

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>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. 10

73rd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

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### New Year Greeting From Faith Publishing House Reprinted from 1946

Once again we send a greeting  
To our readers far and near;  
May God's blessings rest upon you  
Throughout all the coming year.

May the love of God abiding  
In your hearts this year increase;  
May His precious holy presence  
E're abide, and give you peace.

To the sick and those afflicted,  
We would speak a word of cheer;  
Let us point you to the Saviour,  
One who hears and answers prayer.

Oh, just look by faith to Jesus,  
There is healing in His name;  
Yesterday, today, forever,  
Our dear Saviour is the same.

Sinner, Jesus died to save you,  
Hear Him call, "Come unto me,"  
Will you come while He is calling?  
Oh, the Saviour died for thee.

Then backslider, will you hasten  
And repent, come back to God?  
He will meet you and receive you  
If you trust His cleansing blood.

Precious Saviour, bless each reader,  
Heal the sick and comfort give,  
In this new year now before us  
Help us, teach us how to live.

May we tell the gospel story,  
Send it out o'er land and sea  
In the precious name of Jesus.  
Thine shall all the glory be.

### A New Year Prayer

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

Dear Lord, Let us reason together today. Though my sins were once as scarlet, I am so thankful You cleansed me whiter than the snow through the precious blood of Jesus. Try me and know my thoughts. If there be any dark, secret blot within my heart, O Lord, please dispel it with Your penetrating light.

I am willing to follow Your plan for my life—

just let me know when to move under Your fear and favor or when to be still and endure patiently.

May I ever be obedient to Your written Word and to the guiding voice of Your Holy Spirit. These two witnesses satisfy my soul with the good of the land. I thank You for peace, love, joy, faith, hope, long-suffering and other good fruits

You produce within me, in or out of season, whether the world be cold or not.

Please bring someone my way that I may share of Your bounty and direct them to Your kingdom. My heart's desire is to help You deliver wandering souls from the sword of the enemy.

Through the shed blood of Jesus, I remain Your child who is ever...

—Hungry and Thirsty After Righteousness

Dear Hungry and Thirsty,

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

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### **"What Is Man That Thou Art Mindful Of Him?"**

By Carol Jantz

This question was asked long ago by someone who had spent much time taking care of his father's sheep. The nighttime seemed to magnify and glorify the Creator. Stars without number would sparkle and twinkle across the heavens that had been made by the lavish hand and fingers of God. This young shepherd boy, David, felt so small and insignificant. He knew the stars and moon had been put in the heavens long before he was born, and that they would remain long after his body had returned to dust.

"When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour." Psalms 8:3-5.

How much more these words mean to us! The very Son of God condescended from heaven to earth... "in the fulness of time." "And the Word [Jesus] was made flesh, and dwelt among us,..." John 1:14. Thus Jesus knows and understands completely all the hurts and frailties of our flesh. Yet His comprehension went far deeper than our human woes. It reached to the very depths of our soul. "...but [Jesus] was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep... by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,... I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep... I lay down my life for the sheep.... No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself." [These next words are more powerful than death.] "I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." John 10:7-18.

Let us now look upon the crucifixion scene. Jesus hangs, dying in agony, upon a cross between two thieves. His mission is almost accomplished on this earth. He is bearing ALL the sins of the world. He cries out in anguish! "...My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46. However, there is victory and triumph in Jesus' last few words before He died.

"It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." John 19:30. "...Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, [the same David who asked the question, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?"] hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof....[break the powers of sin] for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;... Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing....be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever." Revelation 5:5-13.

"What is man that thou art mindful of him?" God knew because He had created him in His own image. When man sinned, God didn't want to leave him in the helpless and awful state of sin and death. His love and compassion was so great toward fallen mankind, "...that he gave his only begotten Son, that *who so ever* believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32. God has designed that His grace (through Jesus) be free as the air we breathe, if we will obey and His Word believe.

Satan is always seeking to bring doubts and fears into our minds in his sneaky and subtle ways, but we can resist them by looking upon the

*"His comprehension  
went far deeper  
than our  
human woes."*

sufferings of Christ. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him (the anticipation of our redemption) endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction [persecution] of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Hebrews 12:2-3. When we consider and ponder all that Christ bore for us, it will enable us to see how "mindful" and merciful God is toward us. Our bodies are only dust, but our souls will live forever in eternity. If we will believe and accept His "mindfulness" of redemption, we will one day dwell in a mansion especially prepared for us, instead of dwelling in torment and eternal death.

When your heart grows weary with the toils and trials of life, remember the words of Jesus. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3. "Let not your heart be troubled." God is so mindful of mankind.



## **The Power of His Word**

By Sis. Fern Stubblefield

"The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry." Psalm 34:15. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?" Matthew 7:11. "The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way." Psalm 25:9.

I had read and meditated upon these promises while waiting at a garage to have my car checked for a wobble I had been occasionally feeling in the front wheels. Each promise strengthened and encouraged my heart to trust in Him who understood the problem. After a little while the shop manager returned and told me the front tires needed to be replaced. Later, as prices were given me on different qualities of tires, my heart was lifted to the Lord for guidance in judgment to make the wisest selection. The Lord was right there and helped me.

Then my heart was filled with much thanksgiving. I saw how the Lord had given me the very preparation that I needed through His Word, and had blessed it to my good by His Spirit.

## *MEDITATION*

A study from  
the first chapter  
of Ephesians

by  
Sis. Margaretta Kennedy

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence." Ephesians 1:7-8.

