Him to preserve our soul. Since Jesus gave His life to save our souls, will He not also preserve our souls? Jesus said in John 10:9-11, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,... The thief cometh not but to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Nevertheless, the devil is very jealous toward the kingdom of God. In I Peter 5:8 we can read the devil's tactics. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Though Jesus so willingly gave His life for us, we must realize that we have a determined adversary. Therefore, it is very needful for us to

rebuke and resist the devil in the mighty name of Jesus. We can keep a rebuke and resist all doubts and fears that the enemy will try to impose upon us by clinging fast to the Word of God. There are many precious scriptures and promises that were written for our help and encouragement. In spite of the devil's roaring, as he tries to confuse and torment our minds, we can "lift up our eyes unto the hills from whence cometh our help." Look unto Jesus with your whole heart, and He will supply the needed grace for any trial or temptation. "Mighty to save and mighty to keep, Grace like the ocean, boundless and deep."

This portion of song can be our own victorious testimony and put a song of praise in our heart. The Psalmist David learned a wonderful secret that God reveals to those who will praise Him. Praising God pleases Him very much and will help us to remember many more of God's promises and benefits.



An Ounce of Prevention

By Mary Murphey

One day I heard a man speak regretfully of the mistakes he had made in life. Sometimes at night, before drifting off to sleep, those instances when he had used poor judgment in dealing with others would loom up before him. He would feel so mortified by the miserable memories that it would make him, as he described it, "curl his toes."

I could certainly relate to his discomfort, for I have had plenty of occasions to curl my own. Making mistakes is a part of life, but minimizing the amount made is a worthy goal. Christ, who foretold that offences would come, also left us a basic Bible principle of prevention, if we will practice it. It is the simple instruction found in Matt. 7:12, "...Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them:..." A comparable verse is found in Mark 12:31, "Love thy neighbor as thyself..."

Incorporating this Christ-like philosophy into everyday life until it becomes second nature to us, limits the damage we do to others and ourselves. To evaluate our words, thoughts and actions by such a guide will immunize us against the misery of regret. A practical application of this principle is to continually ask ourselves, "**Would I want that said or done to me?**" and then act accordingly.

To love your neighbor as yourself is just second in significance to the commandment, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart...." The ability to love our neighbor adequately depends upon the depth of our love for Christ. It provides the motivation for treating others right and regarding their feelings and interests as our own.

We will make mistakes in life. That fact is inevitable. As human beings we possess limited understanding. But we do have the privilege of asking God to help us develop a sensitivity and awareness to the needs of those about us. We can ask Him to fine-tune our response to situations so that we glorify Him and prevent future regrets.



She Gave All

By Diane Doolittle

"And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury; and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living." Mark 12:41-44.

As I read these scriptures, I was made aware as never before of the character of this woman. Only four little verses, but what an example she is to those who are endeavoring to please the Lord. I wanted to share with you the picture that I saw in my mind as I pondered the scriptures.

The Bible doesn't tell us how she came to be at the treasury, but let's suppose she got up that morning and had worship, then in her daily routine she stopped by the treasury and quietly put in all she had and went on her way. I don't think it occurred to her that anyone was interested in a poor widow, or of the example of Christ she portrayed in that one act. But Jesus saw, and was moved to call His disciples to Him and point her out. This woman caught Jesus' attention.

Then it occurred to me, with seven days in a week, and 24 hours in a day, did both the widow woman and Jesus with His disciples just happen to be there at the same time? Could it have been that she was so yielded to pleasing the Lord that even in her everyday routine He could use her, that she was acting in accordance to a Divine

plan? She might not have been there, you know. She could have said, "Oh, I'll wait until later, or another day," but she didn't!

How pleased the Lord must have been with this woman. There was so much more in her actions than merely tithing. The whole attitude of her heart was like a song of reverence to the Lord. Her daily living exemplified a Christian life; a life of humility, consecration, obedience, faith and love. Oh God, please help me to be to You what this woman and so many others were, so that You can say to me, "...Hast thou considered my servant...?" (Job 1:8.) Pray for me.



Cornelius and the Gentiles

By Juanita Blankenship

There is much confusion about Cornelius and the Gentiles, and I feel led to present some thoughts concerning it, for it plainly teaches a second work of grace that is separate from the first work.

Cornelius was a saved man when Peter came to him and the other Gentiles. He was "A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway." Acts 10:2. His prayers were accepted of God for an angel testified of Cornelius, "...Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God." Acts 10:4. An unsaved person does not have their prayers recognized by God in this manner.

It was told to Peter that Cornelius was a **just** man. "And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee." Acts 10:22.

The Word is clear that it was after this, when Peter was preaching to Cornelius and those in his house, that the Holy Ghost fell on them. This experience sets forth a pattern in which it is made plain that the Holy Ghost is not given to a sinner. Jesus said, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." John 14:16-17.

Let us all be aware of these precious truths, take advantage of them, and teach them to others.

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 (USPS 184-660).

(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.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044
 Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479;
 fax number: 405-282-6318; home phone: 405-282-6170.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to: Faith Publishing House, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.



"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God." Isa. 40:1. There was a very good reason why this command was given to Isaiah. Previously, in the 39th chapter of Isaiah, the prophecy was made that Israel would be carried into captivity, therefore the need for comfort. We are living in a

world in which many people are held in the captivity of sin. This was forcibly impressed upon me by a letter I received from a man who was HIV positive, and symptomatically developing AIDS. The despair was keenly felt in his letter as he pled for prayer. Oh, the devil is cruel! People are facing death, with little hope that the medical profession can help them. Young people are suffering from sins that make their lives seem hopeless, from a human standpoint. Even the people of God face great forces of evil. Therefore, it is important to possess and dispense a spirit of comfort along with the truth the Lord has entrusted to us.

