

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. 3

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Guthrie, Oklahoma

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The Shining Moment

One Sunday I was entertained in a farm home of a member of a rural church. I was impressed by the intelligence and unusually good behavior of the only child in the home, a little four-year-old boy.

Then I discovered one reason for the child's charm. The mother was at a kitchen sink, washing the intricate parts of a cream separator when the little fellow came to her with a magazine. "Mother," he asked, "what is this man in the picture doing?" To my surprise she dried her hands, sat down on a chair and taking the boy

in her lap she spent ten minutes answering his questions.

After the child had left I commented on her having interrupted her chores to answer the boy's questions, saying, "Most mothers wouldn't have bothered."

"I expect to be washing cream separators for the rest of my life," she told me, "But never again will my son ask me that question!" —Selected



It Shall Not Return Void

By Naomi Dickerson Hiebert

Dear ones, while meditating on the words of the Lord, these thoughts came to me from Isaiah 55. In verse 10 we read how the rain and snow go forth from heaven and water the earth and bring forth "seed to the sower, and bread to the eater." Verse 11 says, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it will not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." So you see, as the water is to the garden so is His word to the thirsty soul, and His word will cause the soul to bud and bring forth the bread of life, or Christ in us. It will certainly not return unto Him void.

Now Mothers (I write mothers because we mothers have charge of the children the greater part of the time), to be sure we should look after our little ones' temporal

As the Twig is Bent

When I was a child I asked my mother,
"Why do I have to pray?"

She said, "Because God is your friend,
You can talk to Him, this way.

"To thank Him for the rain and sun
That brings us food, and flowers,
For our home and all the lovely things
He gives us to be ours.

"He wants us to be good and kind
To people everywhere
He is always near to help and hear
When we talk to Him in prayer."

I still kneel by the bed at night,
Thanking God above
For blessings and concern for me
In Mother's guiding love.

—Edith McKay

needs, but never neglect that greater part, their spiritual needs. Their tender little hearts and minds are so receptive. We should feed them on the Word of God (spiritual food) before they are old enough to let the things of the world fill up their hearts.

We read in Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword...." We need to teach the Word to our children so they will have the strength to do what is right. "Put

on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Ephesians 6:11. The next few verses tell us more about this armor. Then in verse 17 we read, "And take the helmet of salvation, and sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Jesus said, "...It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4. If we keep His Word we will not fail.

Wisdom

By James McMurrin

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." James 3:17. Many people in the world today value "knowledge" or "wisdom." For some, it becomes their religion, something upon which they place the highest value in their lives. Here we see a picture of God's wisdom and its effect on our lives. Each one of these phrases is a different facet of the same jewel, which is God's Spirit. Let us look at them.

"...The wisdom that is from above..." Remember, this is God's wisdom. It is "from above." As it says elsewhere in the scripture, His ways are above our ways, as the heavens are high above the earth. Knowledge has consequences on our attitudes and ideas, and the extent of God's knowledge can help us understand some of His Spirit.

"...Is first pure..." The one thing about God that is always certain is His purity. His holiness is not something that is compromised, done halfway or incompletely. It is totally, 100% certain, and it is a requirement for which all of us must be willing to strive. God's Spirit can only deal with us as we are willing to keep ourselves pure before Him. Without purity, the rest of this verse, and the rest of God's dealings with us, becomes useless.

"...Then peaceable..." When God lives in our lives, and gives of His understanding, we lose the need to be anything but peaceable. Acts and emotions of violence come from one of two reasons—our desire to exercise force on others, or our desire to protect something of ours from someone else. Someone who is God's loses

those needs, as the world understands them. God is our Avenger. Vengeance is His, and we do not need to exercise our own. God is our Protector, to guard and help us through whatever happens. Our desires should be set upon Him, along with our trust in His ability to care for us, and in His ability to give us the desires of our hearts.

"...Gentle..." When God cares for us, we have no insecurity which might cause us to be harsh. When we have God's wisdom, He lets us see how we affect others. God sees all of our hearts, and His desires for us to reflect that knowledge. How can we be harsh with others when God shows us the results of our deeds? God cares for all people, regardless of their condition. His love is something which we cannot hope to understand, but is something which we can experience, if we will but ask Him.

"...And easy to be intreated..." With God's love for others comes concern for their welfare. With His knowledge of our own inability to function without Him comes humbleness. From both of these impulses comes the characteristic of being easily intreated. When you refuse to yield to the entreaties of others, you are saying, in effect, that they are not right, or have no right to ask that. Sometimes this is true, but this is God's decision, and not ours. If we ask for His wisdom, He can show us the proper way to respond to the pleas of others, and no matter what our answer, it should be given with love and a concern for their welfare. Sometimes that may mean saying "no," but it never means disregarding the problems.

"...Full of mercy and good fruits..." God's mercy is the greatest gift the universe has ever known, or will ever know. The condition which we were in requires a mercy beyond our understanding, but not beyond God's. His wisdom is

not just of the head, it is of the heart as well. His love and concern comes from that knowledge, and is imparted to us as we seek His way in matters.

"...Without partiality..." God is no respecter of persons, nor is He One that "does something by halves." His Spirit is complete, whole, and as full to one person as it is to another. God cares for all people, and is willing to accept them all, if they will accept Him and His way to forgiveness. His wisdom is not something which seeks to condemn some people with no hope; it is one which seeks to draw all men unto Him. People often talk about which "side" God supports in their earthly battles. God does not regard "sides." He regards the hearts of all people involved, and He seeks the salvation of all who will accept Him. God calls all of us, and those who respond can come and taste of His fullness.