In this scripture we find some of the great concepts of the Christian faith—redemption, forgiveness, wisdom and prudence.

First there is the thought of redemption. The Greek word used here comes from a verb meaning "to ransom." It is the word used for setting one free from the penalty of death for some crime, as for ransoming one who is a slave, or a prisoner of war. It is the word used for God's deliverance of the Hebrews from bondage in Egypt where they had been slaves for hundreds of years. Paul's thought is that God delivers men from a situation in which they could never deliver themselves. Man could never deliver himself from the bondage of sin. This is what only Christ could do for mankind. He came to the world to liberate man from the deadly grip of sin. Christ, the perfect sacrifice, freely gave Himself and shed His blood on Calvary's cross to provide a way of redemption, forgiveness and deliverance from the bondage of sin.

This scripture tells us of two great blessings God has bestowed upon His children—wisdom and prudence, defined as "understanding" and "discernment." The Greek word for wisdom has been defined as, "knowledge of the most precious things." Another definition is "knowledge of things both human and divine." The Greek word for prudence has been defined as, "the knowledge of human affairs." It is also defined as "practical knowledge of the things that concern us." It is the sound sense and good judgment that gives one the ability to meet and solve the problems of everyday life. Paul's thought is that Jesus Christ brought us knowledge of

(Continued on page 11.)

## FAITH AND VICTORY

### 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



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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.

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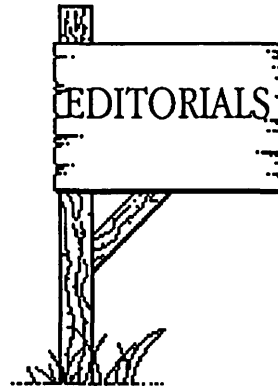
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We send greetings to our readers as the year of 1996 unfolds. It is difficult to comprehend that so few years are left in this century. It causes some serious reflection about how fast time moves us on toward where eternity begins.

Perhaps this was the feeling of the apostle Peter

when he exhorted, "...Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear." I Peter 1:17. Nowhere are we given any hope that we will always remain upon this earth, therefore we should gear our lives to the time when we will leave it.

The fear that the apostle spoke of is healthy. A person who has a healthy apprehension is one who is enlightened as to danger. Without it, people place themselves in harm's way and suffer needlessly.

A Christian has a proper and healthy respect for life and death, for God and even for the devil. This fear makes for a seeking saint. It propels the soul to find avenues of great strength in God, and to define the traps of the enemy. It opens up the sea of God's boundless love and provides a reason for us to rejoice while sojourning in this life.

There is also such a thing as paralyzing fear. This is not the type of fear Peter had in mind. It is possible to be so in fear of the judgments of God that we cannot have the freedom to revel in His love. Fear can be so binding that it causes the victim to just sit and wait for the calamity of death to strike. The fear of the Lord should not slow our step, but it should inspire us to work while it is day.

Remember that each of us are sojourners, and that Christ is ready to enrich us with His love along the way as we fear Him.

Wall calendars for 1996 are now in stock and available for the price of \$3.00 each, which includes postage and handling. The calendars measure 7 1/4" X 13 1/2", and feature a colorful nature scene with a Bible verse for every month.

Also available are bound volumes of the 11 issues of the *Faith and Victory* paper for the year of 1995. The price is \$1.00 per book, plus \$1.25 for postage and handling. Also in stock are 1995 Beautiful Way yearbooks for Juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, plus 90¢ for postage

and handling. The supply is limited so these books will be sold on a first-come basis.

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This January edition is going to press while the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting is in progress. The saints are enjoying services in the new chapel the Lord has provided.

If you were unable to attend this winter meeting, start making plans for the Camp Meeting which will be held in Guthrie this summer. The dates will be printed in the March *Faith and Victory*.

Many of our readers also desire to know the schedule for other Church of God Camp Meetings in 1996. If you would like dates about your meeting printed in the March issue, please send us the information as soon as possible.

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May God bless each of you in the New Year of 1996.  
—Wayne Murphey



## Partial List of Books Available

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

**Considering Marriage?** by Margaretta Kennedy. 12 pages. 25¢.

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**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.

**Instruction of Youth in the Christian Life,** by C. E. Orr. Paper cover, 32 pages. Price, 50¢.

**Jesus Is Coming Again** by H. M. Riggle. Paperbound, 111 pages. Price, \$1.50.

**Only a Servant** by Kristiana Roy. The story of the glorious conversion of an aged Jew. 86 pages in a heavy paper cover. \$1.00.

**Pasha (Greasy) Tichomirow, the Converted Robber** is translated from German by Charles Lukesh. 32 pages, paperbound, 50¢.

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## Prayer Requests

OK—"I have an unspoken request for a granddaughter." —Sis. Icylee Tillman

NC—"I have a special request, that you remember me in your prayers. I want God to touch my eyes and make them all right again. I do have the faith because He has been so good to bless me many times before."

—Sis. Angela Taylor

OK—"My health is failing fast, so I need your prayers." —Sis. Bessie Patton

LA—"Please pray for all my family, friends, neighbors, students and co-workers."

—Catherine Bhramayana

OK—Bro. Ben Harrison has requested prayer for himself, as well as Jenny Finley.

PA—"I entreat those of you that know how to reach the throne of God to earnestly pray about a family that is raising three small children in very unclean, unhealthy and poor conditions. I don't know where to go but to the children of God to agree with me that the Lord would work."