I am sure that this verse was not the first time God commanded that comfort be offered. It is undoubtedly a daily bidding to His angels. In the spiritual world there is constant activity, and in the midst of it God has promised, "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet." Psa. 91:10-13.

Can you imagine anything more comforting than what Christ experienced when the angels came to Him directly from the face of God, after He had been tempted of the devil? Around the deathbed of the saints, angels are present. In the midst of conflicts they speak courage. (Psa. 34:6-8, Heb. 1:8-14, Luke 1:18-19.)

However, as our text verifies, God does not delegate all of the work of comfort to His angels. In Revelation, He calls the ministers "angels" of the churches. When a minister is filled with the grace and love of God, he will find that his duty includes bringing comfort to others. And it is maturity through the Holy Spirit that will teach a minister how to season the Word of God,

which cuts to the soul, with comfort that heals every wound. The following poem, by an unknown author, offers an interesting illustration of an appeal for this comfort.

To the Preacher

Our preacher expounds to us on many things,
Against Communism his protest rings;
Denominationalism, LSD, too
Bad instructors, politicians, etc., eschew.
Oh, Preacher, we're with you against all these evils

And glad that you warn of their influence lethal.
But we get so filled with hopeless negations
That our souls are chilled to deep lethargations.
Fill our hearts with love, our spirits inspire
To work for the Lord, make this our desire.
Teach us just how to have love for our brother
And do kindly deeds, each one for the other.
Don't tell us of evil and fierce wickedness
Just to spur us onward to accomplish our best;
Not always with whip, our sins us to rid,
But lead us in love as the Master did.
We already have the old prophet Amos
To lash and whip and scold and to shame us
To Christian living, (tho' some we need
To set us straight, tho' it makes our backs bleed.)

But the kindly do's, not scathing don'ts
Make us say "I will," instead of "I won't."
How sweet to come to the House of Prayer
And get renewal and blessings there,
That stay with us the whole week thru—
Inspiration that's strong, and beautifully true,
That makes us vow, in a humble way
To do our best for the Master today,
To fill the world with love and laughter,
To win a brother to serve the Master.
Oh, yes, we need a lash or two,
But how much more blessed to know how to do.
Reach out with a hand, tho' firm, with love
To lead us to the realms above.
For if you continually punish a child
You fill him full of resentment wld
Till he turn a deaf ear to what you say,
And finally he will wander away.
And the fertile soil where love should grow
Is hard from frustration's searing blow.
Preach to us, teach us, and lead us by loving
Instead of with hard, cold kicking and shoving.
If thru the week you meet with frustrations
Don't take it out on your poor congregation.
And now, dear Preacher, forgive me, too,
I've meant only to help, not criticize you.

I'll give this to you, then run for my life,
For you'll find it was written by your own loving wife.

Ministers have a great responsibility, and without great grace it is easy for them to fail in their task. However, the Church is not set up so that the ministry does everything and the people nothing. "Comfort ye my people" is a directive to every child of God. You will have opportunities to be a light and speak a word of comfort where a preacher can't. Let your countenance be a comfort to those who are troubled. Be like the little boy who whistled a tune on his way home at night. When asked why he whistled through the darkness, he replied, "I thought if there were any other little boys out there, they might like to hear me."

Don't let the devil stop your mouth from speaking a word of comfort with the thought that you aren't very articulate, or that what you say might be trite. There is much truth in what one writer penned, "It is a little thing to speak a phrase of common comfort, which by daily use has almost lost its sense; and yet, on the ear of him who thought to die unmourned, it will fall like the choicest music."

Exactly how do we comfort others? God never gives us a job to do without also providing the proper tools. The Apostle Paul testified, "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 is beneficial, if for no other reason than that the trials experienced can be a tool of comfort to others. (II Cor. 1:4-6.) It has been said that, "Most of our comforts grow up between our crosses." The Bible is a great instrument of comfort. Its stories spur us on. By sharing them and the light and joy of your salvation, you may help to heal some hurts in a sin-cursed world. May God give all of His people wisdom as we become more aware of the need for comfort in the lives of others.

— — — — —

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

— — — — —

The Print Shop now has a fax number. If you would like to send articles, testimonies, prayer requests, meeting notices, obituaries, or book

and tract orders, via fax, you may do so 24 hours a day by dialing (405) 282-6318. We hope that this new service will be beneficial to many of our readers.

This *Faith and Victory* issue marks the beginning of our 73rd year of publication. We consider it an Ebenezer stone, especially since the publishing work is sustained through the free will offerings of those who have a love for the truth. We feel grateful for the privilege of sending out the gospel, and sell our books and tracts for little more than what it costs to print them. The subscription price of \$1.00 per year for the *Faith and Victory* paper does not even cover the postage to mail it out. Yet we have found support with which to continue. The majority of the books sold go to people that we are not closely acquainted with. Knowing the volume of literature that leaves this office, we are confident that there will be a reaping of reward for those who have supported this work of faith. As long as God can use the printing work here to bring a blessing to souls, we are dedicated to continue with the same fervency of spirit which characterized the beginning of Faith Publishing House.

—Wayne Murphey



Prayer Requests

IL—Sis. Lavena Cole has a special prayer request for a business problem.

IL—Sis. Mary Hughes desires prayer for herself, her husband, her daughter and also Sis. Naomi Marquiss.

MO—"Pray for my wife. She is almost blind and can't be up very long because of arthritis."

—Wiley Berniett

WV—"Please keep me on your prayer list. I am awfully ill with pneumonia and can't seem to get better."

—Queen Luzador

OK—Prayer is needed for Ben Harrison's wife who is having problems with one of her legs.

AL—Sis. Pearlene Gerald is still suffering an affliction, and she also desires prayer for her granddaughter, Misty McAdams, who is expecting a baby.

OH—"Pray for Esther Malott. She is a very nice Christian lady who has been losing weight and looking very poorly. She has Alzheimers."