"...And without hypocrisy..." Hypocrisy is defined as "pretending to be what one is not." God sees our hearts, He knows everything about us, from our innermost desires to our outward actions. There is no room for hypocrisy with God. God's pureness is not something which can exist with a double standard. It is not something which can be compromised into a pretense. His wisdom obliterates the human frailties and pride which lead to hypocrisy. There is no pretense with God.



"This Is The Day Which The Lord Hath Made"

By Fern Stubblefield

"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24. "The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes." Psalm 118:22-23. Yes, truly it is marvellous in our eyes, and our hearts are made to rejoice in this new day, this gospel day, which the Lord hath made.

The Lord wonderfully delivered the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage, which is a type of sin, and brought them to Mount Sinai. There He made a covenant with them saying, "...I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people:...And ye shall be unto me

a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation." Exodus 19:4-6. They readily agreed, but it wasn't long until they broke the first commandment that God had given them, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3. They had the law but didn't have the grace to live fully by it. Grace was to be given in this new gospel day.

We find many prophecies throughout the Old Testament which were fulfilled in this gospel day. One outstanding prophecy was given to Ahaz, a king of Judah, when his heart was troubled with those of his people because of enemies who had come to war against Jerusalem. The Lord sent Isaiah with the message that He would overrule their plans. "Moreover the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God;... But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord." Isaiah 7:10-12. Ahaz refused to ask for a sign and this revealed a contrary, sinful heart condition. Then Isaiah spoke these precious words, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14.

Many years passed until one day the angel Gabriel was sent from God, to a virgin, with the message, "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus." Luke 1:31. Mary accepted God's will for her life. We find her later at Elizabeth's house saying, "...My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour." Luke 1:46-47. Our hearts are made to magnify the Lord and rejoice too, in this gospel day which the Lord hath made. John said, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:17.

Jesus fulfilled His Father's plan for His life and gave Himself a willing sacrifice for sin upon the cross. He was resurrected from the dead and ascended back to the Father.

On the day of Pentecost, as the disciples were tarrying together with one accord, the promise of the Father was fulfilled. "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost...." Acts 2:4. Through the power of the Spirit they were able to keep the law of Christ and were made faithful witnesses unto him. Yes, we do rejoice in this new gospel day which the Lord hath made.

FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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On Wednesday, April 19, at 9:02 in the morning, a rumbling was heard and felt which rattled the windows here at the Print Shop. A sonic boom, or thunder was suspected as having made the noise, but soon we learned of the bombing of the Federal Office

Building in Oklahoma City, approximately 35 miles away.

This awful deed by some misguided person or persons, began a flurry of activity that has hardly lessened a week later. Many people have been removed from the ruins lifeless, and even more are still missing. Especially grieved for are the children who were in a day-care facility in the building. The sorrow expressed in Jeremiah 31:15, seems comparative to the sentiments of today. "Thus saith the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not." One commentator described the gutted nine story structure as "a statue weeping blood."

Many questions are asked as people try to understand why this tragedy occurred. I am convinced that even the facts will never fully satisfy the heart that is aching from the loss of loved ones. Sometimes we hear of people who go on crime sprees, killing and injuring others. Those who were acquainted with that person often express great disbelief that such an individual could have done something so horrendous. The perpetrator may be the neighbor who kept his lawn in immaculate condition and loved his animals, or even was a good father and husband. We just can't expect logical answers, because sin never makes sense.

There are lessons to be learned, however, even in senseless tragedies. We view afresh the brevity of life and with wondering hearts we note the bidding of Christ to discern the times. (Matt. 16:3.) We also renew the hiding place that is found in God, and are inspired to bear the burdens of others in greater measure.

Surely those who lost relatives in the bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Office Building will recover more fully if those who know the value of prayer will remember them in their supplications to God.

May 14th marks the day that mothers are to be remembered. Mothers are deserving of honor, especially those who raise their children with the tender love that wraps itself around the heart. Godly mothers are valuable and their worth cannot be appraised in one generation alone. It is as the English novelist Charles Dickens once wrote. "I think it must somewhere be written, that the virtues of mothers shall be visited on their children, as well as the sins of the fathers."

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We do want to thank those who faithfully support this work. May the Lord bless and reward each of you who make it possible for many people to receive the literature we print free of charge, or at a marginal cost.

If we can be of help to you, please let us know. We have a set time on Monday mornings when the Print Shop workers meet together to pray for the requests that are written or phoned in. Our address and phone numbers are listed at the bottom of the first column on page four.

—Wayne Murphey



Prayer Requests

AL—Sis. Pearlene Gerald is having a continued problem with pain in her body.

IL—Sis. Lavena Cole has a prayer request concerning her husband who is in a rest home.

MN—Bro. Lee Hilton has requested prayer for chronic bronchitis.

TN—"Pray for me. I am not well."

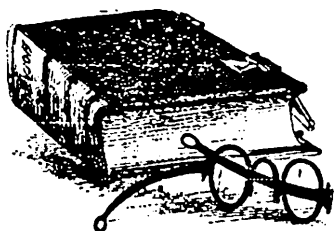
—Ruth Torbett

IN—"I want you to pray for me. A cold has settled in my lungs. Also pray for my friend, Hazel Brown, who has the same problem. And pray for my brothers to get saved." —Jim Wilson

OH—"Pray for a man who is having mental and spiritual problems." —Tressie Adkins



Partial List of Books Available



A Sketch of My Life by H. B. Hall, relates his experiences

as a young man, his act of murder, his prison life, conversion, release, gift of healing, experiences as a caretaker of a senior citizen's home,

and much more. It is an interesting story that all will enjoy. It contains 126 pages bound in a heavy paper cover and sells for \$1.50.