—Name withheld



## TULSA, OK BUILDING ADDITION

This is to let the saints know that the Lord has blessed us to begin construction of an addition on our building. This building will accommodate larger dining and kitchen facilities, dormitory space and baptistry. We are thankful that this building is about 85% complete. Anyone wanting to share in the funding of this project may send your contributions to: Church of God Building Project, John K. Miller, 3721 N. Garrison, Tulsa, OK 74106.

—Tulsa Church of God congregation,  
Bro. Charles Lowe, Pastor



## LORANGER, LA ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

We thank the Lord for the visit of the Holy Ghost, the labors of the ministers, and the

attendance, support and prayers of God's people during our recent Assembly Meeting. As a sample of some of the good things the Master sent us, here are quotes from some of the messages that went forth:

"I get excited every once in awhile, but I've got something to get excited about—I'm saved!" "Do we really resist the devil, or do we sit around and talk to the devil? You can talk to the devil, and he'll get you feeling sorry for yourself."

—E. Gerald

"The entertainment of this world...cumbereth the ground." "Don't ever shun a responsibility. It'll down-idle (cumber) you." "We can take our piece of ground, and produce the same quality of fruit as others have...the leaven that changes us comes from outside us." "The places that have caused me to grow the most are the places of responsibility to the Lord, to the congregation, and to myself."

—M. Clevenger

"I told my wife, 'I feel useless.' She said, 'Well, God takes people that are useless and uses them.'" "I'm not saying we shouldn't ask the ministers questions. But I believe God has given us His Holy Spirit to guide us, and it's not just for the ministers." "I've known the saints of God all my life—I've seen the love, power, experiences, healings." "He is the Master of all our circumstances."

—L. Abbott

"People speak an average of 18,000-25,000 words per day. To have all those words be acceptable in God's sight you have to be rather selective." "It makes a difference how you speak to a dog, even...there's a life-giving element in a wholesome tongue. The saints of God need a keen sense of what to say and how to say it." "Juicy gossip—that's the kind that's told to you and it just sticks in your mind." "Nothing is opened by mistake more often than the mouth."

—M. Lawson

"There'll be times in your life when you are rejected. You know what? That's not a reason to backslide!" "You don't have to feel good all the time to be saved...He still went all the way to the cross, even though He didn't feel like it." "People who have hurt feelings need mercy—and Jesus is One who can show mercy."

—J. Melot

"It's always worked in my benefit to humble myself in the presence of God (and)...in the presence of the saints." "So many people who are not saved today hide behind the fact that

they felt unjustly treated by the saints...that fig leaf will not stand." "One thing about the saints—they're transparent. I don't have to be suspicious." —G. McMillan

"Love shown at any time is appreciated." "We...ought to praise God." "Word of mouth is the best advertising there is." "How long has it been since you had a good, fiery testimony?" —C. Shaffer

"All you young ministers, spend a lot of time alone with the Lord, and pray down the anointing." —M. Samons

"O, may God help us to pray more earnestly, as He did in the garden, that there be a few more souls saved." "Young parents with small children, please raise them up to fear God." —E. Gerald

"Here's the way the world deals with problems: when they solve one, they do something that will cause a whole bunch more on down the road."

Christian love from the church at Loranger, LA. —Bro. Ed Wilson

#### NOTICE OF CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE MYRTLE, MO CAMP MEETING

July 31-August 4 is the date that has been set for the 1996 Camp Meeting at Myrtle, MO. For the past few years the meeting has been held during the second week of May. We are trusting this mid-summer date will be more suitable for the majority of the saints. We greatly need and desire your support in attendance as well as in prayer. The October Assembly Meeting will be omitted. —Bro. Harlan Sorrell

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CA—Faith Publishing House: Greetings to you in the name of our blessed Lord. I thank the

Lord to be saved another day. He keeps me minute by minute.

I want to thank all of the saints everywhere for your prayers, which helped me so very much. The Lord touched my body so many times. I felt His nearness. He gave me comfort that I needed. What a great God we have.

The Lord has been so good to me, since I learned of my illness. I was unable to walk without the help of a walker or wheelchair, and could only be up for a few hours at a time.

I miss being in church services, but my trust is in Him, for He is my Savior, Lord and God. He gave His life for me, why shouldn't I give mine to Him? Jesus has promised to never leave me nor forsake me. I have an open line to God, who never sleeps. Please keep me in your prayers.

—Bro. Shepard Johnson

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* so much! It always helps to encourage me and inspire me to be a more perfect Christian. It is good to hear from saints who are also striving to please God and get to heaven.

There are a few sayings that have been a challenge to me. I would like to share them with you.

"A good Christian should be like a good watch—open-faced, busy hands, pure gold, well-regulated, and full of good works."

"If your lips would keep from slips  
Five things observe with care—

Of whom you speak, to whom you speak  
And how and when and where."

"If you would lift others up, you must be on higher ground yourself."

"I am so thankful that God saved me several years ago, and in the years since then God has blessed me in many ways. God has given me a wonderful husband, Phillip, and blessed the two of us with three children.

God has performed miracles for us. When Austin was very small he was sick and had a high fever. One night he was starting to go into convulsions. Phillip and I went to prayer and pleaded with God to help him. Immediately Austin started playing! His fever was gone, and he was awake and happy for several hours before going back to sleep.