—Sis. Juanita Blankenship

NJ—"Pray for my mother who is in a nursing home... for her health and that she will be surrounded by love; for me, as I am in chronic

pain which at times is intense, and for my financial state. Your prayers for a miracle will be appreciated."

—Emmerson Carey

AL—"Please pray for me. I have health problems."

—Jeanette Mooney



CAMP MEETING DATES



Myrtle, MO—May 10-14

Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—May 26-June 4

Holly Hill, SC—June 4-11

Jefferson, OR—June 9-18

Green Bank, WV—June 16-25

Loranger, LA—July 2-9

National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 21-30



Meeting Reports and Notices

SHAWNEE, OK REVIVAL

The Shawnee, Oklahoma congregation is happy to announce their Spring revival to be held Tuesday, March 21st, through Sunday, March 26th, Lord willing.

Bro. Steve Elwell from Oregon will be the minister. Pray for a meeting where souls will be saved and hearts will be blessed.

For any information needed, contact Bros. Bill McMakin (405) 275-2575, or Don Butler (405) 273-0984.



DAVENPORT, FL MEETING

There will be a Tent Revival Meeting in Davenport, Florida, from April 2nd through the 9th. There will be two services daily and all are invited. Come praying earnestly that the Lord will grant a special outreach and bless for the street meetings. Camping space is available on the grounds, with hotel accommodations in the area, along with provisions in the house and

chapel. All will be provided for. There will be a free-will offering taken for the expenses of the meeting. For further information contact Bro. Rodney Edwards, (305) 258-4925 or Bro. Lewis Kimble (504) 467-8842.

WICHITA, KS SPRING MEETING

The Wichita, KS Spring Meeting has been set for April 14-23, 1995. There will be services nightly at 7:30 p.m. On both Sundays we will have three services, and on Monday through Saturday there will be 11:00 a.m. day services.

In these last days we each need to be strong and filled with the power of God. We are seeking God to bless and supply greater strength and power to His saints during the meeting. All who feel compelled to come, we welcome you. We pray that God will put conviction in the meeting that will constrain sinners to come and be saved. Please pray that God will bless and anoint every phase of the meeting.

For further information you may contact Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at (316) 721-9557. The chapel is located at 1701 North Ash. The phone number is: (316) 267-9582. —Shirley Knight

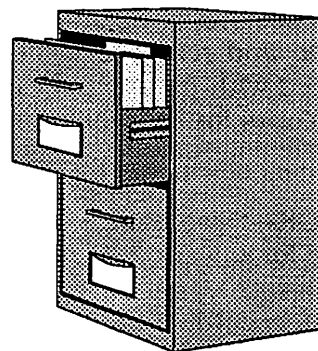
MINISTERS' MEETING NOTICE

There will be a Ministers' Meeting of the saints of the Church of God to convene Wednesday, May 3 and continue through Friday, May 5, 1995. This meeting will be an open meeting for pastors, teachers, evangelists and gospel workers. It will be held in the Church of God Chapel, 624 West Warner, Guthrie, Oklahoma. The first session will begin at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 3. Please come praying that the Holy Spirit will make this meeting a real blessing. For further information, or to send offerings to help with the expenses of this Ministers' Meeting, you may contact the Faith Publishing House, Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044, or the treasurer, Sister Brenda Wilkins, Rt. 6, Box 797, Guthrie, OK 73044. If you wish to make contact by telephone, you may call these brethren: Mart Samons, (304) 456-4469, Ed Wilson, (504) 878-4559, or Leslie Busbee (405) 233-6011.

"After reading the doctrines of Plato, Socrates, or Aristotle, we feel that the specific difference between their words and Christ's is the difference between an inquiry and a revelation."

—Joseph Parker

*From
Our
Letter
Files*



MO—Dear Saints: I want to tell what the Lord did for me and my daughter, Christi. We were going to work late at night, as we work the 11 p.m.—7 a.m. shift. We drive 15 miles to work. It was cold and rainy and not much traffic. As we got to our turnoff, the car died. I put it in neutral to start it again, but it wouldn't start. Our place of work is right on the corner so we coasted right into the parking lot and into a parking place. I tried again and it wouldn't start. We realized the hand of the Lord was upon us and had brought us safely to work. We bowed our heads and praised God for protecting us and getting us to work safely. Had it quit anywhere else we would have had to walk in the cold and dark for help.

My son came the next morning and found the timing belt had broken. We knew it was a miracle that kept that belt from breaking anywhere else.

It is a pretty expensive repair and Christi asked what we were going to do. I said I didn't know, but God had helped us out so miraculously that I had no fear about how it was going to be fixed. Well, my son and a couple of the brethren pulled the car into a garage and had it going in a couple of days. Praise God.

I don't feel worthy of His tender loving care. He is so good to us.

Christian love, —Esther Hightower

TN—Dear Bro. Wayne and Co-workers: Greetings in Jesus' lovely name. I trust this finds each of you well, encouraged and pressing on in the one true way—the way of Christ. May the Lord help us to live exemplary lives that will influence honest, troubled hearts, a few at least, to seek after that one true way with its many blessings.

I have a long-time friend in his eighties who is doing that now. He is greatly respected and attends a church in this area. After earnestly reading the Bible and some good tracts from Faith Publishing House, he is praying much,

and seeking a spiritual experience of being saved and ready to meet the Lord. Please be agreed with us in prayer for him and others.

Yours for the whole Truth,

—Charles B. Williams

— — — — —

OK—Dear Saints of God: How I praise the Lord for salvation. I am so glad I gave my heart to Him, only I should not have waited until I was eighteen. Now I am much older, but I can say like David: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Psalm 37:25. He has taken care of my every need. I would recommend this way of truth to anyone.