A True Story in Allegory by Lottie Jarvis, missionary to India. 30 pages in paper cover. 50¢.

Adam Clarke's Complete Commentary of the Entire Bible in three volumes. Price, \$95.00.

Availing Prayer by Fay Martin. An excellent book on the subject of prayer. 120 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50.

Bible Humility by J. W. Byers. 33 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, 50¢.

Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner by A. L. Byers. Reprint edition of 496 pages with pictures of pioneer ministers. Clothbound. Price, \$6.00.

Christ's Triumphal Reign by H. M. Riggle. 28 pages. Price, 25¢.

Considering Marriage? by Margaretta Kennedy. 12 pages. Price, 25¢.

Egermeier's Bible Story Book for children, illustrated with beautiful colored pictures. 576 pages. Cloth binding. Standard Edition, \$15.95.

Errors of Russellism by J. E. Forrest is a 252 page book bound in a heavy paper cover which gives an explanation of the misconceptions on which the modern day Jehovah's Witness religion is founded. Price, \$3.00.

Evening Light Songs, 538 page hymnal with shaped notes, in cloth binding. Price, \$10.00. For orders of 12 or more, a discount of 10% is granted.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs are the records compiled by John Foxe of the lives, sufferings and triumphant deaths of Christian martyrs throughout history. Paper binding, 413 pages. Price, \$9.95.

God's Gracious Dealings by Fred Pruitt and Lawrence Pruitt. History of this gospel publishing ministry in the past sixty years. 496 pages, including many pictures, in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.50.

Heart Talks, by C. W. Naylor, a book designed to comfort, strengthen, and instruct in the Christian life. 279 pages bound in paper cover. Price, \$3.00.

How to Live a Holy Life by C. E. Orr. 112 pages of soul food. Price, \$1.00.

How We Got Our Bible by E. E. Byrum. 46 pages, 75¢.

Little People Sing Unto The Lord is a songbook composed of 115 songs compiled by Patricia Bell. Although the songs are especially for children, they are favorites that any age would enjoy. Bound in a heavy paper cover, the price is \$5.00 each.

Smith's Bible Dictionary, thoroughly revised and up-to-date, 836 pages, clothbound, containing 400 illustrations and 18 maps showing the Bible Lands. Price, \$11.95.

Streams in the Desert, Volumes 1 and 2 by Mrs. Charles E. Cowman. Hardback books. Price, \$10.95. Specify volume number.

The Church of God by D. S. Warner. 24 pages in heavy paper binding. Price, 50¢.

The Heavenly Footman by John Bunyan, the author of *Pilgrim's Progress*. 32 pages bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 50¢.

The Hero of Hill House by Mabel Hale. Interesting true story, contains 224 pages, bound in heavy paper. Price, \$3.00.

The Hidden Life by C. E. Orr. 112 pages of soul food in paper binding. Price, \$1.00.

The Holy Spirit and Other Spirits by D. O. Teasley. 192 pages, paperbound. Price, \$2.50.

Unraveling Revelation by A. Q. Bridwell. 34 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, 50¢.

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. 256 pages, paperbound. Price, \$3.25.

Tim and His Lamp, re-written by Sis. Fern Stubblefield. 52 pages, excellent for children and young people. Paper cover, 75¢.

Touching Incidents and Remarkable Answers to Prayer. Children's edition, many pictures, paper cover, 135 pages. Price, \$1.50.

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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

Tulsa, OK—June 9-18

Oakland, CA—June 12-18

Green Bank, WV—June 16-26

Northport, AL—June 29-July 2

Loranger, LA—July 2-9

Fresno, CA—July 9-16

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

Boley, OK—August 22-27

Meeting Reports and Notices

MISSOURI STATE CAMP MEETING

The Missouri State Camp Meeting, held at Myrtle, MO, will begin, Lord willing, on Wednesday, May 10 and continue through Sunday, May 14, 1995. Everyone is invited and urged to attend. We are expecting and praying for a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord for the encouragement and edification of the people of God, and for the conviction and salvation of the lost. Please be agreed with us in prayer to that end, and come, if at all possible. Your presence in the meeting will be a great help, and would be greatly appreciated by our small congregation here at Myrtle. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. To make cabin reservations, please contact Sis. Carol Sorrell at (417) 938-4493. The campground phone number is (417) 938-4682. —Bro. Harlan Sorrell

HOLLY HILL, SC CAMP MEETING

This is a reminder of our camp meeting services which are being held on June 4 through June 11, 1995. We would like for all who will to

come and join us in our worship to the Lord. We now have rooms available for a few families. Also we have motels that are about 10 miles from us. The Holiday Inn phone number is (803) 854-2121, the Days Inn, (803) 854-2175, and the Ramada Inn, (803) 854-2191.

Please ask everyone to keep us in their prayers as our services are being conducted.

For any other information please feel free to contact me, Bro. Alvoid Pratt, (803) 492-3366, Sis. Juriene McAlhaney, (803) 496-3218, or Bro. Utson Platt, (803) 496-5759. Meals will be served twice a day.