When Owen was three months old he began having very mild seizures. His head would shake,

and sometimes his arms and body would also shake. It did not appear very serious, but we were worried about it. We prayed often for God to heal him. Then when he was six months old God impressed Phillip with some scriptures. Phillip felt that God told him Owen would be healed. Praise God! Owen never had anymore seizures!

We serve a mighty God! He is so good!  
Christian love, —Gwen Kelly

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MO—Dear ones at the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of love in the sweet name of Jesus. We are so glad for Jesus and for His Word. I have been thinking on the 23rd Psalm. Perhaps there is no more familiar chapter in the Bible, or one from which saints have drawn more encouragement. This Psalm has been called "The Christians Checkbook," or "The Nightingale of the Bible," or "The Little Bible," or "The Christian's Guide." To me this surely is the sweetest of all Psalms. It is only six verses long, but when we try to fathom it, its promises are everlasting and its depth is unsearchable. I heard someone say that a little child was trying to quote this Psalm and on the first verse they said, "The Lord is my Shepherd, that is all I want." Oh, how true. It is all we want, all we need, and more than we can ever make use of. "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want" for "my God shall supply all your needs." "...For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of." "The Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us,..." "If ye abide in me and my word in you,..." "I say unto you—ask—seek—knock—for everyone that asketh receiveth, he that seeketh findeth, and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." Oh, what a good Shepherd He is and in Him is no want.

We surely have thanksgiving to our dear Lord for His goodness to us. Last spring we were setting out trees, and Glen fell off a loader and hit an auger as he was falling, severely injuring his back. When I got to him I thought he was dead, but he began to groan, so evidently he had just passed out. The skin was scraped from the left side of his back, and he had a large bruised place in his rib-cage/lung area, and another one of his shoulder/collar bone. We got him in the house and in bed, but he was unable to lie down. He had to be propped up. The dear Lord was so good to him, and would relieve the pain from time to time and make it bearable. Trying to bandage his back was such a chore. It made him so uncomfortable. It seemed we didn't

know how to care for him properly, so one night we pled our case to the Gentle Shepherd, and the next morning, when we took off the bandage, oh, it was wonderful. New skin was on his back. He still had the two large bruises, but no open wounds. This was a miracle. We thanked God for this, and were in hopes that he was healed internally, but we had some real times of testing. It would take about two hours just to move him. The pain was almost unbearable. Glen had some scriptures that he clung to, and part of one was in Psalms, "My help cometh from the Lord,..." and his help did.

The Lord has been my helper in my times of need also. I was tilling in the garden, holding a plant with one hand and guiding the tiller with the other hand. The dirt was loose and my foot slipped under the tiller. Before I could get out from under it, my foot was injured, especially two toes. Again we took our case to the Good Shepherd. This fall we were working cattle, and we neglected to cinch the squeeze chute down properly and for weeks I had hoof prints on my arm. It was swollen and could have so easily been broken at both places but God spared me of this and I so appreciate it. In October, Glen's father had double pneumonia, and while sitting up at the hospital I got a serious cough. After coming home, it intensified and had the symptoms of pneumonia, but God has again come to my rescue. We give Him all honor and praise.

We desire your prayers to be faithful. Truly the Lord is our Shepherd, and that is all we want.

Christian love, —Glen and Leta Inman

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LA—Seasons Greetings to everyone: We have a goodly heritage, especially this wonderful paper, the *Faith and Victory*. And I thank the Lord for the family of God, and the benefits of salvation.

The Lord blessed our immediate family in the year of 1995, enabling us to arrive safely at the Monark Springs, MO camp meeting. We were also able to attend the Loranger, LA meeting. Our souls were blessed by the association of the saints.

God healed me from chest pains resulting from a bad fall in July. Jesus is a wonderful, personal Savior and He loves you and me.

I praise God for this common salvation we can all possess.

Love to all, —Catherine Bhramayana

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and saints in the Lord's family: Greetings in the name of Jesus. It is our hope that you prosper and be in good health, even as your soul prospers.

I am thankful to God, and to you, for your devotion and labor to supply the needs of those who desire His Word. Pray for us that we may know the fullness of the Lord's love and that we may truly understand the great need we have for it. Please remember us in your service. God bless you all. —David Eckenwiler

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VA—Bro. Wayne and workers: I am thinking of you all and the work you are doing. I still enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory*, and feel the people there are Brothers and Sisters to me.

I have been through a broken leg and I am in a nursing home. God was so good to me through it all....

My prayers are for God to keep blessing each of His children.

Love in Christ, —Mrs. L. U. Dunman

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IL—Dear ones at the Print Shop: What a great work you are doing for the spirit of God's children, and the ones it is calling to come to Him.

Peace be with you all and keep up the good work. I love the paper you put out. It is so inspiring.

Pray for me, that I may be able to witness and draw people to the Lord.

May God bless all the workers and Happy Holidays. —Wilma Sanders

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in the name of Jesus, the one and only name whereby we can be saved. I am glad for the privilege of placing my faith and confidence in such a Savior. One writer said, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms:..." Deuteronomy 33:27. Another writer said that He loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. (Revelation 1:5.) Another said He is now at the right hand of God making intercession for us. (Romans 8:34.) This same writer said that He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities and for this reason we can come boldly to the throne of grace and obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16.)

Jacob must have had a vision of all this in his dream when he beheld the ladder set upon the earth whose top reached to heaven and the

angel of God ascending and descending upon it, and the Lord standing above it. By the time Jacob got through beholding this scene, he said this was none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. (Genesis 28:17.)