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Psalm 34:19. I can truly testify to this. In November of 1994 I was permitted to have the "shingles." There must have been a collision of my nerves on my left chest and back. It was as if I had been severely burned. There was also terrible itching and pain all mixed together. I was certainly in a fiery trial. We called for the saints to pray, and we also called mightily on the Lord ourselves. Leslie, my husband, was a wonderful nurse and companion during those four or five weeks. I praise the Lord for bringing me through, and I thank all the saints for their interest and prayers.

Christian love, —Sis. Sylvia Busbee

— — — — —

AL—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings to you and your helpers, in Christ's dear name. I am trusting all is well.

I am still leaning on the Everlasting Arms for the complete healing of my eyes. Even though I can't see very good, I still have many blessings from God. I am thankful for all my daily needs which are supplied by God....

I am so thankful for salvation. My greatest desire is to live to make heaven my eternal home.

May God in His richest blessings keep you and your work going. I would love to see it, but I know I can't. But I can do one thing, and that is to pray for the work. Please remember me in your prayers.

Thank you, —Mary Ingram

— — — — —

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus. I always look forward to getting my *Faith and Victory* paper and read it over and over. I have been feasting on some old *Faith and Victory*

papers and seeing many names of dear ones that have gone on to their reward. It brings back many precious memories.

In a letter from Sis. Grace Jones in the March 1966 issue, she wrote, "I think of the work there as a lighthouse on a stormy sea, turning your beacon in all directions, sending warnings as well as comfort to those who are being tossed and dashed by a wild sea." How well that describes the *Faith and Victory* work! It is truly a lighthouse.

Please remember me in prayer,

—Sis. Sybil Goldsberry

— — — — —

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear workers: Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus, the lover of our soul. I pray all is going well with you dear ones.

I am feeling some better, thank the dear Lord, but I still need a healing touch. Some days I feel pretty sick and other days I feel good. The Lord is so wonderful to me. He sure helps me to bear things. Some days seem so dark, but He always lets the light shine through and comforts me. I know He heals because He has healed me many times, and I thank Him for it too.

It sure will seem nice to see spring come again, and to see the beautiful trees, grass and flowers.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your good prayers. I surely need them.

May God richly bless each of you who are in His precious work, as you send out the good soul food for the lost souls.

My love and prayers, —Sis. Olive Gettersson

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From Nigeria...

December 8, 1994—Bro. Wayne Murphey and saints of the Most High: Season's greetings to all of the holy family in Jesus' precious name, the Potter who knows how to work with each lump of human clay. Praise Him forever!

Being on the Lord's side we continue to shout hallelujah. He is mercifully holding our feet upon the Rock to stay and our going is thankfully established. We are glad to have the blood of Jesus over the door of our heart, which has kept sin and Satan away from gaining access to this spiritual temple....

We were painfully plunged into a terrible loss this year, caused by the greatest flood ever

known in fifteen years. This writer lost the entire crops from three farms in the flood. It is impossible to give starvation a disdainful sweep of the hand in 1995. It is inevitable. Its effect is already telling. In God alone we shall trust for faith to wade through to victory.

Saints everywhere are summoned for urgent attention to a prayer request. This concerns the destiny of the souls of five orphans whom the Lord blessed with a permanent place of abode under my roof, some as far back as 1976. Agree with me in prayer for them to be continually mindful of the Rock that begat them, and the Lord God that formed them. They are all of age, the least being nineteen, and have a successful high school education. May the Lord hear prayer to prevent them from falling a victim of the things that will carry them away from the presence and service of the living God.

We are in the race confidently and are praying to run in order to obtain.

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

January 2, 1995—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings to you and the saints in the precious name of Jesus Christ, through whose grace and offering of Himself we have had the privilege of partaking in the glorious work of salvation. We thank and praise the Lord for being so good to us by sustaining us in the faith until the end of last year. He is the one who has led us to this new year. In recognition of this, we have further committed ourselves for His use.

We have no doubt that the Lord's care remains the same toward you and others in sustaining the Faith Publishing House, the work that is dear to our hearts. The rich spiritual food contained in the publications are much cherished by those who hunger for the Gospel. May God bless your efforts, and let us see the continuous publication of the truths.

I hope my silence over the months has not caused any alarm in your minds. The Lord has been dealing quite nicely with us, and we have also been doing all we can to maintain the faith which is being bombarded from different angles. Indeed, we have been in a warfare, but we have enjoyed being in the army of Jesus, who has remained our Captain.

We have had the pleasure of engaging ourselves both in local and national activities. The last national activity was the three day teaching seminar which took place at Kevala from September 30-October 2, 1994. This was a follow-

up of a ministers' meeting which was held in Lagos in March of last year. Each meeting gave fruitful results. The seminar, which mainly featured teaching of the doctrines of Christ, also spared some time to look into some matters in the interest of the Church and souls in Nigeria. Our prayer is for God's will to be done in these matters.

We are glad to share with you the good news of the successful completion of the survey work on the church land in Port Harcourt following the approval of the allocation of the land to the church by the state government. The land has been assessed and we are expected to pay substantial money to the government for the issuance of a certificate of occupancy. To avoid encroachment on the property we have suspended work on the mission building to divert our meager resources to fencing the premises....

I remain yours in Him, —F. Nath's Igbaniibo

From the Philippines...

February 13, 1995—Dear Brother and Sister Murphey: Greetings to you and your loved ones in the name of Jesus. I am sorry for my delay in writing you. It has been because of an unavoidable circumstance. We went to the north because my brother-in-law died. I have also been away from home because we have started new stations of worship in remote places, and we are taking the opportunity to stay with them while it is still dry season.

Thank you so much, dear saints, for all the support you are extending to us. Thank you for your very loving and encouraging letters which give us inspiration in our labors for Christ. We are so thankful for the *Faith and Victory* paper for which I can say that there is no religious paper as a substitute for it. It is so strengthening and enlightening, and is full of substance for our souls....