TULSA, OK CAMP MEETING

The time is drawing near when the camp meeting, Lord willing, will be held at Tulsa, OK, 1102 E. Pine Pl. The dates are June 9-18.

All are invited to attend these services. Please come praying that souls will hear and take heed to the Word of God and be saved, baptized and sanctified—also that bodies will be healed.

There will be morning and night services, Monday through Saturday, at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. There will be afternoon services on both Sundays.

For further information contact Bro. Charles Lowe, (918) 584-6838 or Bro. Charles Rhodes, (918) 272-9682. The chapel number is (918) 584-8438.

—Sis. Maple Littlejohn

GREEN BANK, WV CAMP MEETING

The Green Bank, West Virginia Camp Meeting will begin Friday night, June 16, and will end Sunday, June 25. We are looking forward to another anointed camp meeting.

There will be two services daily: 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Meals are served on the grounds and facilities are available for men and women, as well as families, for lodging. Please call ahead, if possible, to let us know you are coming so we can place you in our homes.

Green Bank is located on Highway 28 and 92, about 50 miles north of White Sulphur Springs, WV. Our weather tends to be cool in the evenings so a jacket would be advisable.

We are praying that the Lord will send the ministers of His choosing to support the meeting. If you need any other information, please call Bro. Toney Samons, (304) 456-3017, Bro. Mart Samons, (304) 456-4469 or Bro. Marty Clevenger, (304) 456-3242. Everyone is welcome to come to this camp meeting. We look

forward to the fellowship of God's people and the salvation of souls. If you are unable to attend, please pray for the meeting.

NORTHPORT, AL CAMP MEETING

Lord willing, we the saints in Northport, AL, wish to announce a meeting to be held on June 29-July 2, 1995. We are praying that the Lord will send ministers of His choosing to preach the Word.

Services will be held nightly at 7:30, with day services to be announced.

This meeting will be run on a freewill offering basis. Anyone desiring to help with the expenses of the meeting may contact Sis. Jessie Shelton, 3940 28th Ave., Northport, AL 35476, (205) 339-3026, or Sis. Bernice Petty, 2207 4th St., East Tuscaloosa, AL 35404, (205) 553-4450.

Everyone desiring to come and be with us will be accommodated. We have a motel near the chapel and we have some home accommodations. For more information you may contact Bro. Louis Kimble, 2712 Phoenix St., Kenner, LA 70062, (504) 467-9039 or (504) 467-8842. May the Lord richly bless each and everyone of you.

—Sis. Bernice Petty



MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear workers: Greetings in Jesus' sweet name. I thank all of you for your prayers which I need so much. I praise God for all of you dear saints. I love you very much. I thank the Lord that I am feeling better, but I still need a healing touch. Some days I feel bad, and some days I am better.

The Easter season will soon be here. It reminds us of what our dear Jesus had to go through on the cross for our sins. What a wonderful Saviour we have!

—Sis. Olive Getterson

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love. This is a beautiful day. 1995 is swiftly moving along. It will soon be Easter.

I trust all at the Print Shop are well in body, and happy in the Lord. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1. I enjoyed the *Faith and Victory* this month. There was a lot of good reading. The poem on the front page was really good. I just got a phone call from my niece who asked me to pray for her husband. They took him to the hospital last evening (April 3) with a bleeding ulcer. You might pray for him.

Love and prayers, —Sister Dilley

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of Jesus, our blessed Savior, Physician and Redeemer. "Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to usward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered." Psalm 40:5. The Psalmist has truly expressed the goodness of God for us. Jesus said that our heavenly Father was kind even to unthankful and evil persons (Luke 6:35) and all of His saints receive many blessings not given to others. Praise the good Lord for ever and ever!

I am still praising Him for salvation and the daily care He gives me. He abundantly supplies my every need and gives strength for every day, with grace to overcome all the trials and temptations that He allows to come into my life....

I trust that this will find all there in good health and doing well. I pray daily for you all and covet your prayers for me and my loved ones.

With Christian love, —Bro. Bill Busch

OK—Dear saints of the most high God: The song says, "When I look o're the past, I behold how His wide arms of mercy held me...." That describes my feelings as I look over the last year and a half.

Many of you know that on May 23, 1994, our third son was born approximately five to six weeks early, and was in the hospital for sixteen days. The first day they let us know that he was very sick and they were not giving us much hope of him living. They paged the doctor while talking to us, for the Adams' baby, and I distinctly remember the prayer I prayed after he left the room. It was, "Lord, if it is not your will for Rodney to live, then take him before they do

so much to him." When Rodney was one day old the doctor told us that his body was taking over and doing what it should to improve. We told him we would be praying that it would continue. When Rodney was five days old the same doctor told us that he had gone from being his sickest to his most improved baby. How God had worked in just five days!

As I look at Rodney's health today, I thank God for His power and the promise He gave me of, "...if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them;..." Mark 16:18. He was on pure oxygen which can cause blindness.... Praise be to God, he watches the cars go by our house.

We were anxious to bring Rodney home, and were wanting his release very badly. We listened to a message on the way to the hospital that was preached at Neosho, MO, about God delivering his people with angels. After we parked our car, Danny prayed and told the Lord he felt we had committed Rodney to Him but now we needed an angel to deliver him. Danny went on home and I stayed to be close until the baby came home. The very next morning they told me, "We can't find a reason to keep your son anymore." God's angel had delivered that very night. How we rejoiced.