I received my *Faith and Victory* a few days ago. I have read all of it, and it was very good. I appreciate the good soul food it has in it....

Your saved brother, —T. V. McMillian

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Canada—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey, and co-workers and all the dear saints everywhere: May God continue to abundantly bless you all in your labor of love.

At the end of September I had a stroke. The Lord has been so good to me, and by now I am on my way to recovery. Many, many prayers have gone up to heaven for me, and be assured, they have not been in vain. Through this way, I would like to say to all who prayed, sent get well cards, phone calls and more, you all have been very much an encouragement to me. My dear wife and children have also been a big help and encouragement to me. May the Lord Jesus bless them. I still need all your prayers. I am not "out of the woods" yet, but I see a bright light farther on. —Bro. and Sis. George Schroeder

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OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you.

I really enjoyed the *Faith and Victory* again this month.

The Lord is so good to me. He has answered prayers and saved two of my grandsons. One is a great-grandson and the other is a great-great-grandson. I can't thank God enough for all He does....

Love and prayers, —Sister Emma Dilley

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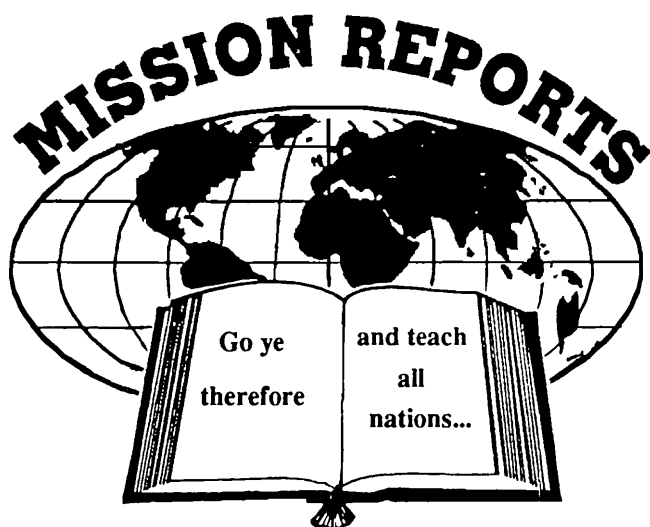
MI—Dear ones in Christ: I feel awful to think that I have not written sooner, and I thank you for the tracts you sent me. We had a death in the family and I don't feel well. So please forgive me. I did enjoy the tracts and am making use of them. Excuse my poor handwriting. I have arthritis in my right hand and in my knees, and would like prayer.

The death in the family was my husband's and things are not the same for me.

May God bless you all and I thank you for the paper I get. I love the poems. I take some of them to church and read them in Sunday School. They all love them....

Sincerely yours in Christ,

—Mrs. Merrill Burd



### From India...

November 22, 1995—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints in America: Greetings to you all dear ones again in the most holy name of Jesus.

May God open the way to get the new Print Shop building finished soon. Also, we pray for the progress in the new chapel building at Guthrie.

Here the convention season has already started. Our 31st General convention will be conducted at Karikkom during the 2nd week of January, 1996. Please pray for its needs and for good results.

Quite recently God showed us a new area for our work. Last week we went as a group to visit many houses and to conduct street meetings. We also rented a house and are conducting meetings there two or three times a week. Please pray for the needs of this new field.

All our congregations are going on fine. Our prayers are for you.

Yours in His service, —John Varghese

Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear ones in the Lord: I bring warm Christian greetings from India in the holy name of Jesus Christ.

Obedience to God is the hardest thing to do. But obedience brings the greatest reward in our life.

As some of you know, two years ago God brought me into a position to start missionary work in a certain area in the northern part of Kerala. By the grace of the Lord we now have ten congregations with a good number of saints. Each congregation has a pastor, with

his family, working seven days a week to feed the Church and to seek new souls. We also have several teams of evangelists to take the Good News right to the places where the lost can be found.

In September we had a wonderful camp meeting in Trichur town. It was mainly for young people. Almost all the messages and teachings were on one great theme, "Let us fight the good fight of faith." It was very challenging. Really, we face a fight of faith. It is very hard to establish and keep faith since we are living among Hindus, Muslims and nominal Christians. However, we are marching forward. Praise the Lord.

For a few months I will be in America, to enjoy the Christian fellowship with you. If the Spirit of the Lord encourages you to contact me, please do. I need your earnest prayers.

My present address is: Bro. P. D. Mathunni, 1417 East Pfendler, Sapulpa, OK 74066.

Your servant in the Lord,

—Bro. P. D. Mathunni

### From Nigeria...

October 26, 1995—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and saints everywhere: Greetings in the matchless name of the Lord Jesus, our Savior, Healer and Sanctifier.

We are on our divine assignments, being mindful of the fact that time and tide waits for nobody. With the coming of the dry season, all the scheduled missionary activities will receive our attention in their order of priority.

On October 1st of each year we hold a combined fasting. This we do for the purpose of being empowered to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy throughout the year. This year on the day of its observance, we thankfully noticed a cleansing of the sanctuary. On each occasion of this fasting we are duly fortified to ignore Satan's existence, based on the indisputable fact that He that dwelleth in us is more than a match for our adversary. (I John 4:4.) With His presence in our midst we have none to fear. The saint's prayers along this line are solicited. Pray with us for faith that does not go on vacation leave, but is ever actively on duty.

Yours to make Christ known,

—Titus U. E. Enu

**From the Philippines...**

November 20, 1995—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey: Christian greetings to your family, and to all the saints in the Lord's Print Shop.