Your Brother in Christ,

—Matias S. Tangunan

From India...

February 13, 1995—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and the dear saints in America: Greetings to all you dear ones again in the gracious name of Jesus Christ. After our general convention, different congregations are busy with local conventions.

The saints at Cochin request the prayer and support of the saints in America to buy the land at Cochin for their assembling. \$4,000.00 more

is needed to buy the plot with a building which God has shown them to buy. Those who feel they would like to contribute to this project may please do it before June.

If God opens the way for the ticket, I have the desire to visit America again this year. Our prayers are for the saints in America and the labors there for the growth of the kingdom of God.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

Honduras Missionary Report

Greetings in Jesus' name! I hope this finds everyone encouraged to press on for the Lord. This is a pressing way, as most of us already know, but I'm glad we are serving a big God that has a "great salvation" to offer us. Let us not allow this faithless generation to diminish the place God wants to fill in our lives.

I would like to give you an update on the missionary work going on in Honduras. In 1994 some of the mission group was able to go over five different times. The first time was for Sis. Saunders' funeral in February. Bro. Toney and some of his family went over in March. Bro. Kimble and Bro. and Sis. Wall went back in May. Bro. Toney and Leneé Samons went again in September, and finally, Bro. Mart Samons was able to go the last of November. Our purpose in making so many trips was to help the folks in Roatan to make the adjustments necessary

after Sis. Saunders' passing. We feel that the work is stabilizing and the brethren there are determined to carry on the same truth that they have been taught. They do need our prayers and support because the same devil that is fighting you for every bit of ground you have, is down there doing the same. The pure truth is never popular and they that are living godly are suffering persecution.

We are planning to go back to Honduras in March, if the Lord wills. We would like to put forth a special effort to reach out to the young people that are down there. Some of the young people in the states have expressed an interest in going to help with this effort. If you are interested, please contact Bro. Kimble, Bro. Fuller or Bro. Toney for more information.

One further note: Sis. Estelle Dilbert, of Coxen Hole, Roatan, passed away in January. She was one of the first ones to take a stand for the truth along with Sis. Saunders. She will be missed by all of us that knew her.

We are still regularly supporting the work in Roatan as much as we can. The van is still being used to pick up people in other villages for service. If you have a desire to help in this effort or to help those that will be traveling, you can send contributions to: Church of God Missionary, P. O. Box 71371, Metairie, LA 70033.

For the Honduras Missionary Company,

—Bro. Toney Samons



Bro. James Bell and Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Lassche with a group of saints in Germany.

Dear Saints,

Thank you for your prayers when I was sick before our trip to Germany. The Lord touched me and I had no trouble while I was over there. Thank you also for your support financially. All of our needs were met. The saints in Germany were just like here—very hospitable and kind. We lacked for nothing. Enclosed is a picture of the little group, taken on Sunday the 15th of January. We had Bible studies each day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. We enjoyed the truth that spread from heart to heart.

"...A great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people,..." Revelation 7:9. These are just a few in Germany who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb, which we hope to meet someday in Heaven.

Yours very truly, —Bro. James Bell

Editor's note: Bro. Bell has sent in a financial statement of the Russian Missionary Fund. If anyone is interested in having a copy of it, you may obtain it from this office.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

IN MEMORIAM

Earl B. Bliss, 86, died June 2, 1994, in Anderson, IN, after an extended illness. Bro. Bliss was born August 26, 1907, in Morgantown, WV, to Justice Bliss and Rosa E. Martin Smith.

He moved to the Anderson, IN area in 1926 from Morgantown, WV.

He retired January 31, 1969, from Fisher Guide after 23 years of employment. He also was a retired house painter.

Bro. Bliss was a member of the Church of God. I had known him for 33 years. He worshipped with the Dayton, OH congregation whenever he was able. I have visited Bro. Bliss many times in his home. We learned to love him and appreciate the life he lived. He has been at the Monark Springs camp meetings many times, so many of you know him.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Jack (Sherry M.) Hendricks, of Anderson, IN; a brother, Martin, of Chesterfield, IN; four grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, cousins and also a host of friends.

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

Burial was in the Anderson Memorial Park Cemetery.

Do pray for his daughter, Sherry. She needs much prayer after losing both her husband and father.

—Submitted by Bro. Gordon Humphrey

— — — — —

John William Wilson was born September 19, 1898, in Honaker, VA, to George and Rachel Honaker Wilson. He departed this life Wednesday afternoon, February 1, 1995, after a short illness. He was 96 years old. He is survived by one sister, Eva Kinsley, of Loveland, OH, a number of nephews and nieces in the Danville, KY area and many other relatives, saints and friends.

Bro. John loved and embraced the truths of the Church of God, having been made a member by the new birth many years ago. He began attending services at the Church of God in Junction City, KY in the late 1960's, and assisted Bro. Mart and Sis. Verna Samons in fixing up the little chapel there. He faithfully served as trustee until his death. Bro. John was a man who won everyone's heart with his kind and honest ways. He lived a life of hard work and integrity before the community. He will be missed by many who loved him.

Services were conducted in Danville, KY. Burial was in the Wilson Cemetery in Boyle County, KY.

— — — — —

Leo Warren McIntosh was born January 4, 1921, in Douglas county, South of Norwood, MO. He was the tenth child of eleven children born to James Russell and Ardella (Babb) McIntosh. He departed this life on December 10, 1994, after suffering a massive heart attack, at the age of 73 years, 11 months and 6 days.

Leo was reared south of Norwood, MO and received his education at a small country school known as Stony Point School. He was married November 23, 1940, to Mildred Marie Filer of Norwood, MO, at the home of Bro. Bill Anderson, south of Norwood, MO. Leo and Mildred made their home south of Norwood, MO until 1952 when they moved to Springfield, MO, spending the next thirty years in and around the Springfield area.