Our second son was having trouble with skin allergies known as eczema at about this same time. The battle was long, and discouragement and a sense of failure were there. How we thank each and every one of you for your prayers and support throughout this time, for it is because of you and those prayers that we were sustained. Since the end of October there has been a definite healing touch to his body and we are believing in deliverance once again. In the midst of the storm the Lord brought the song, "I saw a wayworn traveler in tattered garments clad....He shouted loud, 'Hosanna, DELIVERANCE WILL COME....'" That is our promise that we stand on. We thank and praise God for the vast improvement to his skin and are believing God for complete healing.

Once again we want to let each of you know how we have appreciated your love shown to us during 1994 and its battles. We could not have made it without you, the saints of the Most High God.

Keep us in your prayers that we be found faithful to our God. —Daniel and Anita Adams

MO—Bro. Murphey: I noticed my subscription runs out soon. I want to renew it as I don't

want to miss any copies. I enjoy the letters, articles and the missionary reports. In fact all of the paper brings comfort. It helps along life's pathway knowing there are a lot of God's children around. May God bless in your labors of love.

—Lucille Lisby

MI—Dear Ones: Thank you so much for being available when we need you. What a blessing these old truths are to us. I can see a great change in people from our little church as we study the old paths. A whole generation has been lost because these truths have been hidden. You have made my heart rejoice again in the faith once delivered to the saints!

Praise the Lord. —Sis. Alice Van Auken

TX—Dear saints: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. I appreciate what the Lord has done for me throughout the physical affliction I have had. Thanks to the saints everywhere who have kept me in their thoughts and prayers.

The Lord has touched me in a wonderful way, giving me strength in my soul and body, and putting me back on my feet. It is also a blessing to be able to attend services in the house of the Lord again. It seems that I can never tell all that the Lord has done for me. For so long I had to be waited on, but now I can serve others. Praise the Lord! "...For the Lord is so near, and his saints are so dear."

Love and appreciation, —Sis. Mauntel Jones

FL—Dear ones in Christ: Greetings from Florida to each of you. We just wanted to give our testimony, and to say that we are still saved and pressing on by God's grace and are so grateful for His goodness and blessings. We live in an area that is isolated from the saints, but we receive tapes through the mail, which is a great comfort and encouragement.

God has answered many prayers for us and brought us through many trials. One of our biggest answers to prayer came when my dear dad, Willard Underdown, returned to the fold after being backslidden for many years. God is still on His throne. Praise His name! Let us not give up on our lost loved ones. We do not know their hearts or how God may be working.

Please remember us in prayer, as we both desire to be true and faithful to the Lord. We truly love Him and want to do His will.

—Kevin and Cheryl Smith

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne and all: Keep up the good work. I really do enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper. The testimonies are so good to read. Please keep remembering my mother and dad (Bro. Max and Sis. Lula Williamson) in your everyday prayers. They need help each and every day....

—Dennis Williamson

ID—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. He has been so good to me and how I do praise Him for His tender, loving care.

How are things going down that way? We trust that everyone is keeping real good faith in the Lord, for surely we will go under if we do not have faith in His promises.

We do enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper, and are glad to have material like this to read and feed our souls....

May the Lord bless each one is our prayer.

—Ruby Harris

NC—Greetings Brother Wayne and workers: We want to thank you for your faithfulness through the printed pages. We are praying God's continued blessings on you all. We are enjoying the paper each month.

We were able to be in the Davenport, FL meeting. The presence of the Lord was surely there.

Lord willing, we hope to see everyone at the Monark, MO camp meeting.

—The Millis Family, Frankie, Lynne, Josef and Benjamin

CA—Dear saints: Greetings to you all this beautiful morning. It sure is cold here after all the rain. There has been a lot of flooding here. The water came up almost in our yard at one time, but the Lord spared us again. Praise the dear Lord! He is so special to all of us.

We have two sons who live in Uriah, CA, and a daughter that lives in Orville, CA. All of them were spared from the floods. We give the Lord all the glory, and we surely appreciate all the saints praying for us.

We love the *Faith and Victory* and appreciate the books we have of the old ministers and saints that wrote their experiences and happenings in the Church. We are isolated from the Church, but the Lord has blessed us....

Love and prayers,

—Sis. Lois and Bro. Harold Underwood

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: Greetings in Jesus' dear name! I trust all is going well with you and the printing work for the Lord.

The Lord is precious to me. I appreciate the love and care He has given. He is so mindful of our needs for soul and body. I am so very thankful for the Word of God to guide, and the Holy Spirit to lead us daily, also for the freedom we have in our country. None of us know what the future holds, but He has promised us grace.

Spring is here again and we thank the Lord for the good rain He sent our way. We are enjoying the beautiful spring flowers, etc. With life springing forth in all the creation God has made, it lifts our spirit to see and know how great our heavenly Father is. I don't see how anyone could doubt there is a God. I praise the Lord for His wonderful works that we can enjoy, and for making a way where we can have salvation full and free.

May God bless you all and keep you faithful in Him and His work. Pray for me. I mean to be faithful by the grace of God.

In Christian love,

—Natalie Allen

IN MEMORIAM

Thelma Snodgrass Halbrook was born January 18, 1911, in Rosedale, WV to William E. and Ann Elizabeth (Hall) Snodgrass. Sis. Halbrook passed away Tuesday, March 7, 1995 suddenly at her home in Salem, MO, at the age of 84 years, 1 month and 17 days.