We baptized four precious souls yesterday after the Sunday morning service. We are still active in our house-to-house evangelistic campaign and we have more candidates for water baptism.

Our harvest season is now being finished, but our farmers have very little harvest because of many calamities this year. The Philippines are said to be the only Christian nation in southeast Asia, but it is the poorest and it has suffered many calamities. There were many flash floods that destroyed the main crops. There were millions of locusts (grasshoppers) that destroyed rice plants, sugar cane and many other plants in the province of Nueva Ecija, Tarlac and Pampanga. On November 2nd there was a very strong typhoon, 300 kilometers per hour near the center, and they said it was the strongest typhoon that ever hit the Philippines. It had a 1,000 kilometer radius, so it covered almost the whole island of Luzon. Many people died and there was a very wide and extensive damage of plants and properties. Many houses were totally destroyed. People are suffering hunger and the government can only give little assistance. We have only two seasons in the Philippines: the dry season and the rainy season. Our dry season is now starting and farmers cannot plant much during the dry season because of lack of irrigation. We shall wait until the rainy season to plant, and that will be starting May 1996. So it will be a long period of time until the people can harvest something for food. Please pray for our country and for our government leaders.

We are so happy to see the new location of the Print Shop pictured in the *Faith and Victory*. May our heavenly Father bless it and may it continue to be a light to the world.

We always pray for you, and we urgently covet your prayers for us. Please give our thanks to all the lovely saints in the U. S. A. who care for mission work.

With much Christian love,

—Matias S. Tangunan



**Theodore R. Summers** was born December 20, 1908, in Sturgis, KY, to John and May Summers, and departed this life on November 12, 1995, in Los Angeles, CA.

He was united in marriage to Cora L. Summers on March 12, 1929. To that union one son was born. His beloved wife, two brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

He leaves to cherish his memory: one son and a host of nieces and nephews; also one cousin, Chester Swain of Louisville, KY; saints and friends.

We love him, but God in His mercy loved him more.

Bro. Calvin Hobbs officiated at the funeral service which was held in the Los Angeles, CA Church of God chapel on November 18.

Interment was in the Inglewood Park Cemetery, Inglewood, CA.



### **Meditations**

(Continued from page 3.)

eternal things and the practical knowledge that enables a Christian to solve the day to day problems of practical Christian living. When we look to Jesus for our daily needs, He will give us the knowledge and understanding we so greatly need to solve (in a way that will bring honor and glory to God) all the problems we encounter from day to day.

"Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!  
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb,  
Redeemed by His infinite mercy,  
His child and forever I am."

"I'm redeemed, Praise the Lord!  
I'm redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.  
I am saved from all sin  
And I'm walking in the light  
I'm redeemed by the blood of the Lamb."

**QUESTION AND ANSWER**  
**BY**  
**BRO. OSTIS B. WILSON**  
**Reprint**

**QUESTION:** Please explain I John 3:9.

**ANSWER:** This text reads, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."

The first part of this verse interposes little or no problem. Numerous Scriptures make it clear and plain that one who is born again (born of God) is delivered from the power of sin and enabled through the power of God to live a holy life free from sin. Matthew 1:21 "...He shall save his people **from** their sins." Luke 1:73-75, "The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." Romans 6:14, "...Sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are...under grace." This makes it clear that the grace of God breaks the power and dominion of sin in the life of the person who receives it. Romans 6:17-18, "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin,..." This text makes it clear that when one obeys from his heart the Word of God and complies with its terms and conditions, he is set free from sin.

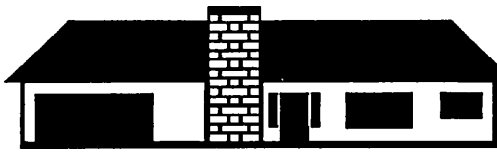
But the second part of this verse is a source of much controversy. We cannot interpret this to mean that one who is born again, saved, born of God, cannot possibly commit sin or even return to a life of sin if he so chooses. This would do violence to numerous Scriptures which teach to the contrary. II Peter 2:20-21, says, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them." II Peter 3:17 says, "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before,

beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness." In II Peter, chapter one, beginning with verse five, a number of Christian graces are catalogued which the Christian is diligently to add to his Christian life. Then verse ten says, "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall." Verse nine says, "But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins." These verses make it clear that only through diligent pursuit of the Christian life and cultivation of the Christian graces in one's life can he maintain his experience and that one who fails to do this will fall from his own steadfastness and forget the experience he had with God at one time.

We are to understand this part of the text as applying to a present, up-to-date, continuing experience and relationship with God "because he **IS** [present tense] born of God." He has the seed of God (God's Word and Spirit) abiding in him and he cannot sin as long as he is in this state. It does not mean that he does not possess the power, right or privilege to commit sin, but sin is contrary and repulsive to his nature and to the principles of light and truth that are in his soul and he cannot do it for that reason. It is the same as we would say about a man of irreproachable character and integrity: "That man cannot lie, cannot steal, cannot commit any of many other enormities in the catalog of sin and unrighteousness." Not because he does not have the power and ability to do such things even as other men do, but it is so foreign to his character and life and the way we know him. Perhaps that thought is best stated in the words of Joseph to Potiphar's wife in Genesis 39:9, "...How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" He had the power to do that thing even as other men, but it was so obnoxious and repulsive to his pure character that he just could not do it, but fled from it.