During the course of his life he owned and operated sawmills, was owner and operator of a pallet and crating manufacturing company, known as LEO'S LUMBER AND CRATING, selling his finished product to Marshfield Steel

Company; Marshfield, MO. Later he bought, sold and rented real estate until his passing.

In 1981 they moved to Enid, OK, where he worked as a security guard, retiring in 1983. In 1986 they made their home in Nowata, OK.

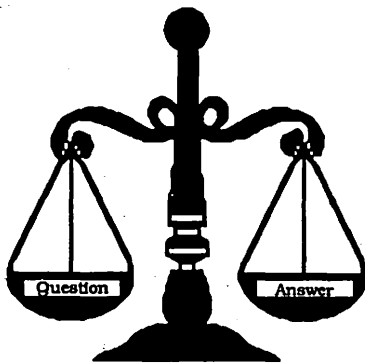
He was preceded in death by his father, mother, six brothers, three sisters and one granddaughter, Debra Lynn McIntosh.

He is survived by two sons, Darril Wayne and Karen McIntosh, of Denver, CO, and Donald Ray and Carolyn McIntosh, of Tulsa, OK; two daughters Sandra Joan McIntosh, of Nooksack, WA, and Ladonna Marie and Robert O'Banion of Tulsa, OK; the children's mother, Mildred Marie McIntosh, of Nowata, OK; one sister, Edna Schudy, of Mountain Grove, MO; eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 14, 1994, at the First Baptist Church of Nowata, OK, under the direction of Stumpff Funeral Home of Nowata, OK. Interment was in the Fairview Cemetery in Talala, OK.



Where's the Balance?



By Wayne Murphey

Question: "...a question has come up concerning the blood of Jesus. I told someone that while being nurtured in the womb neither Mary's blood, nor any human blood ever mingled with Christ's precious blood. If it had, it would have contaminated His.... Mary was just a vessel to carry the baby. I am writing to see if I am correct on this matter."

—Name Withheld

Answer: The impression is given in Gen. 46:26, that in conception, the soul or spirit comes through the man. It ultimately is given life by God, but scripture seems to indicate the man is the one who passes on the soul in the

formation of life. "All the **souls** that came with Jacob into Egypt, **which came out of his loins**, besides Jacob's sons' wives, all the souls were threescore and six."* The woman's part in the process is to provide the sustenance and a shelter suitable for the baby to prepare for birth. The combining of the man's genes with the woman's genes has an effect on what the baby will look like, as well as its emotional characteristics, but the forming of the body is the woman's part in the process of birth.

In the birth of Christ, God entirely bypassed the role of man, for conception took place by the Holy Spirit. However, He did see fit to use the part that the woman played in giving the body. This was a beautiful plan. Christ did not have the Adamic nature that all people are born with, for this is passed down through a contamination of the soul. His soul was pure and had never seen sin. In this manner He was divine. However, He was in the flesh in that He took on the "form" or body of man. (Phil. 2:7.) This is of great benefit to us because He was susceptible to bodily hurts just like we are. We are told in Isa. 53:5 that by His stripes we are healed. When we suffer in the body, Christ remembers how badly it hurt to be beaten, and can effectively petition the Father on our behalf.

In the ordinance of the Lord's supper, we understand the full importance and attributes of the blood of Christ. In I Cor. 10:16 it says, "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" The body of Christ is represented by unleavened bread. The bread is made up of grains which are literal and easily seen by the eye. Leaven signifies spiritual properties, things that are unseen to the natural eye. Christ brought this out in speaking of the kind of spirit that the Pharisees had. (Matt. 16:6.) So His body was physical, while His spirit was divine. If His body was fleshly, we must also take His blood in the same context. However, that precious blood has great spiritual ramifications. Because Christ spilled His blood, God is willing to forgive every sin that has ever been committed. We should never lessen the importance of His blood.

*Some years ago Bro. Ostis Wilson brought this thought before a general gathering of the ministry, and the ministers did not see any error in it.

What It Means To Trust The Lord

(Taken from the book, *Heart Talks*, by C. W. Naylor.)

Throughout the Bible we are exhorted again and again to trust in the Lord. We are warned against trusting in princes, in riches, or in ourselves; for all such trust is vain. Trusting in the Lord is represented as being safe, as blessed, and as producing very desirable results. In it is our hope, our strength, our safety and our help.

But what does trust mean? It does not mean carelessness or indifference. Just to let things go and say, "Oh, I guess it will come out all right," is not trusting. Just drifting heedlessly with the tide is not trust. Neglect is not trust. Trust is something positive. It is a real something, not a mere happen-so or maybe-so. It is a definite attitude of soul and mind, a realization of our own need and of God's sufficiency. It is the reaching out and anchoring of ourselves in God.

The soul who really trusts is not driven about by every wind. The waves beat against him as they beat against the anchored ship, but they cannot dash him upon the rocks; for he who trusts in God is strong, because he has the strength of God.

Trust does not mean shutting our eyes to facts. There is no such thing as "blind faith." Trust looks at things as they are. It sees the dangers that threaten, and assesses them at their true value. It sees the need, and does not try to disguise it. It sees the difficulties, and does not discount them. But seeing all this, it looks beyond and sees God, its all-sufficient help. It sees Him greater than the needs or the dangers or the difficulties, and it does not shrink before them.

There is no fear in trust: the two are opposites. When we really fear, we are not fully trusting. When we trust, fear gives way to assurance. Fear is tormenting. How many there are who are constantly agitated by fear! They fear the devil, trials, temptations, the wind, lightening, burglars and a thousand other things. Their days are haunted by fear of this thing or that. Their peace is marred and their hearts are troubled. For all this, trust is the cure. I do not mean to say that if you trust, nothing will ever startle you or frighten you, or that you will never feel physical fear in time of danger; but in such times trust will bring to us a consciousness that the Lord knows and cares, and that His helping presence is with us.