Sis. Halbrook spent most of her adult life in Dent County and was a member of the Church of God. She was united in marriage to William D. Hawkins and to this union one child was born. In later years she married Bruce D. Halbrook.

Survivors include one daughter, Nancy Hawkins Martin, of the home in Salem; three sisters, Dolly Smith, of Frametown, WV, Mabel Wagoner and husband, Kenneth, of St. Louis, Glenore Snodgrass of Salem, MO; one brother, E. H. Snodgrass and wife, Naomi, of Salem, MO; two sisters-in-law, Jessie Halbrook and Deatrice Tipton, of Salem, MO, a host of nieces and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, two husbands, two stepsons, Jewell

and Esco Halbrook; two sisters, Madeline Snodgrass and Dorothy Mae Freeman, and two brothers-in-law, Spurgeon Smith and Vernon Freeman.

Burial was in the Cedar Grove Cemetery in Salem, MO.

Correction

The obituary in the April *Faith and Victory* for Sis. Odeva Kelley should have stated that Bros. Lucas Warren and John Eddens officiated at the funeral service.

The Joyful Leap

By Vesta-Nadine Severs

As the natural eye exults in seeking and finding the brightest morning star in the pre-dawn glories of a new day, so the spiritual eye exults in locating its brightest morning star, Christ Jesus.

"...I am the root," Christ declared, "and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." Rev. 22:16. Even as the natural stars are hidden by thin layers of clouds and mists, or bathed in the faint glow of the new dawn, so is the spiritual. There are times when we dare not raise our eyes to behold the glory and beauty for fear it would be more than our natural body has capacity to contain.

Catherine Marshall aptly stated in *Meeting God at Every Turn*, "In the middle of that night I was awakened. The room was in total darkness. Instantly sensing something alive, electric in the room, I sat bolt upright in bed. Past all credible belief, suddenly, unaccountably, Christ was there, in Person, standing by the right side of my bed. I could see nothing but a deep, velvety blackness around me, but the bedroom was filled with an intensity of power, as if the Dynamo of the universe were there....I knew that Jesus was smiling at me tenderly, lovingly, whimsically—as though a trifle amused at my too-intense seriousness about myself...His personality held an amazing meld I had never before met in any one person: warm-hearted compassion and the light touch, yet unmistakable authority and kingliness. Instantly, my heart wanted to bow before Him in abject adoration....I waited in awe for him to say something momentous....I faltered, thoughts

flicking through my mind. Jesus said nothing more. He had told me what to do. At that moment I understood as never before the totality of His respect for the free will He has given us and the fact that He will **never** violate it."

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12:2.

Therefore throughout this year, so let us exult in seeking our bright and morning star, knowing that by so doing, we will be found of Him. For He is as "...a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts." II Peter 1:19.



"Praise Ye The Lord"

By Carol Jantz

God not only created our physical bodies, but He put within the depths of our being an eternal soul. We were designed to live pleasing to God and worship Him. Nevertheless, God has given us complete freedom of choice, whether to love Him and obey His commandments, or to follow after the allurements of the tempter. We must always be on our guard, lest we yield to the enemy of our soul. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matthew 22:37. We can cultivate our love for God by calling to remembrance many blessings He has already bestowed upon us. God wants us to appreciate His wonderful love and great power he has shown toward us. If we thank and praise the Lord all through each day we live, it not only blesses God, but will lift us up onto a higher plane with Him.

"This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long."

The apostle Paul was a good example to us. He even sang praises to God when he was in prison. We should not only praise God when things are going good, but when things go wrong. Praise and thanksgiving are very pleasing to God. He will give us peace which passes all understanding.

However, Paul had to **learn** how to endure hardness. "...For I have **learned**, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Philippians 4:11. Our flesh is so weak, and shrinks back

from any kind of suffering, sorrow or pain, but Paul counteracted his feelings by rejoicing or praising God. "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.... Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:4-7.

The devil knows that praise and thanksgiving will keep our souls in tune with God, so he will try to flood our minds one way or another. His most common tactic is to get our mind on ourselves. Self is the main avenue the devil will use against us. There are allurements and enticements which lead to traps and snares for the soul, but discouragement can be the most deadly weapon the devil uses on us. He has no mercy with his attacks. The more downcast we feel, the harder the blows of the enemy, for he is out to destroy us. What a blessing that we can cry out to God for help. "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." Proverbs 18:10.

We need to realize that anything that crushes, depresses, or confuses us is from the devil. Praise and thanksgiving to God are mighty weapons to use against the enemy of our souls. We can resist the devil's terrible onslaughts by praising God in spite of difficulties, for we know God will work everything out in His timing. Surely we have much to be thankful for and praises to give unto the Lord as long as we live.

"If I had ten thousand lives in which
to praise Him,

I could not enough my blessed Lord adore."

The apostle Paul suffered much more than most of us will ever encounter, but by living a life that was filled with praise and rejoicing, he was able to look at the end result of his sufferings. He knew his trials would be turned into triumphs in the light of eternity. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." II Corinthians 4:17-18.

Praise will help our spiritual vision to develop. "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord." Psalm 150:6.

Intensified Faith In God

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

Those who bombed the Alfred Murrah building on April the 19th, planned to kill and destroy. Indeed, a large casualty of lives has been suffered which has touched the hearts of millions of Americans. Physical damage has been extensive and it makes our hearts cry to think innocent victims have suffered because of evil doers.