Also, it must be understood that he cannot purposely, knowingly do evil while the seed of God (the divine principle and truth) remains in him and he is born of God; for as soon as he consents to the evil and turns from the light and truth, this seed of God departs from him and he has departed from the holy commandment and is no longer a child of God.

## HOME LIFE



### Influences

By Atticus Haygood

Who forgets his home? Not the wanderer. There is Jacob fleeing from the face of wrathful Esau, and during long years of wasting toil with Laban the Syrian clinging but to this fond hope: "So that I come again to my father's house in peace." The old, whose feet may even now be pressing the borderland between two worlds, do not forget. Our dear, sainted grandmother used to forget recent events and new acquaintances, but she never forgot the green meadows, nor the spring that went laughing from the foot of the hill, the rosetree in the garden, nor the old oaks in the yard, with all the precious memories of her childhood's home in grand old Virginia, way back in the time when Washington and his barefooted heroes were braving the hardships of Valley Forge.

When David was returning to Jerusalem after the defeat of rebellious Absalom, Barzillai, an aged Gileadite, who had showed the king and his band of faithful followers much kindness the day they fled before the face of the traitor, joined him on his return, and accompanied him with an escort of honor part of the way to his capital. Grateful David begged the old man to go on with him to Jerusalem and promised to reward him like a king. Barzillai's reply speaks a language that all hearts will understand: "Let thy servant, I pray thee, turn back again, that I may die in mine own city, and be buried by the grave of my father and of my mother."

Nor does the prodigal, who has "wasted his substance with riotous living," forget. The remembrance of his "father's house" brought penitential tears to eyes unused to weeping, and the light of life to a spirit that had long wandered in darkness. "And when he came to himself, he said, 'How many hired servants of my father's house have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father.'"

Affections like these—so universal, so in-

tense, so indestructible—must be divinely implanted. They are intended to exercise a controlling influence in molding human character. In shaping the destiny of individuals and of society they are all but omnipotent. And shall powers like these be overlooked, or undervalued, or misunderstood, in our estimate of the creative, regulative, and regenerative forces that are to form or to restore society? Shall we regulate and utilize them according to the dictates of sound reason and of divine inspiration, or leave them to accident, or surrender them to caprice? Who does not know that the future destiny of the Church and of the State is now being woven in the noiseless but unresting looms of the family and the home? The family, not the fates, determine destiny. The destiny of a people is not settled by the defeat of one great political party or the triumph of another—by presidents or Congress—but by the powers that sway their scepter about the fireside; by those influences that shape and fix the character of little children.

We count it a benefaction to the race when some gifted and patient man shows us how to control and employ more perfectly the great powers of nature. We build monuments to Franklin and Morse for telling us what the lightning is and for making it the obedient servant of our wants. We call him a benefactor who develops a new industry; we offer rewards and hold expositions to encourage inventions. If one can show us how to be rich and great and prosperous, we call him wise, bless him as a friend, and crown him with honors. But is there not something more important to us than any or all of these things? For what are the influences that make us all what we are? that make, or mar, our mortal and immortal fortunes? What are the influences that form and determine the character and, therefore the destiny of our children? The silent but potent energies that originate in the family relation—intertwisted with all the ties that bind us together—that begin their work with the first motherly caress that soothes a baby's cry, that works on through all changes of condition and that leave us not till we have left this world, if indeed they do not continue with us forever. These have made us what we are, and will determine what our children shall be.

## Mrs. Wheeler on Family Secrets

"Yes'm most families have their secrets. I learn about many of them in working around in the homes as I do. I try to keep them to myself, which is one reason I am invited back to the same home week after week. I can't help wondering why some secrets are kept in the dark as they are. For instance, to confess that a father is a good, honest hard-working man, with only money enough to keep his family and pay his honest debts, should be something to be ashamed of, is more than I can see. I should think that would be something to bring out in the light and be made much of. Some folks that have money wouldn't have this honesty to boast about.

"But there are things that need to be kept secret, I suppose. Like a cloudy past of husband or wife. But even then it often would make things better to bring them out in the open. The neighbors would see it wasn't nearly as bad as they had thought it was.

"Some things are not in the past, but father, or brother, or sister, has got into trouble with the law and is behind bars. It is hard to confess that, and I do not blame folks for keeping still. I would hate to think I had been guilty of ferreting out a secret of that kind and airing it around to the world. And when the trouble has been the fall of a husband or wife or a son or daughter, then it is harder yet. I admire folks that keep these secrets well locked up and hidden away and go on bearing life the best they can.

"What gets me is dealing with folks that **tell** secrets. Now the woman that stands around watching me work and telling me all the family troubles is a problem to me. If I tell her plain what I think of such doings, very likely I won't get to do her work anymore, and I probably wouldn't teach her to keep her tongue, so I manage to bear it.

"She tells me confidential like that she has the meanest husband in town. Sometimes I think a husband couldn't possibly be as mean as a talking woman deserves. But then I was brought up different. My father was harder on talking too much away from home than on most anything else. He tried to keep things going so there was nothing to be ashamed of, but yet he said he didn't like to have all the little faults and follies of home given out for the neighbors to chew over.

"One night my father gave brother John a lively limbing for some misdeed of his, and Charlie told it at school the next day. When Father heard about it he gave Charlie a harder one than John had got, with a promise of more with interest to any member of the family that told it off the place. We learned to keep our secrets to ourselves.