When John Wesley was crossing the Atlantic from England to America to become a missionary to the Indians, the ship on which he was sailing encountered a terrible storm. It seemed that those on board would be lost. Many were much alarmed and were in deep distress. Wesley himself was one of this number. In the midst of the storm his attention was attracted to some Moravians who sat calm and undisturbed by the dangers about them. Wesley greatly wondered at their untroubled appearance. He inquired why it was. Their reply was that they were trusting in the Lord and that they had in their souls the consciousness of His protecting presence and care. They felt no fear because there was nothing threatening that a Christian had need to fear. Mr. Wesley did not have such an experience, but what he learned from those simple-hearted people caused him to seek a similar experience.

There is no worry in trust. When we worry about anything, we have not committed it to God. Trust takes away the anxiety. So many people use up a large portion of their energy in worry. There is always something troubling them. Their days and nights are full of anxiety. Worrying becomes a fixed habit with them. Peace and calmness and assurance find but little room in their lives. The cure for all this is trust. Trust brings confidence. Trust whispers to our souls that there is no cause to worry. It tells us that God holds the helm of our vessel. It bids us to be of good courage, assuring us that God is our refuge and strength, that our lives and all are in His hands, and that He will work out for us the things that are best.

O soul, stop worrying, and trust. It is much better. If you find yourself worrying, stop right there. Take your eyes off the things that trouble you; look up, and keep looking up till you see God and His infinite care for you. Remember that when you worry you are not trusting, and that when you trust you are not worrying. Worry depresses, discourages and weakens. It never helps us in any way. It is always a hindrance to us. God wants to bring into our lives a peaceful calm like that of a summer evening. He would have us without anxiety, as carefree as the birds or the lilies. It is trust that brings us this experience. Will you not learn to trust? "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

There is no murmuring in trust. When all is trusted into God's hands, it brings to us a feeling of satisfaction concerning God's dealings with us. We can sing from our hearts, "God's way is best, I will not murmur." When we trust, it is easy to praise. When we trust, the heart is full of thankful appreciation. If you are inclined to murmur, it is because you do not trust.

There is no feeling of bitterness when things do not go as we think they should, if we are trusting. Bitterness comes from rebellion, and there is no rebellion in trust. Trust can always say, "Not my will, but Thine, be done."

In trust there is peace, the peace of God which passeth understanding. There is calm in the soul of him who trusts. There is no doubt in trust, for doubt will be swallowed up in assurance, and assurance will bring calmness and peace.

Trusting brings confidence. It permits us to see God in His true character. It causes us to realize the greatness and tenderness of His love. It gives us a consciousness of His might, and

Too many of us are like a woman whose husband recently said that they had often gone driving together—that their horse would sometimes become frightened, and that when it did, his wife would also become frightened and would almost invariably seize the lines. Thus, he would have to manage both his wife and the horse, making his task doubly difficult.

"It is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." (Phil. 2:13.) If your life is submitted to Him, He will work in you to will as well as to do. He will help do the planning as well as the working out. He will aid you in the choosing, no less than in the doing. If you cannot submit to Him thus, you have not reached the place where you can trust. You must first learn to take your hands off yourself and off circumstances; then trust will be natural and easy. How can you trust Him if you are not willing for Him to do just as it pleases Him? When you have submitted all and He has His way fully with you, then the blessed fruitfulness of trust will come into your life.

Trust also implies obedience. It means work-

"The man who prays for a bountiful harvest but prepares no ground and plants no seed will pray in vain."

through it we are sheltered under His wings. By it our enemies lose their power; our dangers, their terrors. We have a consciousness of safety, and that brings rest. He has said, "Ye shall find rest unto your souls." He who trusts finds this soul-rest. God has not given us turmoil and trouble. He has said, "In me ye shall have peace;" and again, "My peace I give unto you." Are not these precious promises? Are they true in your life? God means that they shall be. Trust will make them real to you. They never can be real until you learn to trust. Trust is the root that upholds and nourishes the tree of Christian life. It is trust that causes it to blossom and to bring forth fruit, and the more fully you trust, the greater and richer and more profuse will be the fruits of your righteousness.

I have told you something about trust, but I now wish to speak of some other things that belong to trust. Trust implies submission. Very often God fails to do things for us because we do not permit Him to. We want to plan for ourselves. We want things to be done in the way that seems best to our finite wisdom.

ing with God to produce the results. We cannot sit down and fold our hands in idleness and expect things to work themselves out. We must be workers, not shirkers. The man who prays for a bountiful harvest but prepares no ground and plants no seed will pray in vain. Faith and works must go together. We must permit God to *direct* our efforts and *command* our efforts. We must be willing to work when He wants us to work and in the way He wants us to work. Our attempts to trust will amount to nothing if we are not willing to obey. Right here is the secret of many people's trouble; they are willing to obey so long as the thing commanded is what they themselves would choose, but when it is otherwise they are not so ready. Our obedience must be full and willing, or we cannot trust.

Trust implies patience. Even God cannot work everything out immediately. We are told that "ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." (Heb. 10:36.) So many times we want the answers to our prayers right away. If they do not come thus, we grow impatient and think

God is not going to answer. There is no use trying to hurry the Lord; we shall only hinder Him if we do. He will not work according to our plans, but according to His own. Time does not matter so much to the eternal One as it does to us.

A brother once came to the altar in a meeting I helped to hold. In telling his trouble he said, "When I want anything done, it has to be done in a hurry." Many other people cannot be patient and wait. They want it *now*. This is a great hindrance to their faith. The Psalmist says, "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him." (Psa. 37:7.) We are not only to wait patiently for Him to work out His purpose, but we are at the same time to *rest* in Him. Some people can wait, but they cannot rest at the same time. They are uneasy and impatient; they want to hurry the Lord all the time. The result usually is that their faith does not last very long. You must add patience to your faith to make it effective. If you really trust, you can be patient. It may not always be easy, but the more perfect your trust, the easier it will be to be patient.

our faith remains positive, the experience remains positive. It is only when faith begins to waver and doubts appear that the experience becomes uncertain. If you will maintain a positive faith, God will take care of your experience. Here lies the secret of continuous victory. There may be conflicts, but faith is the foundation of sure victory.