The bomb did succeed in leaving the building demolished but this powerful bomb could not destroy—could not even shake—the spirit of fellowship and compassion holding strong in the hearts of co-workers, family, friends, and fellow Americans. In fact, this evil act has drawn community people together and closer to God.

Personally, I have been touched by the outpouring of willing volunteers who have been and are currently assisting in the search for more victims in the unstable debris of the building. Restaurants continue to send plenty of hot food to a local civic center where a temporary relief shelter has been set up for the exhausted search crews. Fresh beds and clean clothes are available there and already thousands of dollars have been donated to help defray the expensive loss of personal property many victims have suffered. Also, according to the police department, not one count of looting or attempted vandalizing has been reported. That is outstanding.

From the ashes of this senseless destruction, I can see arising a beauty in human spirits that the bombers did not expect to create. The enemy meant harm but the Lord has used it to bond together a community, a city, a state, and hopefully a nation. The words of Isaiah 61:1-3 state: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed

me to preach good tidings unto the meek;...to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified."

Right now the Lord is planting a seed of faith in the heart of our nation. In the very first hour of this bombing, news media personnel asked the public to pray for the victims. Personally, I have heard urgent public requests for prayer. One commentator stated that "only God will be able to help us through this devastation." I appreciate this frank desire for God's help.

No one boycotted the Christian memorial service held at the public fairgrounds where old and young alike gathered to mourn and pray. To me, this service was outstanding because the overall acknowledgment was that only God could heal the broken hearts and answer the questions in our minds.

I find it ironic that a damaging explosion has intensified faith in God and love for human beings. My earnest prayer is that this revival of faith will continue to grow and that seeds from it might even sprout roots in the heart of each government leader. We desperately need a nation morally sound that will not collapse under the international political explosions in our world of today. The foundation of our nation was built upon Biblical principles and for the sake of our children, we must stand firm.

We are asking the Lord to be merciful to our nation and heal the wounds inflicted by evil. Only the Lord can bring beauty from ashes or give the oil of joy for mourning.

Juvenile Delinquency

By Sam Tannyhill

One of the most common subjects today is "Juvenile Delinquency." You can hear it discussed on every street corner and at work. The most common of these remarks are: "What are our children coming to? What is the matter with this younger generation?" Now let's hear a few of our neighbors' answers. "Oh, they will grow out of it in time." "They just didn't get started right." "They have too many outside things to do; They never stay home." All such answers you hear, except this one. "I, the parent, just didn't have time for my children." You never hear this answer because you never put the blame where it belongs.

How many times do Mom and Dad stay out so late, that they just can't give the little ones a half decent word? How many different baby sitters have you had for your children because you didn't want to drag them along? Are the places you go too good for your children, or should we ask — would your mother have taken you to such a place when you were young?

Let me ask this, "Whom did God give those children of yours to? Was it a baby sitter, or Grandma or Aunt Sue?" I hardly think so. God loaned you those babies because He put His trust in you, the parent. When you neglect your gift, you break trust with God. Since those babies were clean and pure when you got them, isn't it quite clear that God meant for them to be kept that way? Man was born into this world for one purpose; to serve God with all his heart, mind, and soul, and thereby gain life everlasting. In order to do this, you, Mr. Parent, must teach your little ones the Christian way of life. This does not mean to send the children off to church and then your job is done. Nothing could be further from the truth. Those children will do as they see you do. You shun your job—they shun theirs. You shun your duty to God—they do likewise. How many times have you sat down and eaten your food and never asked God's blessing on it? When was the last time you prayed side by side with your little ones? Do you encourage your children to

study the Sunday school lesson or do you study yours? Can you sit down and tell your children the Bible stories their little hearts long to hear or don't you know the stories yourself?

You are probably asking yourself now, "Where does this fellow get all his right to question or give advice to me, Mr. and Mrs. Parent, U. S. A.?" Dear parent, I was what everybody called a "delinquent child." For what happened to me when I was young, is the reason I am here on death row today, waiting my turn to die in place of my delinquent parents. My life is cut very short, because somebody broke trust with God. I was never inside a church. I never heard my father speak God's holy name, unless he was mad at someone and used it in swearing. I never saw or heard my parents pray, nor was I ever told a Bible story. I never heard of saying grace at the table, nor was there such a book as the Holy Bible in our home. This is but a small part of the story I could tell you, but this much you will probably even find hard to believe. Do you think I tell my past so you can hand me sympathy or unwanted pity? No, you can have them both. They both are strange to my ear and I want none of them. God had pity on me and spoke peace to my once troubled heart. You can do me a favor and in return help your own soul. You can keep your little ones from ending up in here. You can keep them from hiding their parents' past behind prison walls. You can keep trust with God.

I am hoping this will be read twice by each person, for that is the only way anyone will ever give it a second thought. But you, the delinquent parents, need not worry, before too much longer, there will be the Judgment Day and as sure as I sit here these words will ring in your ears, but they will be reworded by God Himself. Then they will read, "You broke trust with Me, your God. You neglected My children by your delinquency." Need I say what God has planned for such parents who broke trust with Him? How would you like to meet Him right now?

GOD'S REMINDERS:

"These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes. Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver." Psalms 50:21-22.

"Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after. Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid." I Timothy 5:24-25.

Now let me ask a few questions to those who right now are saying, "I am glad I don't fit in that class. I am glad I do my duty to God and keep my trust with Him." Dear parent, you may not fit in the first class, but how do you

fit in class number two? You may bring your little ones to church, but do you take God home with you? Do you take the little ones with you to the church meetings or would they be too much bother? Maybe they wouldn't enjoy prayer meeting; They are too small.