"I set it down as a fact every time that when a woman tells me how mean her man is and how hard he makes life for her, she does not love him. I can't imagine a loving woman telling her man's faults. And no man that is a gentleman will tell his wife's faults away from home. I am a firm believer in family secrets remaining family secrets, and never being brought out for public or private airing.

"Yes'm, I believe that any woman with a loving heart can keep her family's secrets without it breaking her down."

—Taken from *Stories of Home Folks*.

## Kindness

By C. B. Wickersham

(Taken from 1900 *Gospel Trumpet*.)

"And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil-speaking be put away from you."

"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor."

Kindness is one of the purest traits that

## The Printer's Pulpit

The printed page is the greatest pulpit that God has given to man;  
Its message stirs the heart strings in every tribe and clan.  
It shouts to souls in silence, or whispers in a crowd;  
Gives courage to the humble, or flags the monarch proud.

It prompts no false demeanor, upholds no vain display;  
It pleads, persuades and reasons, at night or in the day;  
It reaches every cranny where men and women dwell;  
Goes in unhappy mansions, and into the prison cell.

And whether book or pamphlet, a leaflet or in tomes;  
It speaks in mart and factory, in tenement and homes.  
It never shows resentment, though slighted for an age;  
And brings the Light to children, to fools and to the sage.

This preacher has no equal, this pulpit has no peer,  
The printed page lives on and on, to comfort and to cheer.

—Selected by Sis. Charlotte Huskey



finds a place in the human heart. To show kindness it is not necessary to give large sums of money or to perform some wonderful deed that would give us a great name, but it consists in doing good and giving words of encouragement to those around us. Kindness makes sunshine wherever it goes: it finds its way into the hidden chambers of the heart, and brings forth encouragement, where harshness would have discouraged forever. Kindness is the real law of a holy life, and is one of the fruits of the Spirit; and without it we cannot be true Christians, and it is one means of letting our light shine before the world. By it the affection of the world is known to Christ. Kindness is shown by words, by tones, by gestures, by looks; and those who neglect these trifles will really not be loved.

Our lives are not made up of great sacrifices or of great duties, but of little things which we can do. These all bring happiness to us, and also to those around us. Little kindnesses are sometimes great ones; they oftentimes drive away sadness and cheer up the soul beyond all expectation. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." The seeds of kindness and courtesy may be scattered around us with so little trouble and expense, that it seems strange more people do not make an effort to scatter seeds of kindness over this wicked world, that

the despondent heart may find if possible some ray of encouragement toward the way of life and salvation.

It is kindly disposed people who are the active ones of this world, while the selfish and skeptical who have no love but for themselves are its idlers. How natural it is for a heart filled with kindness to throw a fountain of sunshine around and freshen everything in its vicinity into smiles and gladness. Kindly efforts are not lost, although they do not all fall on good ground; yet, if we scatter nothing but good seed, some will spring up and bring forth fruit; some thirtyfold, and some sixtyfold.

Kindness is of great price, and powerful to heal the wounded heart, and to raise the despondent soul. Kindness is the fruit of love in our hearts. It must come from the heart for in no other case can it reach the heart. "For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Galatians 5:14. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name....Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies. Psalm 103:1, 4. "I will mention the loving-kindness of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to

his mercies, and according to the multitude of his loving-kindnesses." Isaiah 63:7.

"And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."



### The Blessed Hope

When languor and disease invade

This trembling house of clay,

'Tis sweet to look beyond our cage,

And long to fly away;

Sweet to look inward, and attend

The whispers of His love;

Sweet to look upward to the place

Where Jesus pleads above;

Sweet to look back and see my name

In life's fair book set down;

Sweet to look forward, and behold

Eternal joys my own;

Sweet to reflect how grace divine

My sins on Jesus laid;

Sweet to remember that His blood

My debt of suffering paid;

Sweet in His righteousness to stand,

Which saves from second death;

Sweet to experience, day by day,

His Spirit's quickening breath;

Sweet to rejoice in lively hope

That when my change shall come,

Angels shall hover round my bed,

And waft my spirit home.

Soon too my slumbering dust shall hear

The trumpet's quickening sound;

And by my Saviour's power rebuilt,

At His right hand be found.

If such the views which grace unfolds,

Weak as it is below,

What raptures must the Church above

In Jesus' presence know!

—Augustus Toplady



Excerpts Taken From

January, 1946 *Faith and Victory*

"It may be interesting to some of our readers to know how the Lord's work is carried on in His Print Shop. At present there are five girls working here in the 'Lord's Print Shop' besides wife and me.

"Geneva Ray, who has been here in the Print Shop about eight years, writes comments for the Sunday School lessons, prepares other manuscript for printing, operates one of the Intertypes for typesetting, helps with the stencil cutting...

"Genevieve Capps does some proof reading, cares for orders for the Sunday School literature, folds and trims tracts, and operates one of the Intertype machines. She also operates the folder that folds, pastes and trims the *Faith and Victory* paper.

"Evodna Thurman usually keeps busy in the mailing room where she fills tract and book orders, lists subscriptions and cares for the mail in other ways....

"Rosella Slifer has been spending most of her time in cutting stencils since we have been receiving hundreds of new subscriptions, and helping to keep the subscription lists in order....

"Myrtle Grice, who has been helping with the work for a few weeks, has been operating the tract folder, running the Job Press some, and doing book and tract trimming, besides other work in the office or mailing room.

"All of these workers have come here to help in the office by direct leadings of the Lord and He surely made no mistake in sending them to this work." —Fred Pruitt