Trusting the Lord for healing means more than refusing to employ a physician and to take drugs. People who do not trust God at all often refuse to use drugs. They may at no time during their sickness really exercise an act of faith for healing. They simply surrender to existing conditions and hope that it will come out all right. In many such cases nature will overcome the disease, and the person will recover. The "prayer of faith," however, is positive; it saves the sick; it brings healing. Sometimes the sick person, because of the mental effects of his sickness, is not able to exercise faith; but when he is able, faith will be an active, positive thing with him, if the desired results are to follow.

It is safe to trust in the Lord. Isaiah says, "I

**"God will not chide you for the fears you cannot help,
but only for those that come from unbelief."**

When Luther was summoned to meet the diet for trial on a charge of heresy, his friends, fearing for his life, tried to persuade him not to go; but he declared that he would go even if there were as many devils there as there were tiles on the housetops. He trusted God, and that trust gave him an unwavering courage. Three Hebrews trusted God, and the fiery furnace could not even singe their garments. Daniel trusted God, and the hungry lions could not touch him. Many thousand of others have trusted God with similar results.

But trusting God is an active, positive thing. A passive submission or surrender to circumstances is not trust. Trusting the Lord to save us means to definitely rely on Him to do it; to confidently expect that He will do it. This leads directly to the confident trust that He does do it. It brings the conscious assurance that it is an accomplished fact. We are not left to doubt, to hope, or to guess; but we have a positive trust that brings a positive result.

The same is true of sanctification. A positive faith brings a positive experience; and so long as

will trust, and not be afraid." (Isa. 12:2.) That is the way God wants us to trust. He would have us be confident in Him. But sometimes we get to looking at circumstances, and they loom up so threateningly before us that in spite of ourselves we tremble and shrink before them. We believe that God will take care of us and help us, but we cannot quiet our fears. Our feelings are very much as they are when we stand just outside the bars of the cage of a ferocious, wild beast. We know it cannot reach us; we know we are safe from those powerful teeth and claws; but still we cannot help having a feeling that we should not have were we somewhere else. When he comes to our side of the cage, we shrink involuntarily, but still we trust the iron bars and do not run away.

The Psalmist tells us what to do when we have such fears. "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." (Psa. 56:3.) Still keep trusting. God will not chide you for the fears you cannot help, but only for those that come from unbelief. Trust in God. It is the safest thing you have ever done; and He will never fail you.

Six years or more ago I answered the call of my Lord to come east to Akron, Ohio, to preach His Word. My call was given in the words of the prophet Ezekiel, 2nd and 3rd chapters. At that time my home was in Los Angeles, California, where I had lived for over 22 years. In those crucial years, with a family to support, plus an invalid, unbelieving husband, the task was great and responsibilities were heavy. Much of my time was spent in fasting and prayer, which is the

Christian's pilgrim staff to walk with God. It was through constant prayer that the will of the Lord concerning me was learned, and for encouragement the Lord showed Himself strong in our behalf in many miraculous ways and healings.

One outstanding miracle in our life was the healing of our youngest son at the age of ten or eleven years. He had taken seriously ill with the flu, then complications, then seemingly pneumonia, but ended with a case of ruptured appendix, then peritonitis. The child was dying when his father rushed him to the hospital for an emergency operation. Since I had to work every day, his case was almost fatal before we realized the seriousness of his condition. Then, overlooking the fact that death was evident by all, I set my eyes steadfastly on the power of my Lord, and phoned Brother and Sister Ulysses Phillips for an agreement of prayer. This strengthened my faith to be unshaken when the doctor stated there was no hope of recovery, only performing the operation as the last human effort. The operating room was ready and last examinations were being made before the procedure began, but prayer was being offered without ceasing as I paced the long corridor. My every breath was entreating my Lord to work a miracle, to glorify His name there before my husband and all concerned. In an instant the Holy Spirit began to undertake for him. His temperature began to drop and continued to go down to normal. Physicians and more physicians were called in on the case. The unknown cause could not be solved by human mind, except by those who knew the power of the God



**Excerpts Taken From
March, 1970
*Faith and Victory***

of the universe. Why should we not praise Him? Our son walked out of that hospital after a few days' observation. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." II Chron. 16:9.

We have witnessed many wonderful healings... in the seven or eight years while conducting cottage prayer meetings in

Los Angeles and suburban areas. We would travel a hundred miles or more to reach needy souls. Along with assistant ministry we witnessed more bodies healed, souls saved and the truth of God's Word planted in areas of false religion.

In the last part of 1963, I arrived in Akron, Ohio, acquainted with no one here except our Lord, on whom our eyes were steadfastly fixed, as we realized our inability to deal with souls. Again I cried out to the One who stated, "And, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." In these few years the Lord made it possible for us to have a chapel, hall and ground for annual camp meetings. Then, above all, He has raised up a Church here to worship God in spirit and in truth in these buildings and on these grounds. His name shall have all the praise.

—Sister Hazel Clark

In this year of 1970 the challenge has never been greater to get the soul-saving gospel of Christ to this perishing world by means of the printed page. In view of the present breakdown of law and order, race hostility, riots, crime increase, immorality, infidelity, atheism and the tendency to revert to heathenism, surely mankind needs Christ and His saving grace more than anything else in the world. Billions of dollars have been spent going to the moon and for the exploration of "outer space," but there is very little effort or interest in exploring man's "inner space" to find the cause of mankind's moral pollution and depravity.

—L. D. Pruitt