You know it is pretty easy to overlook the little things, but God does not give grace as payment for forgetfulness. God rewards mankind for the good they do, not what they overlook as too small to do.

I pray our loving Father in heaven will use this in behalf of His little ones. It comes from a convict behind walls, but the walls just keep man in. They don't keep God's spirit of truth out, for which I am ever thankful. If there is one thing I'll always remember, it's what led me here. May my mistake be your gain, and my life given, save your child.

A decorative border with stylized floral motifs in each corner, surrounding the 'Real' section.

Real

By Gary B. McCleod

At an early age I gave my life to Christ. I did not know how much of an impact that He would have on my life, but I knew one thing and that was, I wanted to be real.

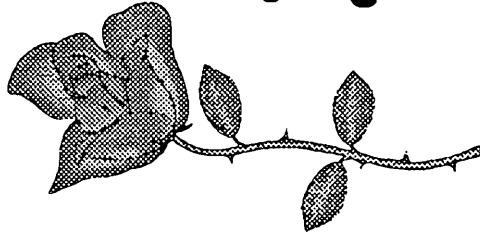
All of my friends had submitted their lives to Christ much earlier than I did, as if it were just a game. They urged me to surrender my life to Christ and laughed at me when I refused. I felt that before I turned my life over to Christ, I wanted to know who He was and most of all, I wanted to be real.

After many months, I finally made up within my heart, mind and soul that I wanted to live for Jesus. However, the most puzzling thing about that day was that, none of my friends, who had urged me and laughed at me when I refused to give my life to Christ, were there. When I was baptized, I wondered where they were. It turned out that none of them were real after all.

Since that time I've been running for Jesus. The road has been rough and rugged and I have fallen by the wayside sometimes. Through it all I've found out that He is real.

Things I thought that I'd never be able to do, with Christ, I've been able to do, bringing to pass the scripture that says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." All I could have ever imagined Christ could be, He's been all of that and more. He is real!!!

MOTHER



No joy in nature is so sublimely affecting as the joy of a mother at the good fortune of her child.
—Jean Richter

If you would reform the world from its errors and vices, begin by enlisting the mothers. —Charles Simmons

The mother's heart is the child's school-room.
—Henry Beecher

Observe how soon, and to what a degree, a mother's influence begins to operate! Her first ministration for her infant is to enter, as it were, the valley of the shadow of death, and win its life at the peril of her own! How different must an affection thus founded be from all others!

—Lydia Sigourney

No language can express the power and beauty and heroism and majesty of a mother's love. It shrinks not where man cowers, and grows stronger where man faints, and over the wastes of worldly fortune sends the radiance of its quenchless fidelity like a star in heaven.

—Edwin Chapin

The dignity, the grandeur, the tenderness, the everlasting and divine significance of motherhood.—De Witt Talmage

An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy. —Spanish Proverb

"I am sending \$20.00 to you to send to India and to Nigeria—ten dollars each in money or in literature. Use your own judgment.

"I became so interested in that years ago when I went with my father to Liberia, Africa, to live and work for the Lord. This did not come to pass. I came back to America with two of my family. The conditions of the heathen nations have lingered in my mind during

my old age. My heart was turned toward the sad end of those people. I got busy making quilt tops for sale. I made four tops which were recently purchased for twenty dollars, and I trust when you receive it you will know how to use it."

—Ella V. Phillips

— — — — —
"Today as we look about us and see our country torn and disrupted by riots and strikes, we understand that what we are seeing and hearing is but a manifestation of carnality—the unconverted human nature trying to take care of itself without help from our all-wise Creator.

"We, as Christians, are concerned about this utter disregard of the laws of God. We understand that these things were prophesied for our time in the Holy Scriptures, but



Excerpts Taken From May, 1970 Faith and Victory

how to deal with them from a practical standpoint is something on which many of us may desire guidance as we go about our schooling or employment. It is likely that some of us will be pressured to participate in some of these events by fellow employees or classmates. Usually they were made to sound like harmless displays of dissent, and it is argued that this is an American heritage, the freedom of

speech, etc....

"There is going on now within a few miles of my home, what started as a peaceful picket line, but has turned into a display of shooting, and destruction of other's property....

"This does not mean that we cannot desire better conditions, but there is a right way and a wrong way to do things. The right way to accomplish our desires is primarily through earnest prayer to Him who controls the universe. I know I have obtained many things this way, and our Father is no respecter of persons. What He does for one He will do for another if we meet the conditions and He sees that it would be good for us. Let us lift up our eyes and trust in Him for our needs and not in what man hopes to bring about by argument or violence."

—J. F. Broker

Your Heart is Telling on You

By Burbridge R. Copeland

I set some flowers in my yard
For all the world to see,
For I knew well from times gone past
They're pretty as can be.

Soon though, two flowers grew grotesque
With superfluous growth,
I thought external things were wrong
The ants? A bug? or both?

Discolored stems bereft of grace,
The leaves were turning brown;
A shameful blight, such ugly things!
I cut one flower down.

There in the center of its stem
I found a lengthy hole,
And at the tunneled end of this
A living worm had stole.

I couldn't see that flower's heart,
For I'm a man, not God.
But outward appearance judged itself
Of something awfully odd.

One flower lives still growing tall,
With form a joy to see,
And surely in each graceful stem
A heart of purity.